

Communique

13 January 2021

Psychology Expert Reference Group: Education training and reform (Phase 2)

Work of the Psychology Expert Reference Group

This is the second communique of the Psychology Expert Reference Group (PERG).

The PERG was appointed by the Psychology Board of Australia (the Board) in September 2020 and tasked with providing the Board with profession-specific advice about improving the competencies for general registration as a first step in the education training and reform (phase 2) program of work.

The PERG has met six times, and completed the following:

- Reviewed international competency requirements for entry level psychologists (i.e. general registration)
- Participated in stakeholder webinars to launch the Board's [Green paper](#) and to understand stakeholder views on the competencies required for safe practice in the profession across various sectors (accreditation, training, industry)
- Collaborated with non-psychology educational and regulatory competency specialists (independent consultants) to prepare a draft revised competency framework, and
- Reviewed the current competencies required by the Board via the multiple training pathways and developed a working draft for new revised competencies for general registration.

The next steps in the program of work will include:

- Seeking the opinion of targeted stakeholders on the early draft competencies, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, consumer groups, industry, and the profession.
- Making any subsequent adjustments to the draft revised competencies for general registration based on this advice, and
- Conducting public consultation on the draft revised competencies for general registration later in 2021.

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Ahpra and the National Boards regulate these registered health professions: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practice, Chinese medicine, chiropractic, dental, medical, medical radiation practice, midwifery, nursing, occupational therapy, optometry, osteopathy, paramedicine, pharmacy, physiotherapy, podiatry and psychology.