



Expressions of interest (identified position): Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander member of the Australian Medical Council's Specialist Education Accreditation Committee

The Australian Medical Council (AMC) is a national standards body for medical education and training. Its purpose is to ensure that standards of education, training and assessment of the medical profession promote and protect the health of the Australian community.

The AMC is Australia's accreditation authority for the medical profession and works with the Medical Council of New Zealand on the accreditation of medical programs in New Zealand. It is committed to improving outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and Māori through its accreditation processes including equitable access to health services for First Nations peoples.

The Role

The AMC is seeking expressions of interest for membership of its Specialist Education Accreditation Committee from Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people with a range of backgrounds and experience, to bring their unique perspectives on Indigenous health to the Committee.

There is **one position available** for a member with:

- a strong understanding of the health issues and inequities faced by Indigenous Australians;
- knowledge or experience in health, training or education;
- An understanding of issues in regulation, and/or education or healthcare delivery, record of achievement in policy development relating to medical education and practice at state/territory and/or national level; and
- Experience in applying standards, accreditation of programs or institutions.

This role is critical in ensuring the advice of this committee reflects the views of Indigenous peoples.

Background Information

Being the national accreditation authority for the medical profession, the AMC develops accreditation standards, assesses medical programs against the standards and monitors programs to ensure they continue to meet standards through regular progress reports. The voice and perspectives of Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori peoples on AMC accreditation committees is integral to ensuring these functions meet the needs of Australia's many Indigenous communities.

The AMC's Specialist Education Accreditation Committee manages the assessment and accreditation of specialist medical programs. 16 specialist medical colleges offer specialist medical training and education in 23 separate medical specialties and 54 fields of specialty practice. The AMC assess specialist international medical graduates seeking recognition as specialist practitioners and set standards for continuing professional development of medical specialists. The approved accreditation standards applied by the AMC cover these training, education and assessment functions.

The AMC monitors accredited programs and their education providers to ensure the AMC continues to be satisfied that the accreditation standards continue to be met. To meet this requirement, accredited providers submit regular progress reports addressing the accreditation standards, covering significant developments in their specialist medical programs, annual standard data and their response to any accreditation conditions.

Specialist Education Accreditation Committee

The Specialist Education Accreditation Committee:

- Advises the AMC on guidelines, policy and procedures relating to the accreditation of specialist medical training programs and continuing professional development programs.
- Oversees the AMC's program of accreditation of specialist medical training programs and continuing professional development programs.
- Seeks to encourage improvements in postgraduate medical education in Australia and New Zealand that respond to evolving health needs and practices, and educational and scientific developments.

The Specialist Education Accreditation Committee includes members appointed after consultation with the Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council; the Australian Medical Association; the Council of Presidents of Medical Colleges; the Medical Council of New Zealand and Medical Deans Australia and New Zealand. The Committee also includes members of the Council, Progress Reports Sub Committee, Recognition of Medical Specialties Sub Committee, a doctor in training, members with a background in, and knowledge of, health consumer issues, and an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person and a Māori person.

All members of the committee are invited to be a member of at least one AMC accreditation team to assess a provider of specialist medical programs.

Committee members are expected to:

- Support professional accreditation as a quality improvement and quality assurance mechanism, and to be willing to contribute to the review and development of the AMC processes;
- Be familiar with the [Standards and Procedures for Assessment and Accreditation of Specialist Medical Programs and Continuing Professional Development Programs by the Australian Medical Council](#);
- Be aware of current issues in medical education and health care delivery;
- Be supportive of innovation and evolution in medical education and practice;

Contribute to the fair and impartial assessment of medical programs by consistent application of accreditation standards and processes

The AMC is committed to promoting Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori Health by ensuring culturally safe practice to improve health outcomes. The AMC has been working to improve the health outcomes for Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori Peoples for many years, and in 2018 this became a major Pillar of the AMC's [Strategic Plan](#). The AMC has a

standing Committee that oversees this work; AMC Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori Committee provides advice and recommendations to the Specialist Education Accreditation Committee and AMC Directors on important matters related to the accreditation of specialist medical programs.

Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori members of the Specialist Education Accreditation Committee are also offered the opportunity of membership on the AMC's Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori Committee. The same time commitment, remuneration and support applies to this Committee

The AMC is committed to diversity in committee memberships, reflecting diverse skills and experiences, geographical locations and academic, clinical, professional and community expertise.

Time Commitment

Members of AMC committees are appointed for four year terms.

The Committee meets four times per year. Meetings will mainly occur via videoconference, with the potential for face to face meetings when travel restrictions lift.

Committee members have considerable reading material. They may contribute to the Committee by leading discussion on an item, by contributing to the development of policy or procedures, and in the Committee's own regular review of its work.

All committee members contribute to the review of progress reports by accredited providers, and may also contribute to AMC working parties and review groups.

Remuneration

The AMC pays fees to Specialist Education Accreditation Committee members for participation in meetings.

Superannuation is also paid for individual members as required under Superannuation Guarantee legislation.

The AMC does not pay for time responding to correspondence (e.g. emails) from AMC staff.

AMC support for the Specialist Education Accreditation Committee

The AMC:

- Provides support, induction and training for committee members;
- Arranges and meets the cost of necessary accommodation and travel; and
- Meets the cost of meals and incidental expenditure, such as taxi fares, when required to attend a meeting.

Expression of interest

Expressions of interest should be provided with current curriculum vitae by **Friday 19 November 2021**. The Search Committee expects to complete the review of applications and to make a recommendation by **end of year, 2021**.

Please address expressions of interest to Ms Kirsty White, Director Accreditation and Standards, and send to specaccred@amc.org.au

The AMC will treat the information provided confidentially and use it only to assist in shortlisting and appointment process.

For more information, please contact Karen Rocca, Manager, Accreditation Projects and Process Development, at the above email address or by phone at 02 6270 9760.

*Diversity and inclusion are considered essential to the AMC's continued success.
The AMC values the diversity of thought and experience and believes that an inclusive and collaborative culture underpins the accreditation and assessment of medical education.
We celebrate and promote diversity as a significant strength in our organisation.*