Common FAQs: professional indemnity insurance

July 2019

Why must National Boards have a professional indemnity insurance (PII) arrangements registration standard?

The National Law requires National Boards to develop registration standards for professional indemnity insurance (PII) arrangement requirements for registered health practitioners. Requiring practitioners to have appropriate PII arrangements is one of the ways the National Scheme protects the public.

When will the new standards come into effect?

The revised standards generally apply from the start of a registration period for simplicity and clarity. Aligning revised standards with registration periods helps practitioners, employers and others understand which standard to apply.

The revised PII standards will be effective from 1 December for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice, Chinese medicine, occupational therapy and psychology (renewal declaration by 31 November 2020).

Audit of registration standard requirements

If you are selected for audit, you will be audited against the registration standard that was in effect during the audit period. For example, if you are audited in February 2020 for PII for the period 1 December 2018 to 30 November 2019, the standard you will be audited against is the standard that was in effect at that time, not the revised standard that was effective after 30 November 2019.

Evidence for the revised registration standards

National Boards aim to use the best available evidence to inform their regulatory work. AHPRA worked with National Boards to commission research about professional indemnity insurance to ensure the revised registration standards were as evidence-based as possible.

Additionally, National Boards drew on their regulatory experience with the previous registration standards and benchmarking with other comparable regulators.