

May 2021 Paramedicine Accreditation Committee meeting

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

Committee's ongoing response to COVID-19

The Committee and Ahpra continue to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and its potential impacts on approved programs, including the downstream effects on current students. The Committee will release statements outlining its plans for its accreditation activities on the ['News and updates'](#) accreditation webpage.

Committee meeting

The eleventh meeting of the Committee was held on 25 May 2021 via Zoom. The Committee anticipates holding at least two more meetings in 2021.

Some activities that were discussed at the Committee's May 2021 meeting, as well as some other key activities for the Committee, are outlined more thoroughly below.

Accreditation standards for paramedicine

The 2020 [Accreditation standards for paramedicine](#) take effect from 1 June 2021. Education providers undergoing accreditation assessment of their paramedicine programs of study will be assessed against the Accreditation standards for paramedicine and the [Professional capabilities for paramedicine practitioners](#).

The Committee's process for accreditation assessments is outlined in the [Guidelines for accreditation of education and training programs](#).

Assessment and monitoring activities for approved programs of study

The Committee will commence assessment of all currently approved paramedicine programs of study against the paramedicine accreditation standards from August 2021. The Program Accreditation Team has contacted all education providers to advise them of their scheduled date for an accreditation assessment.

The Committee will monitor programs of study against the 2020 Accreditation standards for paramedicine from when they take effect on 1 June 2021. The Committee will continue to provide advice to the National Board on its monitoring of approved programs including the downstream impacts of COVID-19.

March 2021 Key Performance Indicators reporting to the National and Ahpra

As outlined in section 7 of its [Terms of Reference \(ToR\)](#), the Committee must provide to the National Board reports and supporting documentation in accordance with the timeframes and form and content requirements as identified in attachment F of the ToR.

The Committee submitted its March 2021 Key Performance Indicator (KPI) report to the National Board and Ahpra on 31 March 2021.

Paramedicine accreditation fees

As previously advised, the Committee has recently been considering its approach to paramedicine accreditation fees for the period 2021 – 2024. In March 2021 the Committee invited all education providers delivering approved paramedicine programs of study to provide feedback on its proposed approach. Feedback was received from one education provider, and following analysis, the Committee confirmed its schedule of accreditation fees for the period 2021 – 2024. The Paramedicine Board of Australia has approved the schedule of fees and this will be published on the [Committees webpages](#) shortly.

Stakeholder engagement

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 contact, teleconferences with the chair, and communiques via the Program Accreditation Team.

Focus group with education providers

The Committee held a focus group session on Tuesday 30 March 2021 for education providers about the accreditation standards and professional capabilities, and their implementation (including the assessment process). The webinar session achieved a 90% attendance rate and also provided an opportunity for education providers to ask any questions about implementation. The session was recorded and you can find it on the [Committee's accreditation webpages](#).

Meeting with the Council of Ambulance Authorities

At the May 2021 meeting, the Committee met with representatives of the Council of Ambulance Authorities regarding the paramedicine accreditation standards, the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on paramedicine programs of study and work integrated learning. The Council of Ambulance Authorities and the Committee will continue to engage on issues important to paramedicine education and accreditation.

Contact information

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

For more information on paramedicine accreditation please visit the Committee's accreditation webpage.

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