

Media release

22 August 2012

Board and AHPRA publish Health Profession Agreement

The Optometry Board of Australia and AHPRA today increased public access to financial information about the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme.

In the interests of transparency and accountability, the Board and AHPRA have for the first time published the Health Profession Agreement that outlines the services that AHPRA will provide to the Board in 2012/13.

Under the National Law, the Board and AHPRA work in partnership to implement the National Scheme, each with specific roles, powers and responsibilities set down in the National Law¹.

The guiding principles of the National Law require the National Scheme to operate in a 'transparent, accountable, efficient, effective and fair way'; and for registration fees to be reasonable 'having regard to the efficient and effective operation of the scheme'.

Optometry Board of Australia Chair, Colin Waldron, said the Board was accountable to the profession and the community.

'We are responsible for using practitioners' registration fees wisely in regulating the profession in the public interest,' Mr Waldron said.

'The Board is pleased to provide more detailed information about how registration fees are allocated to regulate the profession in Australia,' he said.

AHPRA CEO, Martin Fletcher, emphasised that the Board and AHPRA were committed to increasing transparency and accountability in financial reporting.

'As AHPRA's reporting capability strengthens, we are able to publish more detailed information about each National Board's financial operations and AHPRA's performance. This complements the audited data and performance reporting included in each year's annual report,' Mr Fletcher said.

The Optometry Board of Australia Health Profession Agreement is available for review on the [Optometry Board of Australia website](#).

¹ Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory.

For more information

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