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Health Professional Councils Authority

Introduction of paramedicine to the National Scheme

The Paramedicine Council of NSW

Under the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme for health practitioners, NSW is a co-regulatory jurisdiction. This means that in NSW the Paramedicine Council of New South Wales and the [Health Care Complaints Commission](#) will be dealing with complaints and other notifications about registered paramedics and students.

The [Paramedicine Board of Australia](#) will be managing applications for registration of paramedics in NSW and across Australia.



Expressions of interest are invited from suitably qualified people for membership of the Paramedicine Council of NSW.

Further information, the expression of interest form and the information package are on the Health Professional Councils Authority [website](#).

Applicants are required to submit:

- a brief statement addressing each of the selection criteria
- an up to date CV, and
- the names and details of two referees.

The closing date for expressions of interest is **Friday 1 June 2018**.

Council membership

Membership of the Paramedicine Council of New South Wales is set out in Part 10 of Schedule 1 of the Health [Practitioner Regulation \(New South Wales\) Regulation 2016](#).

The Council will be made up of 6 members:

- 4 registered paramedics whose principal place of practice is in NSW
- 1 person, who is not a paramedic, appointed to represent the community, and

1 Australian lawyer.

One member who is a registered paramedic is to be appointed as President and a member, who does not need to be a registered paramedic, is to be appointed as Deputy-President of the Council.

Council members are appointed for a term of up to three years and are eligible to be reappointed for a maximum period of nine years.

Role of the Council and members

The Council's main responsibility is to protect the public by regulating the profession. The Council does this by working in partnership with the Health Care Complaints Commission to manage complaints about the health, performance and conduct of registered paramedics in NSW.

Members of the Council:

- actively contribute to the effective governance and oversight of the Council and its role in the regulation of the profession, and
- have oversight for the efficient and responsible expenditure of public funds in accordance with relevant legislation and government policy and guidelines.

Members are accountable for their performance.

Remuneration

Council members are paid in accordance with the Department of Premier and Cabinet, NSW Government Boards and Committees Guidelines (September 2015). Rates are set by the NSW Treasury and approved by the Minister for Health. The annual remuneration rates are:

President \$2,336
Member \$1,752

Council members who undertake additional work for the Council (such as hearings or interviews) are paid on a sessional basis.

Reimbursement of expenses (including out of pocket travelling expenses) is paid in line with NSW Government policy. Travelling time is not remunerated.

Member remuneration includes superannuation. This is paid through the NSW

Ministry of Health payroll system to a complying fund of the member's choice.

Expectations of time and effort

The Council is expected to meet formally once per month for half a day.

Members may also be appointed to ad hoc hearings and panels convened to make decisions on behalf of the Council. They may also have to attend meetings held on a day that is not a Council meeting day.

Each Council meeting or panel hearing requires significant pre reading.

Council members may also be appointed to other committees which meet monthly or quarterly to direct other Council and HPCA strategic activity.

On occasion, members may attend community meetings or events in a representative capacity, to strengthen the Council's interaction with the profession and the community it serves.

Most Council members are expected to spend approximately one day per week on Council business.

Governance and accountability

Members of the Council serve the Council and the public and are responsible to the Council for their performance. It is critical for members to recognise that in their capacity as Council Members they do not represent external bodies or interests.

A very clear expression of this is found in the Judgement of Street J (as he then was) in the NSW Supreme Court in Bennetts V Board of Fire Commissioners of New South Wales (1967) 87WN307.

Timeline

The indicative timeline for appointment of the Council and commencement of registration is:

1 June 2018 - close of expressions of interest for appointment to the Council
July/August 2018 – appointment of the Council

August/September 2018 – first meeting of the Council
November/December 2018 – regulatory scheme applies to paramedics.

FAQs

The Paramedicine Board has a comprehensive set of registration [FAQs](#) on its website.

Stay updated

The [Paramedicine Board of Australia](#) sends out a regular e-News with the latest updates and useful resources. Click [here](#) to subscribe to e-News updates from the Board.

Useful links

[Paramedicine Board of Australia](#)

[Health Professional Councils Authority](#)

[Health Care Complaints Commission](#)

[NSW Legislation](#)

[Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency](#)

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You are receiving this newsletter as part of the introduction of paramedicine to the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme. The Health Professional Councils Authority is an important part of the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme. We work in partnership with the NSW Health Professional Councils in the regulation of health practitioners in NSW.

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