

ACCREDITATION MAJOR CHANGE

Policy

As part of the annual reporting process, the education provider is required to identify actual or planned changes to the program that are outside the usual evolution of a physiotherapy program due to quality improvement initiatives. Twelve (12) months' notice should be given of planned major change(s).

A major change is defined as a significant variation to currently accredited content or delivery of an academic program or to the practices, policy, structure or governance of the academic unit or education provider that could impact on the outcomes of a program of study.

An assessment of impact of the change(s) will be undertaken by the Accreditation Panel, based on the evidence presented in the Annual Report and the panel will determine if the change is major. Determination of a major change will prompt a full application for accreditation.

Major changes may include but are not limited to:

Changes to program attributes including:

- Addition of, or change to, award level (for example, Bachelors to Masters/Masters extended program)
- Change to the program duration.

Changes to curriculum including:

- Significant variation to the currently accredited curriculum with respect to course structure, units, learning outcomes, content, or delivery method
- Significant changes to the clinical education program model or level of support from clinical education partners.

Changes to resources and infrastructure including:

- Significant increase in student numbers relative to resources
- Significant changes to education provider funding models that may impact negatively on the delivery of a physiotherapy program (or a decline in financial position that may adversely affect the provider's capacity to deliver a quality physiotherapy program)
- Organisational changes which may have a detrimental impact on governance, quality improvement and staffing
- Significant changes to academic staff that may adversely affect the provider's capacity to deliver the program(s)
- Major changes to educational facilities that may adversely affect the provider's capacity to deliver the program(s)
- Changes to program delivery such as, but not limited to: change of site or addition of new sites (including offshore) (includes additions and withdrawals); contracting with another organisation to deliver a significant proportion of a program or services (i.e. third party provider)
- Changes to the legal status of the corporate entity of the education provider
- Any incident or circumstance, which could affect the education provider's integrity or capacity to conduct its business or deliver the program.