

Feedback on National Boards Consultations Papers on Registration Standards and Related Matters

We provide the following comment on matters common to all boards in the consultation papers issued by the national Boards.

1. Criminal History standards

We strongly support a common criminal history standard to apply to all health professionals seeking registration which also meets the requirements of agencies providing fieldwork placements. For students who are required to be registered during their clinical training, this will greatly simplify the process of identifying the appropriate criminal screening process. We would also urge the Boards to agree to the same body/authority to be recognised as providing the appropriate criminal screening for all health professionals, including students undertaking clinical education.

2. English Language Skills

We strongly support the creation of a single standard for English language skills so that there is equity between courses and Universities in the standard of English of students studying health courses leading to registration.

We note the intention to apply the standard from 1 July 2010. This may cause difficulties for students who are currently enrolled in courses, or have been sent an offer of a place in a course with a different English language score. We suggest that the new standard apply to students in health-related courses offered a place after 1 July 2010.

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