

November 2023 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Accreditation Committee meeting

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Accreditation Committee (the Committee) publishes this communique on the Committee's [accreditation webpage](#).

Please forward it to any colleagues who may be interested.

Committee meeting

The Committee met in Melbourne on 22 November 2023. The Committee issues a communique after each meeting to keep stakeholders informed about its work.

Assessments and monitoring activities

Accreditation assessments

The Committee considered an assessment team report, against the 2019 accreditation standards, for the Aboriginal Health Council of South Australia's program. There is currently one other program undergoing assessment against the 2019 standards, and the Committee anticipates receiving that assessment team report for consideration at its May 2024 meeting.

Monitoring approved programs of study

The Committee considered a monitoring report from a monitoring visit to an education provider and their program of study earlier in 2023. The outcomes of the Committee's evaluation will be provided to the education provider and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Board of Australia (National Board) following their meeting.

2023 routine annual monitoring

At its November 2023 meeting, the Committee considered 2023 routine annual monitoring reports from four education providers and their programs of study that were distributed in May 2023. The Committee will provide the outcomes of their consideration to the education providers and the National Board in December 2023.

2024 routine monitoring

The Committee agreed to the 2024 routine monitoring package, including timeframes and templates, at its November 2023 meeting. The Program Accreditation team will contact education providers in the first half of 2024 regarding distribution and completion of 2024 routine monitoring.

Implementation of the HLT40221 program

At its September 2023 meeting, the Committee agreed on a two phase 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).

The Committee considered responses from all 14 education providers to phase one at its November 2023 meeting. Responses to phase one included the proposed timing for inclusion in scope, and commencement of delivery of the HLT40221 program. The Committee agreed to implement phase 2 with the education providers who have commenced delivery of the HLT40221 program with their 2024 monitoring (and to seek an update from education providers still planning implementation).

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Phase two will include information on:

- stakeholder engagement in the HLT40221 program, and
- the delivery mode and assessment of core subjects in the HLT40221 program

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 November meeting, the Committee also discussed:

- increased insurance expectations from work placement and practical training providers, and
- the recent action taken against a doctor for discriminatory and offensive behaviour under a recent amendment to the National Law

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 May 2024.

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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Ahpra and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Accreditation Committee work in partnership to accredit education and training programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practice.