



Australian Psychology Accreditation Council

Alignment Accreditation Standards Review

February 2025



Contents

Contents	0
Background	1
Aims of the Review	1
Review Methodology	1
Timeline	2
1. Establish Expert Advisory Groups	2
2. Public Consultation Round 1	2
3. Public Survey	2
4. Public Consultation Round 2.....	3
5. Final Draft of the Accreditation Standards	3
6. Transition Plan.....	3
How can I/my organization participate in the review?	3

Background

APAC is embarking on its 2025 Alignment Accreditation Standards Review, a critical initiative to align our standards with the Psychology Board of Australia's (PsyBA) [Professional Competencies for Psychologists](#) and [Code of Conduct](#).

In accordance with the *National Law (2009)*, APAC will present the proposed standards to the Psychology Board of Australia (PsyBA) for approval and implementation. Following approval, the updated Accreditation Standards will replace the previous Standards that came into effect in 2019.

Aims of the Review

The 2025 Alignment Accreditation Standards Review aims to revise the current 2019 Accreditation Standards to ensure that they:

- Are aligned with the Psychology Board of Australia's (PsyBA) [Professional Competencies for Psychologists](#) and [Code of Conduct](#).
- Meet the requirements for the development of accreditation standards as required by AHPRA.
- Take into account relevant regulatory changes in the psychology education sector.
- Reflect contemporary views on measuring quality in psychology education, in particular in relation to assessing outcomes rather than simply accounting for inputs.

Review Methodology

The 2025 Alignment Accreditation Standards review is part of our 5-year review cycle and presents an exciting opportunity to enhance the inclusivity, clarity and impact of psychology education and training in Australia.

Key inputs for the review include:

- **Working Groups:** [three expert advisory groups](#) will provide expert analysis, advice and contributions during the development of the new Accreditation Standards.
- **Public Consultation:** two rounds of public consultation will provide stakeholders with the opportunity to contribute directly to the review and draft 2025 Accreditation Standards.
- **Focus Groups:** further consultation will be conducted with key stakeholders in the psychology education and training sector.

- **Mapping:** will identify gaps and opportunities in the current standards against PsyBA's Professional Competencies and Code of Conduct.
- **Survey:** will provide an additional mechanism for stakeholders to provide brief feedback for the review.

Timeline

The provisional timelines for the 2025 Alignment Accreditation Standards Review are as follows:

1. Establish Expert Advisory Groups

As part of this review, a consultation process was undertaken to ensure that various stakeholders can be involved in developing the new Accreditation Standards. APAC has established three [expert advisory groups](#) to provide expert analysis, advice and contributions during this development:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Group
- Diversity in Psychology Advisory Group
- Psychology Accreditation Standards Working Group

Leaders in psychology education and training in Australia and internationally who met APAC's [selection criteria](#) were encouraged to express their interest by **31 January 2025**. [Learn More](#).

2. Public Consultation Round 1

APAC will publish our first Public Consultation Paper on **17 February 2025**. Stakeholders will have until **24 March 2025** to provide their feedback on this paper.

The Round 1 Public Consultation Paper will provide additional detail on the review's background and context and key issues to be considered in the 2025 Alignment Accreditation Standards Review.

3. Public Survey

To ensure a breadth of feedback, a public survey will be released in **early April 2025** which will outline, and seek feedback on, identified issue and proposed changes. Focus groups with key stakeholders across the sector will also be conducted during this period.

4. Public Consultation Round 2

APAC will publish our second Public Consultation Paper on **5 May 2025** which will include a first draft of the new proposed Accreditation Standards. Stakeholders will have until **6 June 2025** to provide their feedback on this paper.

Additional issues identified by stakeholder feedback from Round 1 of the Public Consultation, APAC's expert advisory groups and the [Assessment Accreditation Committee](#) will be used alongside other supporting evidence to draft the new Standards. After the second round of public consultation concludes, the draft Standards will be further refined.

5. Final Draft of the Accreditation Standards

A final draft of the Accreditation Standards will be completed in **early July 2025**, taking into account all feedback and evidence received throughout the consultation. APAC's [Assessment Accreditation Committee](#) and [Board of Directors](#) will conduct a final review of the revised standards to ensure their integrity, efficacy and alignment with the Psychology Board of Australia's (PsyBA) [Professional Competencies for Psychologists](#) and [Code of Conduct](#).

Following APAC sign-off, the new Accreditation Standards will be shared with PsyBA for approval and implementation in accordance with the National Law.

6. Transition Plan

A transition plan is in development, and guidance will be available for all higher education providers (HEPs) and affected stakeholders to support their transition to the new 2025 Accreditation Standards.

How can I/my organization participate in the review?

Stakeholders are strongly encouraged to participate in APAC's public consultations, which will be open in two stages: **17 February 2025 – 24 March 2025** and **5 May 2025 – 6 June 2025**. An additional survey will be released in **April 2025** to provide an ongoing feedback mechanism to share your insights, concerns or queries.

All feedback will be reviewed by the expert advisory groups and the Assessment and Accreditation Committee to shape the updated standards. All submissions will be treated with respect and summaries of feedback and actions taken will be published, in line with our values of respect and transparency.



Please consider opting in to APAC's Mailing List via our [website](#) to receive updates on the 2025 Alignment Accreditation Standards Review as well as our bi-monthly APAC newsletter.