



Novel coronavirus update (COVID-19): Education Providers

The Australian Osteopathic Accreditation Council (AOAC) issues this communique due to the evolving situation surrounding the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Our first priority is ensuring the health and safety of all participants in AOAC's accreditation processes. We are closely monitoring the situation and our response is guided by publicly available information from the [Australian Government Department of Health](#) and the [World Health Organisation](#) (WHO).

At this time, all site visits and committee meetings for 2020 will continue as scheduled and we will notify education providers and assessors should this situation change.

We appreciate this is a challenging time for education providers. As the situation continues, we ask all providers to ensure AOAC is updated of any impact the COVID-19 may have on the delivery of osteopathy programs. AOAC is aware that education providers are already facing challenges in the schedule and timetable of delivery of AOAC accredited osteopathy programs. AOAC understands that the timeframes for students completing both theory and professional experience placements may be affected by restrictions imposed by government to slow down the spread of the virus and we are committed to working with education providers to minimise this impact.

Please ensure that all requirements of the accredited program are completed satisfactorily in order for students to be eligible to apply for registration as an Osteopath with the Osteopathy Board of Australia. This includes all theoretical components, and clinical placements as described in the approved program documentation. If issues arise regarding clinical placements, please contact AOAC Administration as soon as possible. To support students who are required to study away from campus please contact us regarding an increase in the online content for delivery of osteopathy programs, above that described in the accredited program documentation.

Further, education providers who are concerned about the timing of planned accreditation during this period should contact AOAC Administration to discuss this.

Please keep AOAC informed of any material changes that are being applied to your program. If you have any questions, please contact AOAC Administration at admin@osteopathiccouncil.org.au.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brett Vaughan", is positioned above the name and title of the signatory.

Brett Vaughan
Chair
Australian Osteopathic Accreditation Council