



## Fact Sheet: Medical Student Registration

Australia's new national registration and accreditation scheme begins on 1 July 2010. From this date, a new National Law (the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009*) will come into effect and 10 health professions will be regulated by a consistent piece of legislation.

From **1 July 2010**, the national scheme and the National Law will affect students who are currently registered with a medical board.

From **March 2011**, all students enrolled in accredited medical course who are *not* currently registered, will be included in the national scheme.

### Getting registered

Individual students do NOT need to do anything now to register with the Medical Board of Australia.

All students who are *currently* registered will transition automatically into the national scheme.

Students who are *not* currently registered (ie: they are studying medicine in a State or Territory which does not currently register medical students) will be registered automatically in March 2011.

The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA), which supports the work of the National Boards, will work directly with existing State and Territory Medical Boards, universities and other education providers to ensure all students transition to the national scheme - on 1 July 2010 for currently registered students, or in March 2011 for all other students.

Information about medical students will be entered on the Register of medical students. This register is not publicly available. Information on the Register of medical students will remain confidential, as required by the National Law.

Medical students will need to be registered from their first year of the medical course.

## Obligations for students

The Board's role in registering medical students is defined by the National Law. It is limited to registering students and dealing with notifications about students:

1. whose health is impaired to such a degree that there may be a risk to the public
2. who have been found guilty of an offence punishable by 12 months imprisonment or more.

The Board has no role to play in the academic progress or professional conduct (other than offences punishable by 12 months imprisonment or more) of medical students.

There will be no fee for student registration and medical students are not required to comply with the registration standards for medical practitioners until they apply for medical registration.