

July 2024 Podiatry Accreditation Committee meeting

The Podiatry Accreditation Committee (Committee) publishes this communiqué on the Committee's [accreditation webpages](#). Please forward it to your colleagues and employees who may be interested.

Committee meeting

The nineteenth meeting of the Committee was held in Melbourne face to face over two days on 24 and 25 July 2024. A further meeting is planned in 2024.

Some activities that were discussed at the Committee's July 2024 meeting, as well as some other key activities, are outlined below.

Monitoring activities

Monitoring approved programs of study

The Committee considered four monitoring responses from education providers and their programs of study. The outcomes of the Committee's evaluation will be provided to the education providers and the Podiatry Board of Australia (National Board) following the meeting.

The Committee will continue to provide updates to the National Board on its monitoring of approved programs of study.

Routine monitoring

The 2024 routine monitoring package was circulated to education providers in March 2024 (eight weeks to complete). The assessors (triage panel members of the Committee) will consider the responses from education providers and meet in August 2024. The Committee will consider the triage panel member's findings and recommendations at the October 2024 meeting.

The Committee will provide the outcomes of their findings to the education providers and an update to the National Board in late 2024.

Cease accreditation

The Committee decided to cease accreditation on two programs of study. The education providers informed the Committee that the programs were taught out and no students remained. The Committee will provide the National Board with its decision to cease accreditation and recommend that the National Board cease approval of the programs. This means the programs will be removed from the active list of approved programs and placed on the list of inactive programs of study for a period according to the National Board's policy to enable graduates to qualify for initial registration with the National Board.

Committee updates

Joint meeting with the National Board

On 24 July 2024, the Committee held a joint meeting with the National Board to discuss topics of strategic and contemporary importance to the podiatry profession. These included implementing the recommendations of the Independent review of the regulation of Podiatric surgeons, the Unleashing

Scope of Practice review currently underway, and other opportunities for the Committee and the education of the future podiatry profession.

2021 Accreditation standards for Podiatry - review

The review of the 2021 Accreditation standards for podiatry project commence in March 2024. The project will be conducted in conjunction with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice, Chinese Medicine, Medical Radiation Practice and Paramedicine Accreditation Committees. At the meeting the Committee noted the verbal update from the Project Team on the progress of the review, and that preliminary consultations are scheduled to take place from late 2024. The project is expected to be completed in mid-2025.

National Registration and Accreditation Scheme annual accreditation meeting

An update was provided by two Committee members who attended the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (NRAS) annual accreditation meeting held in Melbourne on 1 May 2024. Topics addressed by the keynote speakers included:

- Eliminating racism in health care
- The impact of AI and emerging technologies on accreditation, and
- Our future health care workforce – is our current system of training and accreditation capable of supporting future workforce needs?

Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum

The Chair of the Committee provided an update on the Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum (HPACF). The Committee continues to engage in the HPACF's important work. More information can be found on the HPACF's [website](#).

Stakeholder engagement

At the July 2024 meeting, the Committee met with the Chair of the Australasian Council of Podiatry Deans (ACPD) regarding assessing cultural safety, artificial intelligence; climate change related risks; accreditation assessment process; and discussions around a refresh of the accreditation standards in 2024. The Chair of the ACPD and the Committee agreed to continue to engage on a regular basis on issues important to podiatry education and accreditation.

The Program Accreditation team, on behalf of the Committee, continues to engage with education providers via the Committee's [accreditation webpage](#) and through correspondence on email and phone.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for October 2024.

Contact information

For any queries related to podiatry program accreditation, please contact the Committee via the Program Accreditation team at program.accreditation@ahpra.gov.au.

For more information on podiatry accreditation please visit the Committee's [accreditation](#) webpages.

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