



## Health Ministers' Meeting

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Dr Susan O'Dwyer  
Acting Chair  
Medical Board of Australia  
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Via email: [Ahpra.Secretariat@ahpra.gov.au](mailto:Ahpra.Secretariat@ahpra.gov.au)

Dear Dr O'Dwyer

### **Approval of revised *registration standard: specialist registration***

Thank you for your letter of 7 August 2024 on behalf of the Medical Board of Australia (MBA) recommending approval of the revised *registration standard: specialist registration* (the revised registration standard).

I am pleased to advise that the Ministerial Council has agreed on 1 October 2024 to approve the revised registration standard, in accordance with section 12 of the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law*, as in force in each state and territory. Ministers agree with your proposal that the revised registration standard takes effect on 21 October 2024.

In making this approval, we note the MBA's advice that the revisions to the registration standard detail all available ways that an individual can qualify for specialist registration under section 58 of the National Law and supports the expedited specialist pathway, which aligns to recommendation 9 of the Kruk final report. It has the potential to speed up the registration process for some SIMGs because they will be able to apply directly for specialist registration on the expedited specialist pathway without the need for a specialist medical college assessment.

Ministers acknowledge that implementation of the revised standard and expedited pathway will require some operational changes to be made by the MBA and Ahpra. We are pleased that preparatory work has already started and ask the MBA to continue to work closely with key stakeholders including the Australian Medical Council, and specialist medical colleges. We also note that operational detail setting out requirements for orientation, cultural safety education and supervision will be available in the MBA's new guidance materials, including updated web pages, evidence guides and FAQs.

Thank you for bringing the Board's proposal to Health Ministers as a priority as requested.

Yours sincerely

Hon Mary-Anne Thomas MP  
Acting Chair  
Health Ministers' Meeting

3/10 / 2024