

Media release

16 May 2013

Nurses and midwives - renewal reminder for 31 May

If you are a nurse and/or a midwife due to renew your registration with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (the National Board) by 31 May, you have just over two weeks for timely renewal.

Over 340,000 nurses and/or midwives are registered with general or non-practising registration. The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) – on behalf of the National Board – has posted hard copy reminders to those yet to renew.

'Nearly 60 per cent of nurses and midwives have already renewed registration, a fantastic result,' National Board Chair Anne Copeland said.

The majority of these renewed online, as did 90 per cent of nurses and midwives last year.

'We want to make registration renewal as simple and straightforward as possible. Our online services are there to help you,' Ms Copeland said.

As outlined in the National Law¹, applications received after the registration expiry date will incur a late payment fee in addition to the annual renewal fee.

Under the National Law, nurses and midwives who do not renew registration within one month of the registration expiry date will be removed from the <u>national register</u>.

When this happens, your registration will lapse and you will not be able to practise as a nurse or midwife in Australia until a new application is approved.

If you:

- are experiencing difficulties using the online service, please phone AHPRA's Customer Service Team on 1300 419 495 and a member of the team will talk you through the process.
- have submitted your application, you can find out if it has been received using the online service at <u>AHPRA - Renewal received confirmation</u>.

Once your application to renew registration is received on time, you can continue practising while the application goes through processing.

Remember – your listing on the national register is evidence to current and prospective employers that you are registered to practise as a nurse and/or midwife.

Once your registration is processed, you can also print off a copy of your registration certificate using AHPRA's online services at <u>www.ahpra.gov.au</u>.

¹ The Health Practitioner Regulation National Law as in force in each state and territory (the National Law).

Failure to renew

If you do not renew registration by 31 May 2013, or within the one month late period ending 30 June 2013, you can still apply to AHPRA for a fast-track application for registration.

You will, however, not able to practise in your profession until the fast-track registration application is processed and approved.

The following pages on the National Board website contain useful information for nurses and midwives and employers:

- Registration standards
- <u>Registration renewal</u>
- FAQ about continuing professional development
- FAQ about recency of practice
- FAQ about renewal for nurses and midwives
- FAQ about renewal for employers

For more information

- For registration enquiries: 1300 419 495 (within Australia) +61 3 8708 9001 (overseas callers)
- For media enquiries: (03) 8708 9200