


Prolongation of Accreditation Policy

Owner: Accreditation
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Date of Issue: 9 October 2019

Name of the Policy	Prolongation of Accreditation Policy	
Policy Number	POLS2018OCEO041	
Description of Policy	This policy describes the principles surrounding prolongations of accreditation expiry date for nursing and midwifery programs accredited by the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council.	
Category	Accreditation	
Audience	This policy applies to all ANMAC staff, our customers and stakeholders.	
Status	New Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Revision of Existing Policy <input type="checkbox"/>
Last Revised		
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Endorsed by	Executive team	Date: 09/10/2019
Responsible Officer	Director of Accreditation Services	
Author	Associate Director, Accreditation Services	
Approved by	Fiona Stoker, CEO	Date:
Signed	 fiona Stoker (Oct 9, 2019)	

Related Documents	National Accreditation Guidelines Transition and Teach-out Policy
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Key Definitions

Accreditation expiry date – the date the program ceases to be accredited.

Accreditation Standard – for a health profession, means a standard used to assess whether a program of study, and the education provider that delivers the program of study, provide persons who complete the program with the knowledge, skills and professional attributes necessary to practise the profession in Australia.

Accredited program of study – means a program of study accredited under section 48 of *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009* (National Law) by an accreditation authority.

Approved accreditation standard – an accreditation standard–

- a. Approved by a National Board under section 47(3); and
- b. Published on the Board’s website under section 47(6).

Approved program of study (APoS) – for a health profession or for endorsement of registration in a health profession, means an accredited program of study-

- a. Approved under section 49(1) by the National Board established for the health profession; and
- b. Included in the list published by the National Agency under section 49(5).

Education providers– means

- a. a university; or
- b. a tertiary education institution, or another institution or organisation, that provides vocational training

Program of study – means a program of study provided by an education provider.

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the conditions for granting a prolongation of a period of accreditation for a nursing or midwifery education program of study.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all ANMAC accredited and NMBA approved nursing and midwifery education programs of study.

3. Policy statement

A prolongation of accreditation period must only be granted if the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council (ANMAC) continues to be satisfied that the ANMAC accredited program of study and NMBA approved program of study continues to meet an approved accreditation standard in accordance with Section 50 of the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009* (National Law) and delivery of the program is within the accreditation expiry date.

Prolongation Criteria

The request to prolong an accredited education program of study may be initiated by ANMAC or the education provider.

Programs on superseded accreditation standards are not eligible for prolongation of the accreditation expiry date.

ANMAC will manage requests for prolongation of the accreditation expiry date in accordance with this policy in a transparent, fair and timely way.

Initiation of the prolongation of an accreditation expiry date must occur before the ANMAC accredited and NMBA approved program of study reaches the accreditation expiry date.

The Director of Accreditation Services will undertake a risk assessment of the program and provide advice to the Chief Executive Officer regarding initiation for prolongation of the accreditation expiry date.

ANMAC initiated prolongation request

ANMAC must advise education providers of the need to prolong their program's accreditation expiry date to:

- align accreditation submissions with the introduction of new accreditation standards

Education Provider initiated prolongation request

ANMAC may consider requests from education providers to prolong their accreditation expiry date if the following reasons can be substantiated, to:

- align accreditation of multiple programs in order to reduce cost and impost on staff
- facilitate enrolment of students during the accreditation assessment process
- facilitate enrolment of students awarded block credit into a program when the program has entered teach-out or transition e.g. enrolment of registered enrolled nurses into year 2 of a BN program
- facilitate the development of a program due to the introduction of a new National Health Training Package
- manage a significant university restructure, which disrupts expected timeframe for preparing accreditation submission

The Chief Executive Officer makes the final determination regarding the prolongation of ANMAC accredited and NMBA approved program of study's accreditation expiry date and advises the NMBA.

4. Roles and responsibilities

The Chief Executive Officer has overall responsibility for ensuring ANMAC continues to be satisfied the ANMAC accredited and NMBA approved programs of study are being delivered against the approved accreditation standards and within the accreditation expiry date. The Chief Executive Officer has discretionary powers in relation to this policy.

The Director Accreditation Services is responsible for implementing and ensuring compliance with this policy through creation and maintenance of effective procedures provided in the National Accreditation Guidelines.