

Media release

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Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioners urged to renew on time

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioners are reminded that their registration is due for renewal by 30 November.

The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) is mailing renewal forms to practitioners to enable them to renew their registration with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Board of Australia (the Board).

Board chair Mr Peter Pangquee said 'Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioners joined the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme on 1 July this year.'

'In the National Scheme, health practitioners are responsible for renewing their registration on time. The job of the Board – with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) – is to make this as simple and straightforward as possible,' he said.

Mr Pangquee said 'Practitioners can renew their registration online, it's quite easy. But in recognition that many practitioners have limited internet access, to assist practitioners, AHPRA is mailing out printed renewal forms'.

When AHPRA receives a registration renewal application from a practitioner, their name is removed from the list of practitioners who are sent further renewal reminders. There is also an online facility to 'opt out' of renewing registration. The 'opt out' service puts a stop to renewal reminders.

Mr Pangquee reminded the profession that they risked being not able to work if they did not renew on time in the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme). He said if practitioners are late with renewal they risk being unable to practise.

Under the National Law, those practitioners who are required to be registered under the National Scheme who do not renew registration within one month of their registration expiry date must be removed from the National Register of Practitioners. At this time, their registration will lapse and they will not be able to practise their profession in Australia until a new application is approved.

'Neither the Board nor AHPRA have any discretion about this as it is part of the National Law so our advice is clear – renew on time,' Mr Pangquee said.

For more information

- Visit www.atsihealthpracticeboard.gov.au for FAQs on renewal
- Practitioners can check their registration details and expiry date on the Register of Practitioners at www.ahpra.gov.au.
- For registration enquiries: 1300 419 495 (within Australia) +61 3 8708 9001 (overseas callers)
- For media enquiries: (03) 8708 9200

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency

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