



19 July 2010

Dear Education Provider

**ACCREDITATION OF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY COURSES LEADING TO REGISTRATION,  
ENROLMENT AND ENDORSEMENT**

I wish to introduce myself as the Director of Accreditation at the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council (ANMC). As you are no doubt aware ANMC has been endorsed by the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council (AHWMC) as the independent accrediting body for the nursing and midwifery professions under the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme. Most recently I have held the position of Manager, Education, Research and Policy at the Queensland Nursing Council which has, I believe well equipped me for this position.

The purpose of this letter is to outline the plans for both the renewal of old, and lodgement of new accreditation documents. At its meeting on 25 February 2010, the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA), approved an extension of two years until 1 July 2012, for all currently accredited courses in order to mitigate the risk of current courses requiring reaccreditation expiring. One of my first tasks as Director will be to communicate with each education provider to develop a timeline for submission of reaccreditation documents within that two year timeframe so as to enable a staggered program for this submission, thereby eliminating an overwhelming workload in July 2012.

Draft details of the process for accreditation as well as the standards and framework are posted on the ANMC website at [www.anmc.org.au](http://www.anmc.org.au). I ask that you study these and forward any comments or suggestions to enable a final “tweaking” should it be necessary. Whilst particulars in relation to the cost of accreditation are still being finalised, I respectfully ask that those providers who have courses due for accreditation within the next six months begin developing their accreditation documents in line with the respective standards for submission as soon as possible.

ANMC is currently receiving submissions for *new* courses and whilst there may be a short delay in commencing the accreditation process for these, work will commence as soon as accreditation officers and assessors are officially appointed. This is likely to occur within the next month. One of the requirements of the accreditation process is to advise ANMC of your intention to submit documentation for a new course. I ask that all providers intending to submit new courses forward your letter of intention as soon as possible so as to allow ANMC to get a better feel for the prospective workload over the next few months.

It is ANMC's policy, and a personal commitment of mine to be as open and transparent as possible throughout the accreditation processes. I am here to be of assistance should you have any queries as to the intent or demonstration of any of the standards. I value professional and collegial relationships built on trust and common goals.

Please do not hesitate to call me on 02 62749103, or email me at [gpoulton@anmc.org.au](mailto:gpoulton@anmc.org.au). I look forward to meeting you at a series of face to face meetings that we will be planning in the near future.

Yours sincerely

Gordon Poulton  
**Director of Accreditation**  
**Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council**