



Expressions of interest: seeking a health consumer member for the Australian Medical Council's Prevocational Standards Accreditation Committee

The Australian Medical Council (AMC) is an independent 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. It is Australia's designated accreditation authority for the medical profession and works with the Medical Council of New Zealand on the accreditation of medical programs in New Zealand.

The AMC recognises the value of working with stakeholders to ensure that Australia is serviced by a safe and competent medical workforce. **The AMC is seeking expressions of interest from health consumers for membership of the Prevocational Standards Accreditation Committee.** There is one position available. This position on the Committee enhances the contribution of consumers to the accreditation processes of the AMC. While we recognise that healthcare professionals and staff of providers accredited by the AMC may also be health consumers, we are looking for consumer perspectives external to healthcare service provision and healthcare professionals' education.

The AMC is committed to committee memberships that have a range of skills and experiences, diversity and different geographical locations and levels of academic, clinical or professional expertise.

To ensure we meet our strategic goal of ensuring culturally safe practice to improve health outcomes, we understand that we require Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Māori Peoples in our governance. We are committed to a working environment that is inclusive and culturally safe for all.

The AMC encourages Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Māori Peoples to apply for all roles advertised.

Background

The AMC is the accreditation authority for the medical profession in Australia under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, and accredits programs and providers in all stages of medical education. 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 AMC's Prevocational Standards Accreditation Committee

The Prevocational Standards Accreditation Committee:

- advises the AMC on standards, guidelines, policy and procedures relating to the assessment and accreditation of organisations and providers in the prevocational phase of the medical education continuum
- oversees AMC accreditation activities (see details below)
- encourages improvements in medical education that respond to evolving health needs and practices, and educational and scientific developments.

The Committee oversees the accreditation of the following:

- Intern training accreditation authorities. The AMC accredits the eight state-based intern training accreditation authorities that are responsible for accreditation of intern posts and programs. The AMC develops standards and procedures for accreditation and monitoring of intern training accreditation authorities, and develops national guidance and standards on internship.
- Pre-employment Structured Clinical Interview (PESCI) providers. The PESCI is an objective assessment of the clinical experience, knowledge, skills and attributes of an international medical graduate to determine whether they are suitable to practise in a specific position. It consists of a structured interview using scenarios. The AMC develops guidelines and procedures for accreditation and monitoring of the two accredited PESCI providers, which align with Medical Board of Australia requirements.
- Workplace Based Assessment (WBA) providers. The WBA pathway is an alternative to the AMC clinical examination component of the assessment pathway for international medical graduates. A WBA program is a structured program (minimum six months) of on the job assessment. It tests if the candidate has an adequate and appropriate set of clinical skills and the professional qualities to practise safely within the Australian healthcare environment and cultural setting. The AMC develops guidelines and procedures for accreditation and monitoring of WBA providers.

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
- to be familiar with the relevant published accreditation criteria, standards and processes
- to be aware of current issues in medical education and health care delivery
- to be supportive of innovation and evolution in medical education and practice
- to contribute to the fair and impartial assessment of medical programs by consistent application of accreditation standards and processes
- to support the AMC to work in line with its values of collaboration, cultural safety, innovation, integrity, openness and accountability, and striving for excellence.

The Committee includes members appointed after consultation with the state and territory health jurisdictions, the Confederation of Postgraduate Medical Education Councils and Medical Deans Australia and New Zealand. The Committee also includes members experienced in AMC accreditation and examination processes, and medical regulation, Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander members, a junior doctor member, an international medical graduate member, director of clinical training members, and a member with a background in, and knowledge of, health consumer issues.

Time commitment

Members of AMC committees are appointed for four-year terms.

The Committee typically meets three to four times per year, either via videoconference or face-to-face.

The Committee has a considerable workload. All members participate in the monitoring of accredited programs and providers against the accreditation standards through reviewing annual monitoring reports. These reports contain considerable reading material, and significant time is involved in reviewing the documentation.

Members may also contribute to the Committee by leading discussion on an item, or by contributing to the development of policy or procedures.

As a committee member, you may also be asked to join an accreditation assessment team to assess an intern training accreditation authority during your time on the Committee.

AMC support to the Prevocational Standards Accreditation Committee

The AMC:

- provides support, induction and training for committee members;
- pays a fee to members for participation in meetings of committees;
- pays superannuation for individuals as required under Superannuation Guarantee legislation;
- arranges and meets the cost of necessary accommodation and travel;
- meets the cost of meals and incidental expenditure, such as taxi fares

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

The AMC is committed to committee memberships that have a range of skills and experiences, diversity and different geographical locations and levels of academic, clinical or professional expertise.

Expression of interest

When the AMC is filling positions on its committees by seeking expressions of interest, it sets up a selection panel for the committee. The panel short lists applicants and interviews those short listed for the position.

To express interest in membership of the Prevocational Standards Accreditation Committee please provide a statement outlining your interest in the committee, together with your current curriculum vitae by **6 December 2021**.

The AMC expects to complete the review of applications and to make a recommendation to AMC Directors in February 2022.

The 2022 meeting dates of the Committee have not yet been scheduled, however the first meeting is likely to be scheduled in late March 2022.

Please address expressions of interest to Ms Kirsty White, Director, Accreditation and Standards and send to accreditation@amc.org.au. The AMC will treat the information provided confidentially and use it only to assist in the shortlisting and appointment process.

For more information, please contact the Manager, Prevocational Standards and Accreditation at the above email address or by phone at 02 6270 9734.