



Communiqué

8 December 2014

The Pharmacy Board of Australia (the Board) met on 21 November 2014 in Melbourne.

Pharmacy renewal now in late period

Pharmacists across Australia were reminded by AHPRA and the Board that their registration was due for renewal **by 30 November 2014**. By 1 December 94 per cent of pharmacists had renewed and 1 per cent had 'opted out'. Of those renewing, 97 per cent had done so online.

If pharmacists did not renew their registration on time, they can still renew until **31 December 2014**, but a late fee will apply. The quickest and easiest way to renew registration is [online](#).

Under the National Law¹, if registration is not renewed by 31 December 2014 registration will lapse. The name will be removed from the Register of Pharmacists. This means that the person must make a new application for registration. They will **not be able to practise** until their application has been finalised and their details added to the [online public register](#). This has serious implications for pharmacists who are owners of pharmacy businesses.

Pharmacists who do not want to renew their registration to keep practising can simply ignore the reminders from AHPRA or go online to 'opt out' of renewing. Using the 'opt out' service puts a stop to renewal reminders.

An FAQ about renewal is available on the [Pharmacy Board website](#).

Quarterly registration data

The Board publishes quarterly data profiling Australia's pharmacy workforce.

At September 2014, there were a total of 28,403 registered pharmacists comprising the following number of registrants according to registration type:

- 25,625 – general registration
- 1,796 – provisional registration
- 17 – limited registration
- 965 – non-practising registration

The quarterly registration data at September 2014 for the pharmacy profession is published on the Board's website (www.pharmacyboard.gov.au/About/Statistics.aspx). It includes a number of statistical breakdowns.

Pharmacy Board Newsletter

An electronic newsletter providing an update on a range of Board activities and practice related issues will be e-mailed in December to all registered pharmacists. Pharmacists who have not provided an e-mail address can do so through the [online services for practitioners](#). A copy of the newsletter will be available on the Board's [website](#) in the next two weeks.

Pharmacy regulation at work in Australia 2013/14

This year for the first time, in addition to an annual report, AHPRA and the Pharmacy Board of Australia have also published:

¹ The Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory (the National Law).

- a profession-specific summary on the regulation of Pharmacy in Australia, which provides a clear snapshot of the profession (the first time such a report is available), and
- a local summary for each state and territory about the regulation of all the professions in the National Scheme.

The summaries and annual report are published on the AHPRA website under [Publications](#). The documents can also be accessed via the Pharmacy Board of Australia [website](#).

Request for Quote

The Pharmacy Board of Australia seeks a qualified and experienced party to develop examiner training to address the varying needs of new and experienced examiner groups.

The project will involve an analysis of training needs and the development and delivery of appropriate training models and tools.

The [Request for Quote - Pharmacy Oral Examination Examiner Training Development](#) is published on the Board's website.

The closing date for formal responses/bids to the Request for Quote as per details in the published document is **5pm, Friday 9 January 2015**.

Stephen Marty
Chair, Pharmacy Board of Australia
8 December 2014

[The Pharmacy Board of Australia](#) is the regulator of pharmacists in Australia and acts to protect the public by ensuring that suitably qualified and competent pharmacists are registered. The Board is responsible for developing registration standards, codes and guidelines for pharmacists and managing notifications (complaints) about pharmacists and pharmacy students. The Board does this through its powers under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory, and the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme, supported by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA). The Board's work in regulating Australia's pharmacists in the public interest is underpinned by [regulatory principles](#), which encourage a responsive, risk-based approach to regulation.*

**Except in NSW and QLD which have co-regulatory arrangements.*