

## Expressions of interest (identified position): Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander member for the Australian Medical Council's Specialist Education 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. More information about the AMC can be found [here](#).

The AMC is the designated accreditation authority for the medical profession in Australia and develops accreditation standards, assesses programs against the standards and then monitors these programs to ensure they continue to meet standards through regular monitoring submissions. The AMC works with the Te Kaunihera Rata o Aotearoa | Medical Council of New Zealand to oversee the accreditation of medical programs in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand.

The AMC is committed to improving outcomes for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and Māori peoples, including through ensuring colleges deliver quality specialist medical training and education programs by accrediting them against national standards.

The AMC is currently reviewing the [Standards for Assessment and Accreditation of Specialist Medical Programs 2023](#). The revised standards will have an increased focus on Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and Māori Health, cultural safety, community engagement and self-determination.

### The Role

The AMC recognises the value of working with stakeholders to ensure that Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand is serviced by a safe and competent medical workforce. 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 are **two positions available** for an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander member with:

- a strong understanding of the health issues and inequities faced by Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples in Australia;
- 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.

The AMC recognises the importance of ensuring cultural safe environments and has support structures available for Indigenous members including the AMC's Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and Māori Committee and the Indigenous Policy and Programs section of the AMC.

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

The AMC is committed to promoting Aboriginal and/or 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 the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Health for many years, and the AMC's Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and Māori Strategy can be found [here](#).

## **Background Information**

Being the accreditation authority for the medical profession in Australia, under the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law*, the AMC 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 monitoring submissions.

The 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 monitoring submissions addressing the accreditation standards, covering significant developments in their specialist medical programs, annual standard data and their response to any accreditation conditions.

## **Overview of the Specialist Education Accreditation Committee**

The Specialist Education Accreditation Committee is a standing committee of the AMC responsible for overseeing standards in medical education and training, specifically in specialist medical education, training for registration endorsement and continuing professional development (CPD).

The 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 from other related AMC committees; members who hold senior positions at a health service in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand; a doctor in training and a specialist doctor who has recently completed training; members with a background in, and knowledge of, health consumer issues; and, at least two positions to enhance the contribution of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and Māori people to the AMC's accreditation processes.

The Role of SEAC Includes:

- Advising the AMC on guidelines, policies, and procedures relating to the accreditation of specialist medical training programs, CPD homes, and programs for endorsement of registration
- Overseeing the AMC's program of accreditation of specialist medical training, CPD homes and program for endorsement of registration.
- Promoting advancements in postgraduate medical education in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand to meet evolving health needs, practices, and educational and scientific developments.

Committee members are expected to:

- Support professional accreditation as a tool for quality improvement and assurance and contribute to AMC process reviews and development.

- Be familiar with the [\*Standards for Assessment and Accreditation of Specialist Medical Programs by the Australian Medical Council 2023\*](#)
- Stay informed about current issues in medical education and healthcare delivery.
- Foster innovation and progress in medical education and practice.
- Ensure fair and impartial assessment of medical programs by applying accreditation standards consistently.
- Uphold AMC values: Openness and Accountability, Collaboration, Innovation, Striving for Excellence, Integrity, and Cultural Safety.
- Participate as a member of at least one AMC accreditation team to assess specialist medical program providers.

The Terms of Reference for the Specialist Education Accreditation Committee can be found [here](#).

### **Time Commitment**

Members of the Specialist Education Accreditation Committee are appointed for a four-year term but may serve a second term for an additional four-years, if AMC Directors consider it is in the Council's best interest. The Committee meet four to five times annually, using a mix of full-day face-to-face meetings and video conferencing.

Meeting papers are distributed electronically via the AMC's portal and members are expected to review extensive materials, lead discussions, and contribute to policy development and regular reviews. It is also expected that members participate in evaluating monitoring submissions from accredited providers and may join AMC working parties and review groups.

### **Remuneration**

The AMC compensates Committee members with fees for meeting preparation time and participation and provides superannuation contributions as mandated by *Superannuation Guarantee* legislation.

Additionally, the below support is provided for members of the Committees

- Support, induction, and training for committee members.
- Arranging and covering costs for necessary accommodation and travel.
- Covering expenses for meals and incidental costs, such as taxi fares.

### **Expression of interest**

Expressions of interest, along with a current curriculum vitae, should be submitted via email, addressed to Juliana Simon, at [specaccred@amc.org.au](mailto:specaccred@amc.org.au).

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

For more information, please contact Juliana Simon, Head, Accreditation Assessments at the above email address.

*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*