



Expression of Interest for Professional Reference Group Members for the Review of Accreditation Standards for Osteopathy Programs in Australia

The Australasian Osteopathic Accreditation Council invites interested academics and clinicians, as per the attached Terms of Reference, to join the Professional Reference Group for the development of accreditation standards for education programs leading to the registration of osteopaths in Australia.

The Australasian Osteopathic Accreditation Council (AOAC) is the independent accrediting authority for osteopathic education under Australia's National Registration and Accreditation Scheme. AOAC helps to protect the health and safety of the Australian community by establishing high-quality standards of osteopathic education, training and assessment. AOAC is responsible for facilitating the development of content for accreditation standards in consultation with our stakeholders and representatives from the professions. AOAC is also responsible for determining whether programs of study for osteopaths seeking to practice in Australia meet the required accreditation standards.

The Professional Reference Group (PRG)

PRG members are expected to understand:

- AOAC's role in the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme in Australia.
- Quality use of medicines within the Australian health care context
- Curriculum development for the education of Osteopaths to enter the register
- The Osteopathy Board of Australia Capabilities for Osteopathic Practice
- the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Curriculum Framework and application of the Framework in AOAC's Accreditation Standards.

The PRG will provide advice to AOAC on the development of Accreditation Standards used for the assessment and monitoring of education programs for Osteopaths.

Time commitment

The term of membership will be the length of time taken to develop the Accreditation Standards and will be documented within the project plan provided to the Professional Reference Group. The review is expected to continue throughout 2020.

Arrangement by AOAC to support members

AOAC:

- provides support, induction and training for new PRG members
- pays a sitting fee to members for attendance at face-to-face meetings
- arranges and meets the cost of travel, accommodation and associated funds for attendance at face-to-face meetings

Representatives are required to:

- submit a short Curriculum Vitae
- complete the Registration Form provided on page 2
- review the Term of Reference provided on page 3

AOAC will treat the information in the registration form and in any attached documents confidentially and used only to assist in its short listing and appointment process.

We anticipate finalisation of appointments within one week of the closing date.

The closing date is **Friday 31 January 2020**.

Registration Form – Professional Reference Group Member

Name:

Postal address:

Mobile number:

Work number:

Email address:

Please send your Registration Form (with Curriculum Vitae) to:

Ms Georgina Fargher

AOAC Board and Committees Secretariat

Email: admin@osteopathiccouncil.org.au

Accreditation Standards for Osteopathy Programs in Australia

Professional Reference Group Terms of Reference

PURPOSE:

Provide recommendations to the Board of the Australasian Osteopathic Accreditation Council on the review and development of the Accreditation Standards used for the assessment and monitoring of Osteopathy education programs leading to registration.

OBJECTIVES:

The Professional Reference Group is established to achieve the following objectives:

To provide advice to the AOAC Board in relation to the review and development of Osteopathy Accreditation Standards regarding:

- Profession and workforce issues in relation to education of students
- Health policy
- Interface between the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Curriculum and the program curriculum.

To assist AOAC in understanding and responding to external policies that impact on AOAC's functions including:

- changes in whole of government policy that impact on health professional regulation, accreditation and education
- Future requirements of the practice of Osteopathy.

Analyse and interpret feedback from stakeholder consultation to support the review and development of Accreditation Standards.

Members will understand:

- AOAC's role in the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme in Australia
- Osteopathy Board of Australia Capabilities for Osteopathic Practice
- Curriculum development for the education of Osteopaths
- The Practice of Osteopathy

MEMBERSHIP:

- Chairperson
- 2 Academics teaching in an Osteopathy Course
- An Osteopath nominated through the Osteopathy Australia
- An independent practising Osteopath.
- Independent Expert in Health Professional Accreditation from another profession

IN ATTENDANCE:

- Executive Officer AOAC
- Associate Director and Project Lead, Accreditation Services AOAC

TERM:

The term of membership will be the length of time taken to review and develop the accreditation standard and will be documented within the project plan provided to the Professional Reference Group at the time of induction.

MEETINGS:

As scheduled in the project plan and as required.

QUORUM:

A quorum will consist of half the members plus one (1).

SECRETARIAT:

AOAC Board and Committees Secretariat

REPORT TO:

Accreditation Committee of the AOAC Board

EVALUATION:

Evaluation will be conducted at the conclusion of the review and development of the Accreditation Standards for the purposes of quality improvement of AOAC processes.