



Expressions of interest (identified position): Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander member of the Australian Medical Council's Medical School 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 Medical School 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.

Overview of the Medical School Accreditation Committee's work

As the accreditation authority for the medical profession, the AMC develops accreditation standards, which it submits to the Medical Board of Australia for approval.

The AMC assesses medical programs and their providers (a university and its medical school), and accredits the medical programs that meet the accreditation standards.

This committee manages the process for assessment and accreditation of primary medical programs, offered by Australian and New Zealand medical schools. Presently there are 21 Australian medical schools and 2 New Zealand medical schools which are accredited by the AMC.

The AMC sets up accreditation assessment teams to review material presented by the education provider, interview stakeholders, and prepare an accreditation report. The teams report to the Medical School Accreditation Committee. The committee makes the recommendation on whether or not the program meets the standards, on the period of accreditation and on any accreditation conditions. Once the AMC has accredited a program, the committee monitors the program to ensure it continues to meet the standards. It does this by requiring regular progress reports.

All AMC accreditation committees include a broad range of members, reflecting the stakeholders. Members may be: educators, clinicians, scientists, senior academics, junior doctors and medical students, health consumers and community members, health service managers, health practitioners, or state and federal policy makers.

The terms of reference for the accreditation committees are to:

- Develop, monitor and review standards and procedures relating to the accreditation of medical programs and the assessment of programs and their education providers.
- Oversee the AMC's accreditation activities for primary medical programs
- Support improvement in medical education in Australia and New Zealand.

At any time, the committee usually has at least one working party considering improvements to the accreditation process, developing guidance for medical schools, or reviewing the standards for accreditation of medical programs. In 2020, the committee commenced the review of accreditation standards for medical schools.

The committee includes members appointed after consultation with: Australian Medical Students' Association; Confederation of Postgraduate Medical Education Councils; Council of Presidents of Medical Colleges; Medical Council of New Zealand; Medical Board of Australia, and Medical Deans Australia and New Zealand. It also includes a position for an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait islander person and a Māori person, a community member and members of the Australian Medical Council.

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, this became a major Pillar of the AMC's [Strategic Plan](#).

Time Commitment

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

Accreditation committees oversee significant areas of AMC work. They typically meet four to five times a year, in a combination of face to face meetings (usually in Canberra or Melbourne), and videoconferences via zoom.

Committee members have considerable reading material. They may 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 a medical school program during your time on the Committee.

Remuneration

The AMC pays fees to Medical School 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 Medical School Accreditation Committee

The AMC:

- provides support, induction and training for new 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.

Expression of interest

Expressions of interest should be provided with current curriculum vitae by **30 October 2022**. The Search Committee expects to complete the review of applications and to make a recommendation by **November 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 shortlisting and appointment process.

For more information, please contact Brooke Pearson, Manager, Prevocational Standards and Accreditation, at the above email address or by phone at (02 6270 9732).

*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.*