

Optometry Board of Australia Policy and Education Committee

30 March 2017

Terms of reference

Background

The objectives of the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme) are to provide for the protection of the public by ensuring that only optometrists who are suitably trained and qualified to practise in a competent and ethical manner are registered, and to facilitate the provision of high-quality education and training of optometrists.

The Committee develops standards, codes and guidelines that provide guidance to health practitioners registered in the profession, reviews accreditation standards developed for approval by the Board submitted to the Board by an accreditation authority and assists the Board in ensuring the CPD program remains effective, relevant and essential for the optometry profession.

Terms of reference

At the request of the Board, the Policy and Education Committee (PEC or Committee) will advise the Board on the following matters with respect to the:

- review of the current registration standards, codes and guidelines with directions from the Board and via other committees established by the Board
- develop new policies, registration standards and codes and guidelines as directed by the Board
- recommend areas to the Board in which registration standards, codes and guidelines are required
- the administration of the CPD program
- the development and ongoing suitability of criteria for CPD activity accreditation, gaining approved provider status
- any additions to or removals from the approved provider list of CPD providers
- any disputes raised by CPD providers regarding rejection of accreditation or the number of CPD points assigned by the Board-approved CPD program administrator, and
- any other matters that the Board may refer from time to time.

Membership

The Policy and Education Committee is to comprise:

- a chairperson who is a Board member
- two health practitioner Board members, and
- two community Board members.

The Board may appoint additional members as required including external members.

Terms of office

The term of appointment to membership of the Committee is in accordance with the Board appointment cycle. The Board may remove a member from the Policy and Education Committee when and as it sees fit.

Authority of the Committee

The Policy and Education Committee of the Board is established by the Optometry Board of Australia pursuant to Schedule 4, clause 11 of the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory (the National Law).

The Committee will report to the Board and carry out its functions only at the request of the Board.

Review

These terms of reference apply from 30 March 2017. The Board will review these terms of reference every two years.

Last reviewed: 30 March 2017