



**Ahpra  
& National  
Boards**

# **The National Registration and Accreditation Scheme Strategy 2020–2025**

**An overview**

August 2021

# Introduction

**I am pleased to present our National Registration and Accreditation Scheme Strategy for 2020–2025.**

On July 1 2020, we celebrated 10 years since the National Scheme was established as a unified, national approach to the regulation of health practitioners. While this milestone leads us to reflect on the many shared achievements of Ahpra and the National Boards, we remain firmly focused on the future.

Our strategy for 2020–25 describes the vision, purpose, values and strategic themes that guide our work as we continue to evolve to meet the needs of our stakeholders. Our Ethical framework provides high-level guidance and direction on how we will implement our strategy, while our Regulatory principles continue to shape our thinking about regulatory decision-making. As always, public protection remains our foremost priority.

This guide is intended as an introduction to our strategy and will be updated as our strategy evolves over the next five years. You can find more information on the Ahpra website. Thank you for your interest in our work.



*Martin Fletcher*  
*Chief Executive Officer, Ahpra*

# Our strategy 2020–2025

**Vision:** Our communities have trust and confidence in regulated health practitioners

**Purpose:** Safe and professional health practitioners for Australia

**Values:**  
Integrity  
Respect  
Collaboration  
Achievement



## Regulatory effectiveness

- Efficient and effective core regulatory functions
- Responsive accreditation systems
- Strengthened risk-based regulatory practices
- Sustainable financial framework
- Enhanced digital capability



## Trust and confidence

- Eliminating racism for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples
- Enhanced safety of vulnerable communities
- Supported professional learning and practice
- Enhanced community collaboration, engagement and communication
- Strengthened contribution to sustainable healthcare



## Evidence and innovation

- Consistent and evidence-based standards, codes and guidelines
- Strengthened proactive use of our data and intelligence
- Enhanced capability to change and improve our regulatory model



## Capability and culture

- Service focus
- Safe and inclusive work culture that fosters diversity
- Capability, learning and development of our people
- Embedding cultural safety

# **Vision**

Our communities have trust and confidence in regulated health practitioners

# **Purpose**

Safe and professional health practitioners  
for Australia

**Strategic theme:** Regulatory effectiveness



# Regulatory effectiveness

Enhanced digital capability

Efficient and effective core regulatory functions

Public confidence in our health system and health practitioners is based, in part, on an assumption that those practitioners are appropriately qualified and that 'someone' is ensuring their practice is of an acceptable standard. Delivering our core regulatory functions in a way that is both efficient and effective makes a critical contribution to providing that assurance and supporting patient safety.

*Kym Ayscough, Executive Director, Regulatory Operations, Ahpra*



As we are fully funded by registrants' fees, it is important that we carry out our operations efficiently and effectively. We have to make good decisions, plan and invest wisely, and have the appropriate checks and balances in place to safeguard our funds.

*Liz Davenport, Chief Financial Officer, Ahpra*

Sustainable financial framework

Strengthened risk-based regulatory practices

Responsive accreditation systems



**Strategic theme:**  
Trust and confidence



Eliminating racism is a prerequisite to closing the gap for better health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

*Karl Briscoe, co-Chair, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Strategy Group*

Eliminating racism for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples

Strengthened contribution to sustainable healthcare



# Trust and confidence

Enhanced community collaboration, engagement and communication

Enhanced safety of vulnerable communities

Supported professional learning and practice

**Strategic theme:** Evidence and innovation



# Evidence and innovation



Strengthening innovative use of data will inform the health practitioner regulatory framework. This will be of enormous benefit to AHPRA practitioners and the wider community.

*Dr Vijaya Joshi,  
Community Member,  
Ahpra Research  
Evaluation Committee*

Strengthened proactive use of our data and intelligence

Enhanced capability to change and improve our regulatory model

Consistent and evidence-based standards, codes and guidelines



A strong evidence base and cross-professional consistency will contribute to a regulatory framework that works effectively in the public interest.

*Brett Simmons, Chair,  
Pharmacy Board of Australia  
and Co-convenor, Forum of  
National Registration and  
Accreditation Scheme Chairs*

**Strategic theme:** Capability and culture

Safe and inclusive work culture that fosters diversity



# Capability and culture

Service focus

Investing in our people, their capability and our culture is fundamental to the achievement of both our vision and purpose. We acknowledge that our people are our core asset and central to the future success of the National Scheme.

*Mark Edwards,  
Executive Director,  
People and Culture, Ahpra*



Capability, learning and development of our people

Embedding cultural safety

Embedding culturally safe practice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples in all aspects of The Scheme is a priority for everyone. It is a long term commitment to developing knowledge, activating safe practice and exercising humility.

*Jayde Fuller, Program Manager,  
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Strategy Unit, Ahpra*



# Values

Our values describe what we believe in and stand for. They guide how we think and act in implementing our strategy.

**Integrity**

**Respect**

**Collaboration**

**Achievement**

# Ethical Framework

The following Ethical Framework provides high-level guidance and direction for how we intend to implement our strategy:

- Our values with an agreed set of behavioural attributes that describe how they will be demonstrated by Ahpra staff and National Board/Committee members,
- Our Regulatory principles, updated in line with the Policy Directions from the COAG Health Council and other key recent developments,
- The revised Ahpra Code of Conduct,
- Current National Board Codes of Conduct and related guidelines,
- Scheme-wide policies including Research Ethics, Whistleblower, Domestic and International Travel, and Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality, and
- A range of other corporate policies, codes and guidelines, including our Fraud and Corruption Control Framework, Procurement and Information Security policies.