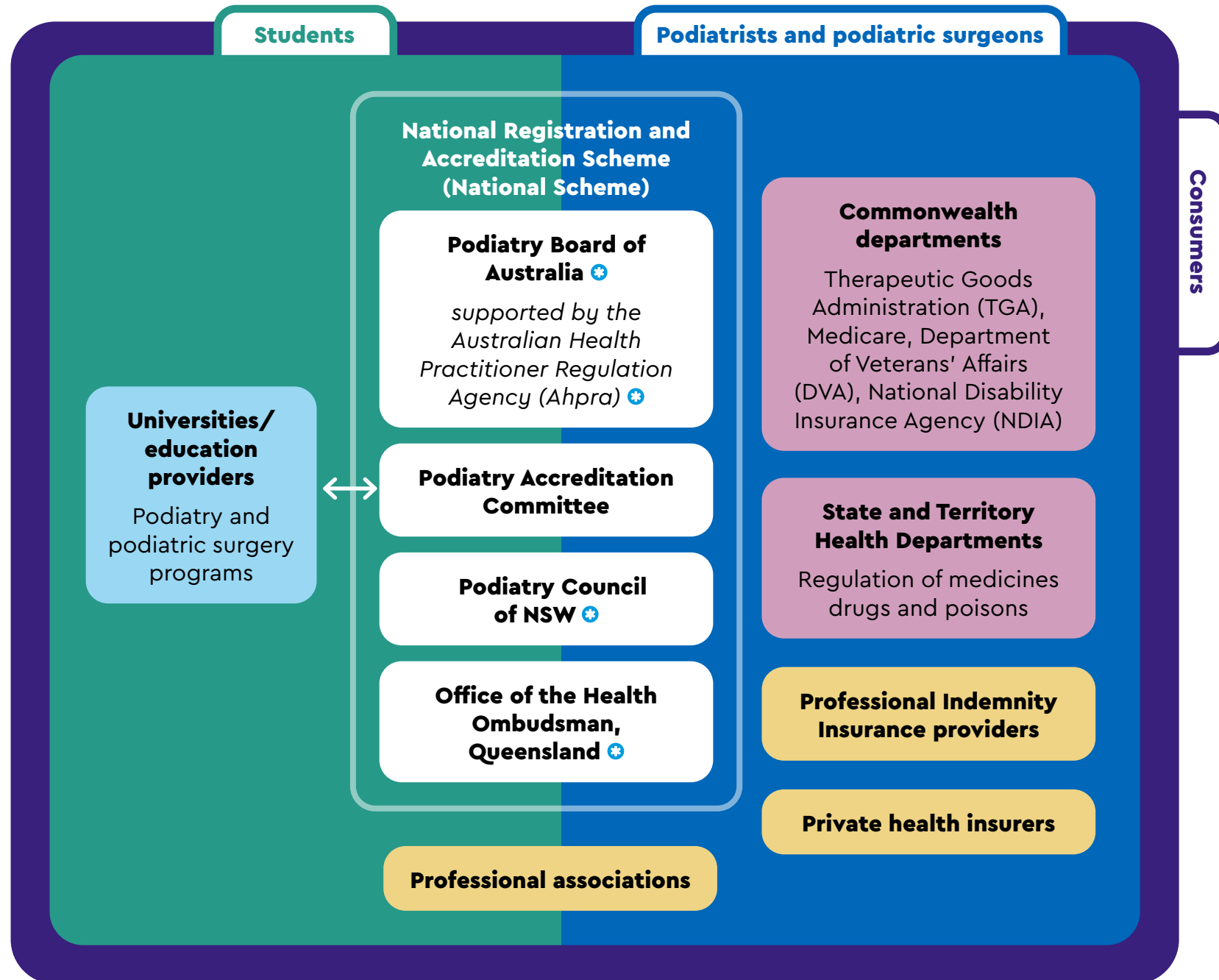


Podiatry: Who does what



* Deal with complaints about the health, conduct or performance of registered podiatrists, podiatric surgeons or students

Functions and/or responsibilities of entities and organisations

This information is provided as a guide only. For detailed information about the functions and/or responsibilities of these entities/organisations, refer to their respective websites

Podiatry Board of Australia

Regulates the podiatry profession in order to protect the public

- Registers podiatrists, podiatric surgeons and students
- Develops registration standards, codes and guidelines for the podiatry profession
- Considers and makes decisions on notifications (complaints)* about podiatrists and podiatric surgeons
- Where necessary, conducts panel hearings and refers serious matters to tribunal hearings
- Approves accreditation standards and accredited programs of study
- Assesses overseas trained podiatrists and podiatric surgeons who want to practise in Australia

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra)

Supports the 15 National Boards in administering the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme

- First point of contact for all enquiries including about registration and notifications (complaints)*
- Manages the registration and renewal processes for health practitioners
- Publishes and maintains the national register of health practitioners
- On behalf of National Boards, manages investigations into the professional conduct, performance or health of registered health practitioners*
- Has offices in each state and territory

Podiatry Accreditation Committee

Exercises the accreditation functions for the podiatry profession

- Develops accreditation standards
- Accredits and monitors podiatry and podiatric surgery programs of study

Professional associations

For example, Australian Podiatry Association (APodA); Podiatry Western Australia (Podiatry WA); Australian Association of Podiatric Surgeons (AAPS); Australasian College of Podiatric Surgeons (ACPS)

These organisations may:

- Provide support for their members
- Advocate for their members and the podiatry profession
- Provide continuing professional development (CPD) for the podiatry profession
- Hold conferences for the profession

* Except in New South Wales (NSW) where investigations are carried out by the Podiatry Council of NSW and the Health Care Complaints Commission. In Queensland this may also be undertaken by the Office of the Health Ombudsman.