



Question & Answer on New Fees for Psychiatry Professional Development Training (Postgraduate Course in Psychiatry-PCP)

Why have you reduced your fees?

NSW Health (HETI) is keen to maintain a vibrant psychiatry training community in this state to ensure there is a strong psychiatry workforce for the future.

We take a dynamic pricing approach to delivering high quality health training services to make sure we are seen as a quality and competitive training provider to potential students while ensuring value for public funding.

We also aim to match training opportunities to projected needs for health care professionals in the future.

Why / why now?

This initiative is part of MoH (HETI)'s commitment to enabling a world class psychiatric workforce in NSW. Within NSW, HETI supports medical student placements and the allocation and employment of new medical graduates, and state-wide leadership training. Through the Psychiatry State Training Council HETI has in 2019 worked closely with the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists (RANZCP) and Local Health Districts in centralising recruitment for doctors entering psychiatry training and reviewing psychiatry training networks. In 2020 HETI is committed to further actions in collaboration with the RANZCP and enabling health professionals to partner with HETI Higher Education as academic affiliates.

Does this reduction in fees mean you were over charging previously?

No, NSW Health (HETI) regularly reviews fees for courses to reflect vacancy rates and training demands together with the projected need for specific health services.

Will this price apply to the award too?

No, the price is only available to the professional development psychiatry training course (Postgraduate Course in Psychiatry) for trainees in the NSW training networks. This strategy is part of NSW Health's commitment to making NSW the most desirable state to train and work as a psychiatrist and is offered to the wider group of trainees who choose the professional development option. Trainees from across Australia and New Zealand may study in the professional development or award courses, but with standard fees applied as seen at www.heti.edu.au.

Will current or former students be reimbursed?

As of Semester 1, 2020 HETI is offering the new price to all current professional development psychiatry (Postgraduate Course in Psychiatry) trainees in the New South Wales training networks as well as to new ones who choose this great career path.

Former students will not be offered a reimbursement as this price is only available as of Semester 1, 2020.



Is this only for NSW psychiatry trainees?

Yes, this is part of NSW Health's commitment to making NSW the most desirable state to train and work in as a psychiatrist. Trainees from across Australia and New Zealand may study in the same course, but those from other states will be pay the standard fees available at www.heti.edu.au.

This also includes those doctors working towards entering training within psychiatry networks in the near future with a supporting letter from their Director of Training.

Are there supports for other mental health professionals?

Yes. General Practitioners and NSW Health Child and Adolescent Mental Health Professionals have dedicated scholarships each year. Mental health clinicians working with older people have had access to scholarships for the first time this financial year.

2020 will see the commencement of the Mental Health Pathways in Practice program, a major initiative from the Nursing and Midwifery Office of the Ministry, to support the mental health related capabilities of nurses and allied health professionals across NSW.

Will trainees be able to gain a higher education award?

The Psychiatric Medicine courses are accredited for the attainment of Graduate Certificate, Graduate Diploma and Masters awards, but are offered at the standard award price not at the stated price for NSW professional development study in psychiatry.

What will trainees experience be?

The Psychiatric Medicine courses offer unique flexibility in participation. Not only can trainees participate in our modern lecture rooms, but also through live video conferencing or delayed online study; but they have the flexibility to easily change modes to meet changing work or personal circumstances.

HETI trainees have always engaged in seminars, workshops and tutorials. 2020 has seen these enhanced with over 40 hour's exam preparation sessions across courses. More information is available in the Psychiatric Medicine prospectus https://heti.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/488004/HETI_PM2020_Prospectus.pdf.

How do students know they will receive high quality teaching that meets their specific needs?

HETI is committed to high quality education and training in collaboration with key stakeholders and has external validation of this quality. In a 2019 national postgraduate medical outcome survey, HETI's Psychiatric Medicine course was rated by 74.1% of its graduates as agreeing their experience was indicative of good teaching in the course, compared to the national average of 54.4%.

In 2016 HETI was been granted the maximum registration period of seven years as a higher education provider with concurrent accreditation of its six courses. The Psychiatric Medicine program is accredited with The Royal Australian and New



Zealand College of Psychiatrists (RANZCP) as a Formal Education Course. Further information about accreditation may be found at <https://heti.edu.au/about/accreditations>.

The HETI Academic Board currently has a psychiatry trainee as one of the student representatives, the Psychiatric Medicine courses have an External Advisory Committee with representation from the RANZCP NSW Branch Training Committee and NSW Association of Psychiatrists in Training. Students have multiple mechanisms to engage in feedback and consultation regarding courses as they study. HETI also has a representative on the RANZCP NSW Branch Training Committee and Psychiatry State Training Council.

How can supervisors know what their trainees are studying?

All courses in Psychiatric Medicine Courses have a Workplace Mentor Unit Learning Guide that supervisors have access to with details of timetabled teaching activities. Trainees have automated feedback on their meeting of RANZCP course participation requirements.