



Australian
Osteopathic
Accreditation Council
AOAC

Board Operating Plan 2024 – 2029

About AOAC and this Plan

The purpose of the Australian Osteopathic Accreditation Council (AOAC) is to help to protect the health and safety of the Australian community by establishing high-quality standards of osteopathy education, training and assessment.

AOAC is the independent organisation that assesses and accredits osteopathic education programs leading to eligibility for registration as an osteopath in Australia and assesses the suitability of overseas qualified osteopaths to practice in Australia.

AOAC is the:

1. Independent organisation to assess and accredit osteopathic education programs leading to eligibility for registration as an osteopath in Australia, and
2. carries out assessments of the skills and qualifications held by overseas trained osteopaths on behalf of the Osteopathy Board of Australia, as well as assessing internationally qualified osteopaths seeking to work in Australia under the General Skilled Migration program.

This is our core business.

This Plan describes what we are seeking to achieve in the next 5 years as a part of, and in addition to, delivering our core business in a collaborative and proactive way, striving always for excellence. Most elements of the Plan are essential to the delivery of our core business. As a small organisation, we are mindful that where elements are in addition to core business, they will be undertaken in a manner that ensures no detriment to our core business.

In undertaking these activities, AOAC will always strive to be collaborative, proactive and excellent.

Part 1: Key priorities for the year 2024 – 2025 *(Identified, not ranked)*

In addition to the excellent delivery of our core business, and any emerging commitments to Ahpra and Osteopathy Board of Australia (OsteoBA), we will:

1. Establish a clear strategic direction enabling all Directors and our Service Provider to monitor our changing strategic landscape effectively and efficiently.
2. Strengthen our relationships with our Education Providers (EPs) through understanding and embedding the lessons from our latest round of Accreditations.
3. Create and commence implementation of our Engagement Plan to enhance our communication to and engagement with all stakeholders.
4. Further strengthen our Risk Management including finalising our Risk Appetite Statement.
5. Undertake a well-planned and collaborative Board to Board working session with the Board of OsteoBA.
6. Build an effective and mutually beneficial relationship with our Service Provider for the five-year period.
7. Complete the scheduled governance changes and related activities in accordance with our Board Workplan.

8. Finalise AOAC's data management policies and procedures.

Part 2: Key priorities for the life of the Plan to 30 June 2029 *(Identified, not ranked)*

In addition to the excellent delivery of our core business, and any emerging commitments to Ahpra and OsteoBA work, we expect to commence from 1 July 2025:

1. Ensure our contemporary, transparent, effective and efficient accreditation approach and processes continues to enable the education of “safe to practice” osteopaths. This includes:
 - a. Reviewing and embedding learnings from each accreditation;
 - b. Understanding the role of new and emerging technologies; and
 - c. Timely and clear Guideline Papers.
2. Deliver fully on all our Ahpra KPIs including the profession specific KPIs.
3. Work to ensure we are a valued member of HPAC Forum.
4. In collaboration with our EPs and OsteoBA:
 - a. Seek to achieve an optimal outcome for our profession from the implementation of the Kruk Review whilst maintaining public safety.
 - b. Understand the implications and opportunities of AI on Academic Integrity, and work to review our standards and assessments accordingly.
5. Build momentum of the further evolution of our profession, making best possible use of existing forums and other channels.
6. Ensure an effective and mutually beneficial relationship with our service providers.