Health professional students driving Queensland Health vehicles during their clinical placement

In accordance with the Queensland Health Vehicles - Management and Use Policy QU-POL-270:2011 (Policy), students working under the direction of a Queensland Health supervisor are permitted to drive a Queensland Health vehicle if they are authorised to do so by their Queensland Health supervisor and the local responsible delegate. A Queensland Health vehicle is any official vehicle including any vehicle owned, leased, hired, donated to Queensland Health or registered in the name of Queensland Health.

The Policy is not mandatory for Hospital and Health Services (HHS) and as such each HHS will need to consult its own policies and standards regarding use of vehicles when determining whether a student is permitted to drive a non-Queensland Health vehicle.

Students are not covered by the Queensland Health Queensland Government Insurance Fund (QGIF) Insurance Policy. In the event of a student being involved in a motor vehicle accident where the student as driver is at fault then compulsory third party motor vehicle insurance (CTP) cover will not extend to injuries sustained by the student driver. CTP cover will extend to cover injuries sustained by passengers involved in a motor vehicle accident, including where those passengers are students.

Prior to a student being permitted to drive a Queensland Health vehicle, the education provider at which the student is enrolled must hold personal accident insurance sufficient to cover injuries sustained by a student in a motor vehicle accident at which the student was the at-fault driver.

At the time of completing Schedule 1 of the Student Placement Deed for students, contact should be made between the HHS and the students’ education provider to ascertain what personal accident insurance cover is in place for students on placement. The range of cover, including accidental death, capital benefits, weekly injury benefits etc. should be to a level at least commensurable with workers compensation insurance both in range and in the amount of cover. If the education providers are unable to provide these insurances for their students, the students must not drive Queensland Health vehicles.

The student driving requirements and insurance information (as outlined above) should be noted under item 13 of the Schedule 1 of the Student Placement Deed.