

Prevocational Medical Accreditation Queensland

Department of Health Policy

QH-POL-476

1. Statement

The Queensland Department of Health is accredited by the Australian Medical Council (AMC) as a prevocational training accreditation authority. As an accredited prevocational training accreditation authority, the Department of Health is required to assess prevocational (PGY1 and PGY2) training programs in Queensland against the *National standards and requirements for prevocational training (PGY1 and PGY2) programs and terms* and work with prevocational training providers to improve the quality of prevocational training. This is to be undertaken in accordance with the *National Framework for Prevocational (PGY1 and PGY2) Medical Training*.

Prevocational Medical Accreditation Queensland (PMAQ) has the delegated responsibility from the Director-General to deliver these services on behalf of the Department. PMAQ is committed to ensuring a fair, impartial, and transparent accreditation system that assures and promotes quality education and training for prevocational doctors, providing for their wellbeing, the provision of safe patient care and training that meets the health needs of the community.

Specific to the PGY1 year, prevocational training accreditation authorities require approval from the Medical Board of Australia to accredit programs and terms that, on successful completion will render PGY1's eligible for general registration. This requirement is defined in the Medical Board of Australia's (MBA's) [Registration standard: Granting general registration as a medical practitioner to Australian and New Zealand medical graduates upon completion of postgraduate year one training](#). The Department of Health has been approved by the Medical Board of Australia to undertake this work.

Accreditation of a PGY2 program exempts PGY2 doctors completing the program from the requirements of the MBA's *Registration standard: Continuing professional development*. Further to this, for a PGY2 to be eligible for a certificate of completion at the conclusion of a program, the program must be accredited against the national standards. The Health Chief Executive Forum has endorsed accredited prevocational training authorities to undertake this work.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure:

- a standardised approach to the accreditation of prevocational training programs in Queensland by PMAQ.
- accreditation processes are reliable, impartial, transparent and clearly communicated.

- continuous quality assurance and quality improvement principles are applied to Queensland prevocational education and training programs.
- compliance with the requirements of the National framework for prevocational (PGY1 and PGY2) medical training including the *National standards for prevocational (PGY1 and PGY2) training programs and terms* and the *Domains for assessing and accreditation prevocational training accreditation authorities*.
- that accredited programs provide for prevocational doctor wellbeing and patient safety.
- that prevocational (PGY1 and PGY2) medical training in Queensland that meets the health needs of the community is facilitated.

3. Scope

This policy applies to PMAQ in the accreditation processes for assessing prevocational training providers, programs and their associated components in Queensland.

4. Principles

The following principles underpin the PMAQ accreditation process:

- promotion of safe, high-quality patient centred care.
- promotion of quality education, training, supervision and support for prevocational doctors.
- promotion of prevocational doctor wellbeing.
- promotion of culturally safe training that better supports Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients and doctors.
- facilitation of training that meets the health needs of the community.
- regular cycle of assessment that reflects legislative requirements and promotes continuous quality improvement in education programs which shall include the supervision of prevocational doctors.
- evidence based procedures and decision making.

These principles will be used by PMAQ to maintain contemporary standards and procedures to ensure they are consistent with local, national and international best practice and to enable PGY1 doctors to progress to general medical registration, and PGY2 doctors to achieve a certification of completion upon meeting requirements.

5. Requirements

As an accredited prevocational training accreditation authority, responsibilities and accountabilities are imparted on the Department of Health. PMAQ as the unit with the delegated responsibility must therefore ensure these are consistently met.

These include definition of the functions, expectations and reporting requirements by the Australian Medical Council (AMC).

The accreditation services provided by PMAQ are:

- accreditation and monitoring of all prevocational medical training programs in Queensland.
- development, implementation and maintenance of contemporary accreditation processes which align with the *National standards for prevocational (PGY1 and PGY2) training programs and terms*.
- training and support of accreditation assessors.
- provision of secretariat support to committees and forums relevant to prevocational medical accreditation.
- provision of support to training providers to enhance opportunity to apply a continuous quality improvement approach to the planning, implementation, and review of prevocational training programs.

6. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander considerations

To support the education and training of prevocational doctors and in accordance with the *National Framework for Prevocational (PGY1 and PGY2) Medical Training*, the department (through PMAQ) recognises that prevocational training providers should implement strategies to establish effective partnerships with relevant local communities, organisations and individuals in the Indigenous health sector. These partnerships recognise the unique challenges the sector faces and acknowledge that promoting cultural safety is an important strategy in improving patient safety and outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

7. Human rights

Human rights are not engaged by this standard.

8. Legislation

The AMC has been appointed by the Medical Board of Australia to conduct accreditation functions for the medical profession under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law. The Department of Health (through PMAQ) is required to meet the AMC's *Domains for assessing and accrediting prevocational training accreditation authorities* to maintain its status as a prevocational medical training accreditation authority.

9. Supporting documents

The following documents support the implementation of this policy:

- PMAQ Standard for intern accreditation
- National framework for prevocational (PGY1 and PGY2) medical training
- National standards for prevocational (PGY1 and PGY2) training programs and terms
- Domains for assessing and accreditation prevocational training accreditation authorities.
- Medical Board of Australia, Registration standard – granting general registration as a medical practitioner to Australian and New Zealand medical graduates upon completion of postgraduate year one training
- Medical Board of Australia, Registration standard – Continuing professional development

Version Control

Version	Date	Comments
1.0	30 January 2020	New Policy
2.0	25 September 2024	Updated to reflect QH policy standards and changes resulting from implementation of the National Framework for Prevocational (PGY1 and PGY2) Medical Training. Endorsed by the PMAQ Accreditation Committee. Approved by Deputy Director-General, CPSS