

## Media release

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5 October 2012

### Online applications for registration now open for final year students

Students of medicine who will graduate soon can go online now to apply for provisional registration as a medical practitioner.

An online graduate registration service for final year students was launched by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) in May 2011.

The service enables students to apply for registration early before completing their course and aims to smooth the path from study to work in five simple steps.

Online applications for registration are now open. All online applications require students to mail some supporting documents to AHPRA.

Medical Board of Australia Chair, Dr Joanna Flynn AM, said a graduate of an approved program of study must apply for provisional registration to undertake a period of internship in Australia, prior to being eligible for general registration.

'It is important that graduates read all the information about what documents must be sent to AHPRA in support of their application so they can be granted provisional registration in time to start their internships at an approved hospital,' Dr Flynn said.

Graduates must also meet the Medical Board of Australia's registration requirements to become a registered medical practitioner.

The registration standards applicable to medical graduates relate to:

- criminal history,
- English language skills, and
- professional indemnity insurance.

'Graduates need to be a registered medical practitioner before they can start work and are urged to go online and apply for registration four to six weeks before completing their course,' Dr Flynn said.

There are five simple steps to graduate registration:

1. Medical students apply for registration 4 to 6 weeks before completing their course at <http://www.ahpra.gov.au/Registration/Graduate-Applications.aspx>

2. Medical students fill out an online application (if eligible) or download an application form. All applications require some supporting documents to be sent to AHPRA by mail.
3. Education providers advise AHPRA when applicants are eligible to graduate
4. AHPRA finalises assessment, confirms registration, publishes new graduates' names on the Register of Medical Practitioners and sends out registration certificates
5. New graduates are registered and eligible to start working as soon as their name is published on the Register of Medical Practitioners

*For more information*

- Go to the Graduate Applications Website at <http://www.ahpra.gov.au/Registration/Graduate-Applications.aspx> for FAQs and links to more information
- For registration enquiries: 1300 419 495 (within Australia) +61 3 8708 9001 (overseas callers)
- For media enquiries: (03) 8708 9200