

Schedule 3 – Work Plan

Accreditation of Providers and Programs

In addition to the annual monitoring of all programs of study and preparing for an audit of the Australian College of Optometry therapeutics program in the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021, the work plan for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 includes generating the following reports for consideration by the OBA:

- a. Re-accreditation Report, Deakin University optometry program (entry-level)
- b. Re-accreditation Report, University of NSW optometry program (entry-level)
- c. Accreditation Report, University of Canberra optometry program (entry-level)
- d. Monitoring Report, Flinders University optometry program (entry-level).

Accreditation projects

In addition to the Accreditation Functions set out in Schedule 2, the work plan for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 includes

- a. consulting with stakeholders on the preferred risk-managed approach and new procedures manual, with a view to introducing changed arrangements in the period 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022
- b. the introduction of surveys of graduates and employers to research new optometrists' work preparedness; in relation to the fulfilment of accreditation standards, their effectiveness and to inform further reviews
- c. enacting recommendations developed in the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 to support education provider benchmarking of assessment; and
- d. activities to enhance the delivery of curricula to support cultural safety other than those funded by the Accreditation Authority from its reserves

These projects will assist the Accreditation Authority and education providers more closely scrutinise and compare the preparedness of graduates for safe practice, and help identify/make improvements.

Examination of Overseas Trained Optometrists

The work plan for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 includes

- a. revise/develop new written examination questions
- b. commence benchmarking the Competency in Optometry Examination with a comparable international examination.
- c. Two administrations of the OCANZ Competency in Optometry Examination written examination, in Australia and overseas, in August 2019 and March 2020
- d. Two administrations of the Competency in Optometry Examination clinical examination in Melbourne, in November 2019 and June 2020
- e. Administration of the assessment of Competence in Oral Therapeutics examination as required to respond to applicant demand.

Projects

The work plan for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 includes

- a. the ongoing development of written examination questions as required (new or edited); and

- b. commencing an evaluation of how best to benchmark the Competency in Optometry Examination with a comparable overseas optometric examination.

Additional projects using OCANZ Reserves

Consistent with its 5-year strategic plan, the OCANZ Board has recently authorised the following range of innovative projects to be funded from its reserves. The list includes projects commencing in the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020:

- a. Conducting the required consultations on and then implementing risk-managed accreditation processes and procedures which will be drafted in FY 2019;
- b. Ongoing work to embed cultural safety into optometry curricula and to improve the capacity of graduates to contribute to improved eye health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Specific activities will be recommended by an Indigenous Strategy Taskforce established by the OCANZ Board in 2018 and charged with recommending an annual program of work to the OCANZ Board;
- c. The development of an in-common annual survey of employers and graduates of optometry programs, to be administered across all entry-level education providers annually from FY 2021;
- d. Enactment of any recommendations arising from a FY 2019 consultancy which is exploring the options to benchmark assessment across entry-level programs of study;
- e. Ongoing quality assurance and enhancement of the Competency in Optometry Examination examination, both to maintain currency of questions and to make any necessary adjustments following revisions to the examination introduced at the end of FY 2018;
- f. Exploring the option to benchmark the OCANZ Competency in Optometry Examination with a comparable overseas examination; and
- g. Researching best practice in developing accreditation standards for the profession.

High level Work Plan for period 1 July 2019 – 30 June 2024

Period	Work Plan
Main Annual Activities	<p>November to February – Accreditation Annual Report Monitoring</p> <p>March & August – Delivery of written component of COE</p> <p>June & November – Delivery of clinical component of COE</p> <p>January to March – Budget discussions with OBA</p> <p>May & November – Half yearly & yearly reports to OBA</p> <p>May / February / November – Administration of annual research into graduate and employer views of optometry program graduates' work readiness</p> <p>Ongoing development of Item Bank Questions (MCQ/SAQ) to maintain currency</p> <p>Actions as approved each year by OCANZ Board to deliver strategies which close the gap in eye health between Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islanders and other Australians</p>

Period	Work Plan
1 July 2019 – 30 June 2020	<p>Accreditation – University of Canberra</p> <p>Reaccreditation – University of New South Wales</p> <p>Monitoring – Flinders University</p> <p>Produce literature review on best practice in developing professional competencies, including preferred framework or same</p> <p>Complete review of OCANZ risk-based accreditation procedures</p> <p>Commence external benchmarking of OCANZ COE with international comparator</p> <p>Finalise assessment benchmarking project across accredited programs</p>
1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021	<p>Reaccreditation – Australian College of Optometry</p> <p>Implement new risk-based accreditation procedures</p> <p>Complete external benchmarking of OCANZ COE</p> <p>Commence review of OCANZ accreditation standards</p> <p>Upgrade OCANZ exam candidate and office IT systems</p>
1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022	<p>Reaccreditation – Queensland University of Technology</p> <p>Complete review of OCANZ accreditation standards and commence implementation</p> <p>Conduct external review of OCANZ Board governance</p>
1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023	<p>Reaccreditation – Flinders University</p> <p>Possible Reaccreditation – University of Canberra</p> <p>Commission external review of OCANZ efficiency and effectiveness</p> <p>Other strategic projects as determined by OCANZ Board</p>
1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024	<p>Reaccreditation – University of Melbourne</p> <p>Reaccreditation – University of New South Wales Therapeutics Program</p> <p>Develop case to OBA/AHPRA for accreditation re-assignment</p> <p>Strategic projects as determined by OCANZ Board</p>

Schedule 4 – Funding arrangements

The funding principles below will guide accreditation authorities, National Boards and AHPRA for the 2019/20 financial year initially. These funding principles may be reviewed under clause 6.

Item 1 – Funding Principles

These Funding Principles are to be applied by accreditation authorities, National Boards and AHPRA when they are considering and agreeing on the funding to be provided to the accreditation authority by the National Board/AHPRA for performance of the accreditation functions.

The principles aim to promote consistency, transparency and accountability for use of registrant fees to fund the accreditation function.

AHPRA, in consultation with the National Board, will provide funding through registrant fees to enable the accreditation authority to manage its business and risks by covering some of the indirect costs of activities related to program accreditation including monitoring.

The following principles will apply, in addition to the guiding principles and objectives of the National Law, and the Quality Framework for the Accreditation Functions, when an accreditation authority is requesting funding from a National Board/AHPRA (funding request) and when a National Board/AHPRA decide to provide funding to an accreditation authority (funding decision):

1. Requests for funding should be reasonable and proportionate to the activities being funded.
2. The funding provided by the National Board/AHPRA should cover a proportion of the governance costs related to the accreditation functions.
3. The funding provided by the National Board/AHPRA for the development and review of accreditation standards should be requested and considered separately to the funding of other accreditation functions.
4. Requests for increases in funding from the previous year should not usually exceed the indexation range applicable to National Board fee increases (up to 3% per annum).
5. Where an accreditation authority considers an increase in funding above the indexation range is required, it should put the funding request and a business case supporting the increase above the indexation range to AHPRA and the National Board for their consideration.
6. Such a request and business case should be forwarded to AHPRA and the National Board by mid-February or earlier each year to enable them to have sufficient time to properly consider the funding request.
7. AHPRA and the National Board may agree to the requested increase in funding or propose to agree to a lesser amount. Such a proposal and reasons for that proposal should be forwarded to the accreditation authority to enable it to have sufficient time to properly consider the proposed funding amount and reasons.
8. AHPRA and the National Board should agree to provide sufficient funding to enable the accreditation authority to effectively deliver the accreditation functions through a combination of funding provided by the National Board/AHPRA and funding from other sources that is provided as a direct result of the Accreditation Authority being assigned and exercising statutory functions under the National Law.

Item 2 – Funds

Total funding for 2019/2020 financial year is: \$323,060 (ex GST) for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020

Subject to the provisions in clause 6 of this Agreement, the following are estimates of the total funding for each subsequent financial year during the Term of this Agreement:

\$334,374 (ex GST) for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2021

\$344,406 (ex GST) for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2022
\$354,738 (ex GST) for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2023
\$365,380 (ex GST) for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2024

The funding for the 2019/2020 financial year is payable in four instalments on the following dates and in accordance with clause 5.2 of the Head Agreement.

Date	GST exclusive
1 July 2019	\$80,765
1 October 2019	\$80,765
1 January 2020	\$80,765
1 April 2020	\$80,765