

Transition Policy for new Accreditation Standards

Owner: Accreditation
Revision: 2.0
Date of Issue: 1 September 2019

Name of the Policy	Transition Policy for new Accreditation Standards
Policy Number	POLS2019ACC051
Description of Policy	This policy describes the principles surrounding transition to new Accreditation Standards for nursing and midwifery education programs accredited by ANMAC and approved by the NMBA.
Category	Accreditation
Audience	This policy applies to all ANMAC staff, our customers and stakeholders.
Status	Revision
Last Revised	1 September 2019
Next Review	September 2021

Responsible Officer	Director Accreditation Services	
Author	Associate Director, Accreditation Services	
Approved by	Chief Executive Officer	Date: 14/10/2019
Signed	 fiona Stoker (Oct 14, 2019)	

Related Documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009 • National Accreditation Guidelines
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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 provides 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 ensure the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council (ANMAC) continues to be satisfied that the program and provider meet an approved accreditation standard in accordance with Section 50 of the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009* (National Law).

2. Scope

This policy applies to all ANMAC accredited nursing and midwifery education program providers.

3. Policy statement

In preparation for the release of new Accreditation Standards ANMAC must notify education providers that the current accreditation standards are under review and will be superseded with the release of the new accreditation standards.

Submissions during the review period

During the review process ANMAC only accepts submissions against the current accreditation standards up until six (6) months prior to the anticipated date of approval of the new accreditation standards.

If a preliminary review of a submission made against expiring standards indicates that the submission is not of sufficiently high quality, the submission will not be further assessed. The education provider will be required to re-submit against the new accreditation standards. ANMAC will consider a short prolongation of accreditation in these circumstances.

Submission against the current accreditation standards must be finalised within 12 months of the release of the new accreditation standards. If this timeframe is not met education providers will be required to resubmit against the new accreditation standards.

Transitioning to new Accreditation Standards

ANMAC must determine if new accreditation standards include significant changes that require transition of accredited and approved programs of study to meet the significant changes in selected criteria.

ANMAC must manage the transition in accordance with established procedures and timeframes. Education Providers have up to 12 months to transition their currently approved programs to the selected criteria.

4. Principles

- 4.1 ANMAC will manage the transition to new accreditation standards in accordance with this policy in a transparent, fair and timely way.
- 4.2 ANMAC will provide sufficient notice to education providers of any significant changes in the new accreditation standards to which currently accredited and approved programs of study are required to transition.
- 4.3 ANMAC will determine the evidence that education providers will need to submit to demonstrate transition to the new accreditation standards.
- 4.4 ANMAC will assess the evidence provided to determine that all accredited and approved programs have transitioned to the new accreditation standards.
- 4.5 ANMAC will provide notice to the education provider that the accredited and approved program meets the significant changes in new accreditation standards.

5. Roles and responsibilities

The Chief Executive Officer has overall responsibilities for ensuring that ANMAC continues to be satisfied that accredited and approved programs and providers meet an approved accreditation standard.

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