



November 2024 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Accreditation Committee meeting

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Accreditation Committee (the Committee) publishes this communiqué on the Committee's [accreditation webpage](#). Please forward it to your colleagues who may be interested.

Committee meeting

The 50th meeting of the Committee was held face-to-face in Melbourne on 27 November 2024. The Committee celebrated this milestone with a morning tea and invited Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency's (Ahpra) Chief Executive Officer and the Program Accreditation staff to commemorate this occasion.

The Committee also welcomed a new member to the meeting. They attended the meeting as an observer as their term commences on 1 January 2025 for three years.

Some activities that were discussed at the Committee's November 2024 meeting, as well as some other key activities, are outlined below.

Accreditation assessments and monitoring activities

Accreditation decision

The Committee made an accreditation decision on an education provider delivering the HLT40221 qualification as graduates are eligible to apply for registration with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Board of Australia (National Board). The National Board will consider the Committee's accreditation decision at its next meeting.

Education providers delivering the HLT40221 qualification, were contacted via email, and asked to advise the Committee on when students will complete their course work and the anticipated graduation date. This will ensure enough time for the Committee to accredit the HLT40221 qualification and the National Board to approve the qualification for registration purposes before students have finalised their course work/graduated.

Monitoring accredited programs of study

The Committee considered monitoring responses from three education providers and their programs of study. The outcomes of the Committee's evaluations will be provided to the education provider and the National Board.

The Committee will continue to provide updates to the National Board on its monitoring of accredited and approved programs of study.

Routine monitoring

The 2024 routine monitoring package was disseminated to education providers across two tranches – in February and May 2024. The Committee considered nine 2024 routine monitoring reports at their August 2024 meeting with a further four considered at the November 2024 meeting.

The Committee will provide the outcomes of their findings to the education providers, and an update to the National Board, following the November 2024 meeting.

HLT40221 program

At its September 2023 meeting, the Committee agreed on a two-phased approach to monitoring education providers' transition to the HLT40221 Certificate IV in Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Primary Health Care Practice training package (HLT40221 program). Education providers have provided their responses to the two phases. The Committee will continue to monitor education providers delivering the HLT40221 qualification.

Committee updates

At its November meeting, the Committee also discussed:

- the recommendation to be adopted by Ahpra and the National Boards from the Health Ministers' August 2024 meeting to improve responses to Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence Health, and
- the recently released consultation paper on the Review of complexity in the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme, and its implications for accreditation.

Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum

The Presiding Member of the Committee and Manager, Program Accreditation provided verbal updates on the Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum (HPACF). The Committee continues to engage in the HPACF's important work. More information can be found on the HPACF's [website](#).

2019 Accreditation standards for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice - review

The review of the 2019 Accreditation standards for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice project commenced in March 2024. The project will be conducted in conjunction with the Chinese Medicine, Medical Radiation Practice, Paramedicine and Podiatry Accreditation Committees. At the meeting the Committee noted the verbal update from the Project Team on the progress of the review, and consultations with key stakeholders are scheduled to commence in early 2025.

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.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for February 2025.

Contact information

For any queries related to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice program accreditation, please contact the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Accreditation Committee via the Program Accreditation team at program.accreditation@ahpra.gov.au.

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