

December 2023 Podiatry Accreditation Committee meeting

The Podiatry Accreditation Committee (Committee) publishes this communiqué on the Committee's [accreditation webpages](#). Please forward it to your colleagues and employees who may be interested.

Committee meeting

The seventeenth meeting of the Committee was held in person in Melbourne and via videoconference on 12 and 13 December 2023. This was the Committee's final meeting of 2023.

Some activities that were discussed at the Committee's December 2023 meeting, as well as some other key activities, are outlined below.

Assessments and monitoring activities for approved programs of study

Accreditation assessments

The Committee considered accreditation assessment team reports, against the 2021 accreditation standards for Central Queensland University's Bachelor of Podiatry Practice (Honours) and Charles Sturt University's Bachelor of Podiatric Medicine and Bachelor of Podiatric Medicine (Honours).

There are currently two other podiatry programs undergoing an accreditation assessment.

Monitoring approved programs of study

The Committee considered two monitoring response from education providers and their programs of study. The outcomes of the Committee's evaluation will be provided to the education providers and the Podiatry Board of Australia (National Board) following the meeting.

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

Routine monitoring

The Committee considered and confirmed the 2024 routine monitoring package and anticipates circulating the 2024 routine monitoring form to education providers in March 2024.

Committee updates

At the meeting the Committee discussed the upcoming review of the accreditation standards and noted the verbal reports from members that attended the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (NRAS) combined meeting in Melbourne in October 2023. Topics addressed by the keynote speakers included:

- Community engagement in regulation
- Culturally safe healthcare in practice, and
- AI in regulatory intelligence.

At its December meeting, the Committee also discussed:

- the Australian Universities Accord and its effect on education providers,

- podiatry programs, and accreditation, responding to the profound health impacts of climate change, and
- reports of declining podiatry student numbers in recent years, and the implications for the workforce and health services.

Annual self-evaluation

Members reviewed the results of the Committee's annual self-evaluation survey and identified areas for enhancement of the Committee into the future.

Stakeholder engagement

The Program Accreditation team, on behalf of the Committee, continues to engage with education providers via the Committee's [accreditation webpage](#) and through correspondence on email and phone.

Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum

The Chair of the Committee provided an update 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](#).

Contact information

For any queries related to podiatry program accreditation, please contact the Committee via the Program Accreditation team at program.accreditation@ahpra.gov.au.

For more information on podiatry accreditation please visit the Committee's [accreditation](#) webpages.

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