

## Media release

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7 October 2013

### Final-year students urged to apply for registration now

Students of an approved program leading to registration as a pharmacist 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 provisional 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. An application for approval of supervised practice must also be sent to AHPRA before supervised practice may be commenced.

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, and an application must also be lodged for this to occur,' 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 commencing their supervised practice (internship).'

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.

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 **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. An application for approval of supervised practice must also be lodged.
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 and approved supervised practice location 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