

Media release

20 November 2012

Time running out for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioners to renew registration by 30 November

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Board of Australia (the Board) today urged those practitioners who have yet to renew their registration, which is due 30 November, to renew on time.

Board Chair Mr Pangquee said only a small number of practitioners have already renewed.

“To date, 28% of the 275 due to renew their registration by 30 November 2012 have already renewed which is a good start,” Mr Pangquee said.

“Practitioners can renew their registration online. But in recognition that many practitioners have limited internet access, to assist practitioners, AHPRA mailed out printed renewal forms.”

“In the National Scheme, health professionals 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.”

Mr Pangquee said some employers are assisting practitioners by making the payment on their behalf and then organising payroll deductions so that it can be paid in installments. He urged practitioners to talk with their employer if they had concerns about how to pay the registration fee.

He noted that there were significant consequences for individual practitioners who do not renew on time in the National Scheme.

Under the National Law, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioners who do not renew registration within one month of their registration expiry date must be removed from the National Registers of Practitioners. Their registration will lapse and they will not be able to practise as an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioner 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.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioners can check that their application has been received via the online receipt service at [Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency - Renewal Received Confirmation](#). Individuals whose application to renew registration has been received can practise while their application is being processed.

The listing on the National Registers of Practitioners is evidence for employers that a health professional is registered, even if their registration expiry date has passed. Alternatively, practitioners can print off a copy of their registration certificate using AHPRA's online services at www.ahpra.gov.au.

Failure to renew:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioners who forget to renew their registration by 30 November 2012, or within the following one month late period, can apply to AHPRA for a fast-track application for registration. These practitioners should note that they may not be able to practise in their profession until their fast-track registration application has been processed and approved.

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