

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency

## Media release

4 July 2011

## Boards announce 2012 registration fees

Most of the 10 national health practitioner registration boards have set 2012 registration fees and limited fee increases within a CPI rate of 3.3%.

There is no cross subsidisation between the professions in the National Scheme.

Under the National Law, National Boards set fees which are then agreed by the AHPRA Agency Management Committee through a formal health professions agreement with each Board.

As the National Scheme is funded entirely by registration fees (there is no ongoing government funding except for part of the scheme in NSW in which there is a co-regulatory arrangement), fees need to be set to enable National Boards and AHPRA to meet their responsibilities under the National Law and provide a robust and safe regulation scheme.

Fees are also used to support the continuing work associated with introducing the National Scheme and providing new services that help Boards to protect the public and guide the professions. For example, in 2012, AHPRA will be working with National Boards to pilot and introduce audits of practitioner compliance with National Board registration standards.

The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) is revising its fee schedule to ensure it is able to meet its responsibilities under the National Scheme. The NMBA – which registers more than 320,000 nurses and midwives - is continuing detailed budget forecasting and expects to announce 2012 registration fees later in 2011. The revised 2012 fee for registered nurses and midwives will apply from its date of approval by the National Board which is expected to be in October.

All National Boards will reinstitute a late registration renewal fee from 2011-12. This was suspended in the first year of the National Scheme.

The late fee will apply to practitioners who do not renew by their registration expiry date, who then apply to renew during the one month 'late period' built into the National Law. Most National Boards have agreed that the late fee will be charged at up to 25% of the renewal fee, recognising the additional costs to AHPRA of managing late renewals. It will be payable in addition to the annual renewal fee.

National Boards have also agreed to maintain a fast track application process during 2011-12. Fast track is available for four weeks after the registration of a health practitioner lapses if the practitioner wants to continue practising. The fast track fee will be 50% of the normal application fee for registration and will be payable in addition to the annual renewal fee.

Details of profession specific registration fees are published on each national Board website.

## For more information

- Visit <a href="www.ahpra.gov.au">www.ahpra.gov.au</a> under Contact us to lodge an online enquiry form
- For registration enquiries: 1300 419 495 (within Australia) +61 7 3666 4911 (overseas callers)
- For media enquiries: (03) 8708 9200