



## Communiqué

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August 2016

The 76th meeting of the Dental Board of Australia (the Board) was held on Friday 29 July 2016 in the National Office of the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) in Melbourne.

This communiqué highlights key discussions and considerations from the Board's meeting as well as other important information.

We publish this communiqué on our website and email it to a broad range of stakeholders. We encourage you to distribute it widely to colleagues and interested parties. This includes distributing it to the different levels in the organisation that you work in.

### **Call for applications – list of approved members for equivalence assessment panels**

We seek applications from suitably qualified and experienced dentists, who hold specialist registration with the Board, to be appointed to the list of approved members for equivalence assessment panels.

Since the start of the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme), the Australian Dental Council (ADC), on behalf of the Board, had assessed overseas specialist qualifications for substantial equivalence to Australian specialist programs.

We with AHPRA have developed a new process to assess overseas specialist qualifications for substantial equivalence to Australian specialist programs. This process, in place since 1 July 2016, includes the assessment of these qualifications against specific criteria to be carried out by equivalence assessment panels.

The equivalence assessment panel will convene as needed to help the Board in assessing qualifications for specialist registration from overseas-trained dental specialists in a particular specialty.

In selecting candidates for appointment, the following selection criteria will be taken into account:

- willingness to assess qualifications on behalf of the Board and against criteria decided by the Board
- specialist registration with the Board
- demonstration of engagement with the profession including membership of the relevant specialist academy and/or peak body for the specialty
- leadership and senior clinical experience in the profession, and
- experience in the delivery of academic programs for the specialty including accreditation.

Applications will be assessed by a selection advisory panel. Appointments are made by the Board under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory (the National Law). Appointments may be for up to three years, with eligibility for reappointment.

For more information on the role and the application process can be found on the Board's [website](#).

### **News from AHPRA**

We work in partnership with AHPRA and the other thirteen (13) National Boards to deliver the [National Scheme](#).

Whilst we publish [news items](#) specific to our work in regulating dental practitioners, AHPRA [publishes](#) updates on work from across the scheme. This includes communiqués from key meetings with government and other stakeholders.

We encourage you to review these from time to time. You are also able to subscribe to the AHPRA newsletter by [registering here](#).

### **Are your contact details up to date?**

If you received our latest e-newsletter, it means you have a current and active registered with us. If you didn't receive it you need to check your details. You can do this via the Login icon at the top right of the [AHPRA website](#).

Email accounts need to be set to receive communications from AHPRA and the Board to avoid misdirection to an account junk box.

John Lockwood AM  
**Chair, Dental Board of Australia**  
19 August 2016