



Communiqué

December 2017

The Podiatry Board of Australia (the Board) meets each month to consider and decide on matters related to its regulatory functions under the National Law¹ and within the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme).

This communiqué highlights any key matters from the Board's November 2017 meeting as well as other important information.

The Board held its December 2017 meeting in Melbourne.

Regulatory planning for 2018/19

The Board spent time planning for 2018/19, including focusing on the Board's regulatory plan, current initiatives and new initiatives. These will form part of the Health Profession Agreement (HPA) document, which will be published on the website once finalised.

Registration renewal reminder

Podiatrists and podiatric surgeons who did not renew their registration by 30 November 2017 are now in the late renewal period and have until 31 December to apply. Renewal applications received in December will incur a late payment fee in addition to the annual renewal fee. A [fees schedule](#) is published on the Board's website.

Podiatrists and podiatric surgeons, whose application for general and/or specialist registration is received during the one month late period, can continue practising while their application is processed.

Practitioners who do not apply to renew their registration by 31 December 2017 will have lapsed registration. They will be removed from the [Register of podiatrists](#), and/or the Board's specialist register in the case of podiatric surgeons, and will not be able to practise in Australia.

A 'fast-track' application for registration can be made, but only in January 2018 and the practitioner cannot practise until it is processed and the national register is updated, which can take time.

Graduating soon? Need to register? Apply now

The Board is reminding final-year students to apply for registration online.

Those on the Student Register who will complete their [approved program of study](#) at the end of 2017 have been sent an email inviting them to [apply online](#) for registration four to six weeks before finishing their course.

Students are encouraged to read the information on AHPRA's website under [Graduate applications](#). Certain applicants will also need to apply for an [international criminal history check](#).

Graduates can start practising as soon as their name is published on the [national register](#).

¹ The Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory (the National Law).

Board newsletter published

In early December 2017 the Board published its latest newsletter on the [Board's website](#). The newsletter was emailed to all podiatrists and podiatric surgeons who have provided the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) with an email address.

Follow AHPRA on social media

Connect with AHPRA on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [LinkedIn](#) to receive information about important topics for your profession and participate in the discussion.



Further information

The Board publishes a range of information for podiatrists and podiatric surgeons on its [website](#) and practitioners are encouraged to refer to the site for news and updates on policies and [guidelines](#) affecting the podiatry profession.

For more information about registration, notifications or other matters relevant to the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme please refer to the information published on www.ahpra.gov.au. Alternatively, contact AHPRA by an [online enquiry form](#) or phone 1300 419 495.

Season's Greetings

On behalf of the Board I would like to wish all members of the podiatry profession and our stakeholders a safe and happy festive season.

Cathy Loughry
Chair
Podiatry Board of Australia
19 December 2017