

Prevocational Medical Accreditation Queensland – Accreditation Policy

Department of Health Policy

QH-POL-476:2020

1. Statement

Queensland Health administers a system for the accreditation of intern training programs. The Queensland Department of Health is accredited by the Medical Board of Australia as an intern training accreditation authority and is responsible for accrediting intern training programs and intern training posts in Queensland. Prevocational Medical Accreditation Queensland (PMAQ), as a unit of the Department of Health, administers a system of accreditation that ensures quality education and training for medical interns that enables the provision of safe patient centred care.

The Medical Board of Australia's Registration Standard: Granting general registration as a medical practitioner to Australian and New Zealand medical graduates on completion of intern training defines the supervised intern training requirements that must be completed for Australian medical graduates to be eligible for general registration. As per the Registration Standard, training terms must be accredited against approved accreditation standards for intern training. It is PMAQ's responsibility to ensure that the programs of study offered by Queensland intern training facilities meets the requirements of the Registration Standard.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure:

- a standardised approach to the accreditation of intern 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 intern education and training programs
- compliance with Australian Medical Council Intern Training Standards.

3. Scope

This policy applies to PMAQ in the accreditation processes for assessing intern training facilities in Queensland that employ or train medical interns.

4. Principles

The following principles underpin the PMAQ accreditation process:

- Promotion of safe, high-quality patient centred care
- Accreditation of all Queensland intern training posts
- Promotion of quality education, training, supervision and support for medical interns
- Regular cycle of assessment that reflects legislative requirements and promotes continuous quality improvement in education programs which shall include the supervision of interns
- 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 Interns to progress to general medical registration.

5. Requirements

There are functions, expectations and reporting requirements defined by the Australian Medical Council (AMC) in relation to intern accreditation. The accreditation services provided by PMAQ are:

- accreditation and monitoring of all intern training programs in Queensland
- develop, implement and maintain contemporary accreditation standards and processes, which align with the AMC Intern training programs – National standards for programs
- training and support of accreditation assessors
- provide secretariat support to committees and forums relevant to intern medical accreditation.

6. 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 accreditation authorities* to maintain its status as an intern training accreditation authority.

7. Supporting documents

PMAQ has prepared the following documents to support the implementation of this policy:

- PMAQ Standards for intern training programs
- PMAQ Standard for intern accreditation

Version Control

Version	Date	Comments
1.0	30 January 2020	New Policy