




# Transition Policy for new Accreditation Standards

**Owner:** Accreditation  
**Revision:** 1.0  
**Date of Issue:** 30 July 2021

<b>Name of the Policy</b>	Transition Policy for new Accreditation Standards
<b>Policy Number</b>	POLS2019ACC051
<b>Description of Policy</b>	This policy describes the principles surrounding transition to new Accreditation Standards for Osteopathic education programs accredited by Australian Osteopathy Accreditation Council and approved by the Osteopathy Board of Australia.
<b>Category</b>	Accreditation
<b>Audience</b>	Osteopathy Board of Australia, Australian Osteopathic Accreditation Council, Academics, Students
<b>Status</b>	New Policy
<b>Last Revised</b>	26 July 2021
<b>Next Review</b>	26 July 2024

<b>Responsible Officer</b>	Chair of the Accreditation Committee	
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<b>Approved by</b>	Dr Gopi McLeod PhD Chair AOAC Board	Date:
<b>Signed</b>		

<b>Related Documents</b>	Australian Osteopathic Accreditation Standards 2021 Transition and teach-out arrangements for expiry of accredited osteopathic approved programs of study policy.
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## 1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure the Australian Osteopathic Accreditation Council (AOAC) continues to be satisfied that the program and provider meet an approved accreditation standard in accordance with Section 50 of the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009* (National Law).

## 2. Scope

This policy applies to all AOAC accredited osteopathy education program providers.

## 3. Policy statement

In preparation for the release of new Accreditation Standards AOAC must notify education providers that the current accreditation standards are under review and will be superseded with the release of the new accreditation standards.

### Submissions during the review period

During the review process AOAC only accepts submissions against the current accreditation standards up until the date of approval of the new accreditation standards by the Osteopathy Board of Australia.

If a preliminary review of a submission made against expiring standards indicates that the submission is not of sufficiently high quality, the submission will not be further assessed. The education provider will be required to re-submit against the new accreditation standards. AOAC will consider a short prolongation of accreditation in these circumstances.

Submission against the current accreditation standards must be finalised within 12 months of the release of the new accreditation standards. If this timeframe is not met education providers will be required to resubmit against the new accreditation standards.

### Transitioning to new Accreditation Standards

AOAC must determine if new accreditation standards include significant changes that require transition of accredited and approved programs of study to meet the significant changes in selected criteria.

AOAC must manage the transition in accordance with established procedures and timeframes. AOAC will provide education providers with a timeline to transition their currently approved programs to the selected criteria.

## 4. Principles

- 4.1 AOAC will manage the transition to new accreditation standards in accordance with this policy in a transparent, fair and timely way.
- 4.2 AOAC will provide sufficient notice to education providers of any significant changes in the new accreditation standards to which currently accredited and approved programs of study are required to transition.
- 4.3 AOAC will determine the evidence that education providers will need to submit to demonstrate transition to the new accreditation standards.
- 4.4 AOAC will assess the evidence provided to determine that all accredited and approved programs have transitioned to the new accreditation standards.
- 4.5 AOAC will provide notice to the education provider that the accredited and approved program meets the significant changes in new accreditation standards.

## 5. Roles and responsibilities

The AOAC Board has overall responsibility for ensuring that AOAC continues to be satisfied that accredited and approved programs and providers meet an approved accreditation standard.

The AOAC Board is responsible for implementing and ensuring compliance with this Policy through creation of maintenance of effective procedures provided in the Accreditation Policy and Procedure.

### Key Definitions

**Accreditation expiry date** – the date the program ceases to be accredited.

**Accreditation Standard** – for a health profession, means a standard used to assess whether a program of study, and the education provider that provides the program of study, provide persons who complete the program with the knowledge, skills and professional attributes necessary to practise the profession in Australia.

**Accredited program of study** – means a program of study accredited under section 48 of *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009* (National Law) by an accreditation authority.

**Approved accreditation standard** – Under the National Law an accreditation standard is–

- a. Approved by a National Board under section 47(3); and
- b. Published on the Board’s website under section 47(6).

**Approved program of study (APoS)** – for a health profession or for endorsement of registration in a health profession, means an accredited program of study–

- a. Approved under section 49(1) of the National Law by the National Board established for the health profession; and
- b. Included in the list published by the National Agency under section 49(5) of the National Law.

**Education providers** – means

- a. a university; or
- b. a tertiary education institution, or another institution or organisation, that provides vocational training

**Program of study** – means a program of study provided by an education provider.