

Schedule 3 – Work Plan

In addition to the Accreditation Functions outlined in Schedule 2, the Accreditation Authority's Work Plan for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 includes:

- a) 5 Scheduled site visits
- b) Reaccreditation of 7 programs by 5 education providers
- c) Implementation of recommendations arising from the project for Strategies for implementing the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Curriculum Framework in the accreditation process for Occupational Therapy entry-level programs
- d) Development of risk-based accreditation of programs options relating to the frequency of site visits for programs being reaccredited, and
- e) Commence the establishment of streamlined pathways to assess overseas qualifications.

Schedule 4 – Funding arrangements

Item 1 – Funding Principles

The Funding Principles below will guide accreditation authorities, National Boards and Ahpra for the 2024/25 financial year initially. These Funding Principles may be reviewed under clause 6.

The Funding Principles are to be applied by accreditation authorities, National Boards and Ahpra when they are considering and agreeing on the funding to be provided to the accreditation authority by the National Board/Ahpra for performance of the Accreditation Functions.

The Funding Principles aim to promote consistency, transparency and accountability for use of registrant fees to fund the Accreditation Function.

Ahpra, in consultation with the National Board, will provide funding through registrant fees to enable the accreditation authority to manage its business and risks by covering some of the indirect costs of activities related to program accreditation, including monitoring.

The following Funding Principles will apply, in addition to the guiding principles and objectives of the National Law, and the Quality Framework for the Accreditation Functions, when an accreditation authority is requesting funding from a National Board/Ahpra (**Funding Request**) and when a National Board/Ahpra decide to provide funding to an accreditation authority (**Funding Decision**):

1. requests for funding should be reasonable and proportionate to the activities being funded.
2. the funding provided by the National Board/Ahpra should cover a proportion of the governance costs related to the accreditation functions.
3. the funding provided by the National Board/Ahpra for the development and review of accreditation standards should be requested and considered separately to the funding of other Accreditation Functions.
4. requests for increases in funding from the previous year should not usually exceed the indexation range applicable to National Board fee increases
5. where an accreditation authority considers an increase in funding above the indexation range is required, it should put the Funding Request and a business case supporting the increase above the indexation range to Ahpra and the National Board for consideration.
6. such Funding Request and business case should be forwarded to Ahpra and the National Board by 10 February or earlier each calendar year to enable them to have sufficient time to properly consider the funding request.
7. Ahpra and the National Board may agree to the requested increase in funding or propose to agree to a lesser amount. Such a proposal and reasons for that proposal should be forwarded to the accreditation authority to enable it to have sufficient time to properly consider the proposed funding amount and reasons.
8. Ahpra and the National Board should agree to provide sufficient funding to enable the accreditation authority to effectively deliver the Accreditation Functions through a combination of funding provided by the National Board/Ahpra and funding from other sources that is provided as a direct result of the accreditation authority being assigned and exercising statutory functions under the National Law.

Item 2

Funding for performance of Accreditation Functions

Nil.

Special Project Funding

Develop and implement a s53(b) pathway for assessing overseas qualifications

The total agreed funding for the Project to develop and implement a s53(b) pathway for assessing overseas qualifications is \$93,458 excl GST.

Project funding is payable upon delivery of the agreed outcomes, being a project plan and environmental scan, by COB 11 October 2024. Ahpra will pay the agreed amount upon receipt of a tax invoice from the Accreditation Authority, subject to confirmation from the Board that the Accreditation Authority has delivered the agreed outcomes by the due date and to a standard that is satisfactory to the Board.

Timeline for Phase 1:

Time period	Key outcomes
July 2024	- Recruitment and appointment of Project Manager. - Liaison with other accreditation councils and authorities undertaken to gather information about the processes and threshold requirements used to develop equivalence of qualifications pathways. - Terms of reference for the Steering Committee drafted. - First meeting of the Steering Group held in July 2024.* - Progress report for July 2024 to OTBA and OTC Board.
August and September 2024	- Reference Group established and first meeting scheduled. Terms of reference to be determined at this meeting. - Processes and threshold requirements used by other disciplines reviewed. - Findings used to appraise the applicability of the OTBA's threshold requirements to the 53(b) pathway with any proposed refinements outlined in a paper for consideration by the Steering Group. - Second meeting of the Steering Group held (August 2024).* - Consideration of strategies and processes to meet the OTBA threshold requirements commenced. Preliminary paper drafted for consideration by the Steering Group and subsequently the Reference Group. - Third meeting of the Steering Group held (September 2024).* - Commence creating initial design for the 53(b) Substantial Equivalence of Qualifications Pathway. - Planning/scoping for subsequent project phases commenced, including identifying potential vendors, timeframes and costings for portal build and website refinement (with reference to like infrastructures established by other accreditation authorities for the purpose of implementing 53(b) pathways). - Progress reports for August and September 2024 to OTBA and OTC Boards.