



4th June 2010

Dear Education Provider,

NEW ACCREDITATION PROCESS FOR NURSING AND MIDWIFERY COURSES

The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council (ANMC) has welcomed the recent Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council (AHWMC) decision to endorse a newly constituted ANMC as the independent accrediting body for the nursing and midwifery professions under the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (NRAS).

This letter is to advise about the appointment of the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council (ANMC) as the accrediting body and the changes that have resulted from this decision.

This appointment is for a period of three years from 1 July 2010, which is consistent with arrangements previously made for the other nine health professions in the National Scheme. The AHWMC decision brings nursing and midwifery in line with the other professions under NRAS which already have independent accrediting bodies. AHWMC's decision is a commitment to safety and quality as only an independent accrediting authority has the capacity and remit to ensure high standards in nursing and midwifery education are maintained.

The ANMC has been committed and dedicated to nursing and midwifery accreditation and standards over many years and is currently restructuring the organization to fulfill this additional role. Over the past year an ANMC Accreditation Working Group has met several times to define the details of the accreditation process, policies and procedures. ANMC's accreditation process will be in place for 1 July 2010 for new courses only and over the next 18 months will prepare for the accreditation process of those courses accredited in the transitional period to 2012.

The ANMC website www.anmc.org.au will provide Accreditation Guidelines that explain the steps and time frames of the accreditation process and outcomes. Alongside the Guidelines will be the ANMC National Accreditation Framework for the Accreditation of Nursing and Midwifery Courses leading to Registration, Enrolment, Endorsement and Authorisation in Australia.

The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia has endorsed the ANMC Accreditation Standards and Criteria for the Registered Nurse, Enrolled Nurse, Midwife and Nurse Practitioner. These are the standards to be used by all Education Providers when applying for accreditation or re-accreditation.


As the ANMC is an independent accreditation body it will be required to function on a fee for service basis with the introduction of payment for all accreditations will be introduced. A payment scale has not yet been finalised, however details of this will be advised via the ANMC website.

The ANMC Accreditation Section can be contacted via email by the following email address:

Anmcaccreditation@anmc.org.au

It is ANMCs intention to make the process of accreditation as user friendly for education providers as possible and we look forward to working with you and other stakeholders to achieve that outcome.

Yours sincerely



Karen Cook