

FAQ

15 September 2011

2011 dental practitioner registration renewal due soon

Background

Australia's National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (National Scheme) began on 1 July 2010.

The National Scheme is governed by nationally consistent legislation, the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act* (the National Law) as in force in each state and territory. The core role of the National Boards under the National Law is to protect the public.

Under the National Scheme, registration renewal dates are being aligned across Australia for each profession. From 2012, all medical practitioners with general and/or specialist registration will be due to renew by 30 September each year. Nurses and midwives will renew annually on 31 May.

In 2011, the remaining eight professions – chiropractors, dental practitioners, optometrists, osteopaths, pharmacists, physiotherapists, podiatrists and psychologists – are due to renew their registration by **30 November**, which is their annual renewal date under the National Scheme.

When is my registration as a dental practitioner due for renewal?

About 17,900 dental practitioners across Australia are required to renew their registration by **30 November**.

Dental practitioners who renewed their registration by 30 June 2011 were given valid registration for five months and must renew again. The registration cycle for all dental practitioners in Australia is now aligned and annual registration renewal will be due by 30 November.

Dental practitioners can check their registration renewal date and details on the National Registers of Health Practitioners at www.dentalboard.gov.au.

How do I renew my registration?

Look out for renewal reminders from AHPRA as confirmation you can renew online. If practitioners provide AHPRA with their email address, reminders will be emailed at various times during the renewal period. Our aim is to make your renewal as easy and efficient as possible and online renewal is available at [Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency - Health Practitioner/Employer Login](#).

Hard copy renewal applications must be posted to AHPRA, GPO Box 9958 in your capital city. Make sure you allow enough time before your registration expires for your application to be received and checked by AHPRA as complete and ready to process.

Will AHPRA send me any other information?

AHPRA will send you a registration renewal reminder by email or mail with your User ID in case you need it to update your contact details. Or you can complete an online enquiry form at www.ahpra.gov.au and select 'User ID' as the enquiry type and AHPRA will send you a new User ID and password.

What if I have forgotten my password?

You can get a new password by making an online enquiry at www.ahpra.gov.au or by phoning AHPRA on 1300 419 495.

How much is it going to cost to renew my registration?

There is an annual registration renewal [fee](#) for the 12 months you will be registered. The Dental Board has set 2012 registration fees that include a fee increase within a CPI rate of 3.3 percent for all dental practitioners.

Dental practitioners who list New South Wales as their Principle Place of Practice receive a rebate under the state's co-regulatory model. The rebate is listed on [fee](#) schedules.

Is there anything else I should do while online?

Please check your details on the National Register are correct and make sure AHPRA has your current contact information, including email and mobile, so you get annual registration reminders easily and efficiently. Set your email account to receive communications from AHPRA and the National Board to avoid misdirection to an account junk box.

What registration standards do I have to meet?

All registered dental practitioners must meet the Board's Registration Standards available at www.dentalboard.gov.au.

What about CPD – how much CPD is required?

The Dental Board expects all dental practitioners to declare on their registration renewal form that they have met the requirements of the Board's [CPD Registration Standard](#).

Does my principal place of practice have to be published?

Yes. It is a requirement of the National Law that the suburb and postcode of the registrant's principal place of practice is published on the public register. The principal place of practice is defined as the address from which you predominantly practise the profession, or if not practising, or not practising predominantly from one address, then your home address.

There is power under the National Law for the National Board to not publish information if it believes this would present a serious risk to the health or safety of the practitioner. An [application form](#) is available on the National Board's website to enable you to apply to not have your principal place of practice included on the public register, if this is a significant concern to you.

If I mailed my renewal application how do I know AHPRA received it?

Follow the prompts from the *Renewal Received Confirmation* webpage published on the [AHPRA website](#) under *Registration*. If your application has been received, you can continue to practise while your application to renew is being processed, even if this extends past your registration expiry date.

What happens after I renew registration?

When you have renewed registration, AHPRA will send you a receipt, a certificate and a pop out wallet-sized card. These will be sent about one month after you renew. If AHPRA has any questions about your application we will contact you so please ensure your contact details are correct and current, including email and mobile telephone contacts.

What happens if I do not renew my registration before it expires?

Under the National Law, health practitioners have a one-month late period after their registration expiry date to apply to renew. If an application is received by AHPRA before the end of the one-month late period, you will remain registered and able to practise. Your listing on the register will be updated when your application is processed.

An application for renewal in the late period will incur a [late fee](#). The late fee was suspended in the first year of the National Scheme but has been reinstated by all National Boards from 2011-12.

The late fee will apply to practitioners who do not renew by their registration expiry date and will be charged at up to 25 percent of the renewal fee. This recognises the additional costs of managing late renewals and will be payable in addition to the annual renewal fee.

If you do not renew your registration by the expiry date or within the following one-month late period, your registration will lapse. Your name will be removed from the National Registers under the National Law and you will not be able to practise. If you wish to practise again you must submit a new application for registration. You should contact AHPRA to apply for a 'fast-track' application for registration if you wish to resume practice as soon as possible.

Is there a fee for a 'fast-track' application?

The Dental Board of Australia has agreed to maintain a 'fast-track' application process during 2011-12. Fast track is available for four weeks after the registration of a dental practitioner lapses if the practitioner wants to continue practising. The fast track fee will be 50 percent of the normal application fee for registration and is payable in addition to the annual renewal fee.

What if I don't want to renew my registration?

You do not need to do anything except ignore future reminder notices. Alternatively you could tick the box on the registration renewal form acknowledging your intention to not renew registration and return this to AHPRA. Renewal reminders will stop being sent to you after your request has been processed.

If you do not renew your registration, you will receive a letter after your registration expiry date confirming that your registration has lapsed. Once your registration has lapsed, your name will be removed from the National Register in accordance with the National Law and you will not be able to practise your profession

in Australia. You will also be required to lodge a new application for registration should you seek to resume practice in the future.

For more information

- Visit www.dentalboard.gov.au
- 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