

Media release

5 October 2012

Online applications for registration now open for final year students

Students of pharmacy who will graduate soon can go online now to apply for provisional registration as a health 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 applications require students to return some supporting documents to AHPRA by mail.

Pharmacy Board of Australia Chair Stephen Marty said graduates of approved programs of study must make an application for provisional registration to undertake a Board approved period of supervised practice in order to be eligible for general registration in Australia.

'The Board must approve the period of supervised practice before it is started,' Mr Marty said.

'Graduates who do not send a completed application for approval of supervised practice when they apply for provisional registration may experience delays in being granted registration as a health practitioner.'

Mr Marty said a graduate of an approved program of study must also meet the National Board's registration requirements to become a registered health practitioner. New graduate registration standards relate to criminal history and professional indemnity insurance.

'Graduates need to be a registered health practitioner before they can start practising and are urged to go online and apply for registration four to six weeks before completing their course,' Mr Marty said.

'It is important that graduates read all the information about what documents must be sent to AHPRA in support of their application.'

There are five simple steps to graduate registration:

1. Students apply for registration 4 to 6 weeks before completing their course at www.ahpra.gov.au/Registration/Graduate-Applications.aspx
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.
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 Practitioners and sends out registration certificates

5. New graduates registered with their profession's National Board are eligible to start working as soon as their name is published on the Register of Practitioners

For more information

- Go to the Graduate Applications Website at www.ahpra.gov.au/Registration/Graduate-Applications.aspx for FAQs and links to more information
- Visit www.ahpra.gov.au under *Contact us* to lodge an online enquiry form
- For registration enquiries: 1300 419 495 (within Australia) +61 3 8708 9001 (overseas callers)
- For media enquiries: (03) 8708 9200