

Received by email on 10 October 2011

To the Chairperson AHPRA,

Please find the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centres response to **Draft registration standards.**

- 1. Continuing professional development (CPD).** This standard is reasonable and fair.
- 2. Criminal history.** It is reasonable and appropriate to have the same registration standard as the other 10 National Boards. In reality there is a disproportionate criminal history in the Aboriginal community, concern is made to the possible impact on the workforce.
- 3. English language skills** This standard is reasonable and fair.
- 4. Professional indemnity insurance (PII)** Question of Burden of cost – to either AHW in self practice or employer in relation to the pay rate of the AHW or funding provided to the ACCHO.
- 5. Recency of practice** This standard is reasonable and fair.

Other Board Proposals

7. Grandparenting registration standard. This has no ramifications for Tasmania

9. Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander registration standard

The Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre / Tasmanian State NACCHO Affiliate would like to see the registration standard include the three tiered criteria for Aboriginality used by Commonwealth and State Government Agencies.

The definition of Aboriginality as defined by Federal Court decisions requires that an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person:

- (i) is of Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent; and
- (ii) identifies as an Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander; and
- (iii) is accepted as such by the community in which he or she lives or has lived.

It is further suggested that an evidence based approach be used for point *(i) is of Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent* i.e. prove Aboriginal ancestry, by providing authentic documentary evidence that shows a direct line of ancestry linked back through an identifiable family name to traditional Aboriginal society. This will usually be in the form of a verifiable family tree, or archival or historical documentation which links a person to a traditional family or person.

11. Eligibility for registration standard. This standard is reasonable and fair.

Thank you



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