



Communiqué

Meeting of the Podiatry Board of Australia held on 18 December 2013

Podiatry renewal now in late period

Podiatrists and podiatric surgeons across Australia were reminded by AHPRA and the Board that their registration was due for renewal **by 30 November 2013**. By 1 December, 92 percent of practitioners had renewed and a further three percent had applied to renew and were in the process of being assessed. Of those renewing, more than 94 percent have done so online.

If you didn't renew your registration on time, you can still renew until **31 December 2013**, but a late payment fee will apply. The quickest and easiest way to renew your registration is [online](#).

AHPRA and the Board want to make sure that practitioners who wish to renew their registration do so before they risk it lapsing. Renewal reminders will continue to be sent throughout the late period. Using the 'opt out' service and registering your decision to not renew registration puts a stop to renewal reminders.

Under the National Law, if you haven't renewed by 31 December 2013 your registration will lapse. Your name will be removed from the online [Register of Podiatrists and/or the Specialists Register](#) and you must cease to practise immediately. To resume practising, you must make a new application for registration.

Fast track application forms will be available on the Board's website under *Forms* or by phoning the AHPRA Customer Service Team on 1300 419 495 during January. If submitting a fast track application, you cannot practise until your application is processed and your registration details are updated on the national register.

An FAQ about renewal is available on the [Board's website](#).

Update on the review of registration standards and guidelines

The review of the Board's registration standards and guidelines is a significant body of work being carried out by the Board. Wide ranging public consultation is undertaken which provides an opportunity for the profession and other stakeholders to provide feedback on consultation papers that are published on the consultations page of the [Board's website](#).

The Board, together with the other National Boards will be publishing the following revised and new common codes and guidelines in February 2014:

- revised Advertising guidelines
- Social media policy
- revised Mandatory reporting guidelines, and
- revised Code of conduct.

These guidelines, policy and code will come into effect in March 2014, and all registered health practitioners will need to meet these new standards.

The Board consulted widely on the draft versions of these documents. Much work has also gone into making sure that the format and language used in the documents meet plain language requirements, to make it easier to access and understand the important information in them.

More information will be published on the Board's website in February.

Season's Greetings

The Board would like to wish all members of the podiatry profession and stakeholders a safe and happy holiday season.

Further information

Further information about the Board can be found on the [Board's website](#) and practitioners are encouraged to refer to the site for news and updates on policies and guidelines affecting their profession.

Cathy Loughry
Chair
Podiatry Board of Australia
24 December 2013