

Media release

18 March 2014

Online renewal for nurses and midwives now open

The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (National Board) has launched its 2014 online renewal of registration campaign.

Nearly 354,400 nurses and midwives across Australia are due to renew their general or non-practising registration with the National Board by 31 May.

Nurses and midwives should look out for an email reminder to renew registration from the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) as confirmation that online renewal is open.

As part of the campaign, AHPRA – on behalf of the National Board – is sending out the first in a series of reminders to nurses and midwives with a registered email address.

When applying to renew your registration you will be required to supply your residential address. This information is not published on the <u>national register</u>. Your residential address is needed to help process criminal history checks and so you can be contacted, particularly if you are randomly selected for audit.

National Board Presiding Member Dr Lynette Cusack reminds nurses and midwives to carefully read the National Board's requirements for registration renewal.

'Make sure you understand the declarations you are required to make regarding mandatory registration standards. Giving false or misleading information is grounds for the National Board to refuse renewal of registration,' Dr Cusack said.

'We may ask you to give information in support of your declarations as part of regular audit.'

If you do not renew your registration by 31 May, or within the following one-month late period, your registration will lapse. Your name will be removed from the national register of nurses and midwives and you will not be able to practise without making a new application for registration.

Last year, 95 per cent of nurses and midwives renewed their registration online and on time.

'This was a six percent increase in the online renewal rate for 2012, so it's great to see the increasing numbers of nurses and midwives who are using the quick and easy online renewal service,' Dr Cusack said.

Anyone who experiences difficulties using the online service can phone AHPRA's Customer Service Team on 1300 419 495 and a team member will talk them through the process.

Under the National Law¹, all registered nurses and midwives are responsible for renewing their registration on time each year.

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

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

- Registration standards
- Registration renewal
- FAQ for nurses and midwives
- FAQ for employers
- Non-practising registration fact sheet

For more information

- Visit <u>www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au</u> to lodge an online enquiry form under *Contact us*
- For registration enquiries: 1300 419 495 (within Australia) +61 3 8708 9001 (overseas callers)
- For media enquiries: (03) 8708 9200