



November 2021 Chinese Medicine Accreditation Committee meeting

The Chinese Medicine Accreditation Committee (the Committee) publishes this communiqué on the Committee's [accreditation webpages](#). Please forward it to your colleagues and employees who may be interested.

COVID-19 and the Delta variant

The Committee and Ahpra continue to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and its potential impacts on approved programs. Statements on, or information outlining, its plans for its accreditation activities will be published on the 'News and updates' accreditation webpage. The Committee was also party to the Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum's [consensus statement on COVID-19](#), and the [National principles for clinical education during the COVID-19 pandemic](#).

The spread of the COVID-19 Delta variant escalated quickly in 2021, and many states and territories experienced lockdowns and restrictions that impacted on education providers delivering their programs of study, including students' ability to attend face-to-face classes and placements. The Committee will monitor the COVID-19 Omicron variant once more information is made available on its severity.

Committee meetings

The 47th meeting of the Committee was held on 25 November 2021 via videoconference. The Committee anticipates holding three meetings in 2022.

Some activities that were discussed at the Committee's November 2021 meeting are outlined below.

Assessments and monitoring activities

Accreditation assessments underway

The Committee must make accreditation decisions according to the National Law (Section 48) and the published [Guidelines for accreditation of education and training programs](#) (guidelines). The Committee considered the assessment team report for one program of study at its November 2021 meeting. The outcomes of the Committee's decision, the reasons for its decision, and a copy of the accreditation report will be provided to the education provider.

2021 Routine annual monitoring

At its November 2021 meeting, the Committee considered the submitted 2021 Routine annual monitoring (including COVID-19 reporting) reports; transition requirement reporting against the 2019 accreditation standards; and an update on education provider's 2021 graduating cohorts. The outcomes of the reports will be provided to the education providers and the National Board by January 2022.

Newly published accreditation resources

The Committee is very excited to announce the publication of some important accreditation resources, which it has developed in conjunction with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, Medical Radiation Practice, Paramedicine and Podiatry Accreditation Committees (the Committees). The development of multi-profession approaches to accreditation processes ensures the Committee is striving towards best practice, as outlined in its key performance indicators at *Attachment G* of its [Terms of Reference](#).

Guidance on teaching out accredited and/or approved programs of study

The [Guidance on teaching out accredited and/or approved programs of study](#) provides education providers with information on what may be provided to the Committee when an accredited and/or approved program of study (program) is discontinued for new enrolments (moves into teach-out).

In developing the guidance, the Committee undertook a period of targeted consultation with education providers delivering paramedicine programs of study. The Committee thanks those education providers who provided feedback.

If education providers have any queries about teaching out a program of study, please contact your Accreditation Officer via the [Program Accreditation Team](#) for more information.

Guidance on site visits and video/teleconference meetings

The [Guidance on accreditation site visits and tele/videoconference meetings](#) outlines the process for site visit and tele/videoconference meetings for education providers delivering Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practice, Chinese medicine, medical radiation practice, paramedicine and podiatry programs of study.

This guidance was developed with consideration for the Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum's (the Forum) [position statement on accreditation tools used by Forum members](#), and should be read alongside the Committee's [Guidelines for accreditation of education and training programs](#).

For access to the Committee's key accreditation resources please visit their [publications and resources webpage](#).

November 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 requirements as identified in attachment F of the ToR.

The Committee will submit its November 2021 Key Performance Indicator report to the National Board in early December 2021.

Stakeholder engagement

The Program Accreditation Team, on behalf of the Committee, continues to engage with education providers via the Committee's [accreditation webpages](#); through correspondence via email, phone contact and videoconference meetings, and communiques.

Contact information

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

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