
OPTOMETRISTS REGISTRATION BOARD OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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National Registration & Accreditation Scheme for the Health Professions

Consultation Paper on proposed arrangements for accreditation

Submission by the Optometrists Registration Board of WA (ORBWA)

Proposal 3.4.3

ORBWA does not support this proposal. It is not clear as to why any new specialities should require Ministerial Council approval. Such approval should be left in the hands of National Boards.

Proposal 3.4.4

ORBWA supports this proposal. ORBWA assumes that the assessment of overseas accrediting bodies would only be required where the National Board requests the accreditation body to assess a particular overseas authority. To require the assessment of every accreditation body would be a very onerous requirement.

3.5 Governance arrangements for external accreditation bodies

With regard to how the guidance to be provided on the governing body of external accrediting bodies can provide for community input and input from education providers and professions but provide independence in decision-making, this could be done by the accreditation bodies having mandatory advisory committees made up of these people, who provide advice to the body but do not actually make decisions.

Proposal 3.5.2

ORBWA supports this proposal, however is not clear as to why an external accrediting body would need to know what contribution to the cost comes from registration fees.

Proposal 3.5.4

It is not clear why the Agency would be involved in this process. Surely the Agency is just the provider of resources and the standards should be set between the National Boards and the Accrediting Body.

Proposal 3.5.6

Shouldn't this be the Accreditation body?

Proposal 3.10.1

Shouldn't this be the Accreditation body?

COLIN D EMMOTT
REGISTRAR
17 December 2008