



The Osteopathy Board of Australia

The Osteopathy Board of Australia (OsteoBA) was established in 2010 as a regulatory body under the Health Practitioner Regulation Law (as in force in each state and territory). Prior to 2010, the osteopathy profession was regulated by eight separate boards in each state and territory with associated legislation in each of those jurisdictions. OBA's mission is to regulate health practitioners in Australia in the public interest. The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) supports the 14 National Boards (including the Osteopathy Board of Australia) in fulfilling their primary role of protecting the public. AHPRA has 600 staff altogether, most are full-time, to regulate over 580,000 health practitioners from the 14 regulated professions nationally and does not have other locations. The Osteopathy Board of Australia regulates 1,769 registered osteopaths and 746 students in osteopathy programs of study in Australia. The OBA does not have special programs for foreign students or accepts foreign students or members.

OsteoBA's objectives include:

- To act in the interest of public health and safety;
- To work collaboratively to deliver high-quality health regulation;
- To promote safety and quality in health practice;
- Decisions which are fair and just;
- Accountability for decisions and actions;
- Processes which are transparent and consistent; and
- To develop a flexible osteopathy workforce that meets the current and future needs of the Australian community.

The functions of the Osteopathy Board of Australia include:

- Registering osteopaths and students;
- Developing standards, codes and guidelines for the osteopathy profession;
- Handling notifications, complaints, investigations and disciplinary hearings;
- Registering overseas trained practitioners who wish to practise in Australia; and
- Approving accreditation standards and accredited courses of study.

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