

Media release

7 October 2013

Final-year students urged to apply for registration now

Students of an approved program leading to registration as a medical practitioner can go online now to apply for provisional registration before they graduate.

The online graduate application service at the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) website enables final-year students to apply for registration four to six weeks before completing their course.

It aims to smooth the path from study to work in five simple steps and online applications are being called for now. All applicants are required to return some supporting documents to AHPRA by mail to complete the application.

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. Students apply for registration four to six weeks before completing their program at Graduate applications on the AHPRA website.
- 2. Applicants fill out an online application (if eligible) or download an application form. All applications require some documents to be sent to AHPRA by mail to complete the application.

- 3. Education providers advise AHPRA when applicants are eligible to graduate.
- 4. AHPRA finalises assessment, confirms registration, publishes new graduates' names on the national register of practitioners and sends out registration certificates.
- 5. New graduates registered with the National Board are eligible to start work as soon as their name is published on the national register.

For more information

- Go to **Graduate applications** on the AHPRA website for FAQ 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