

Position Description

POSITION TITLE: Community Representative

Speech Pathology Australia Ethics Board

OVERALL OBJECTIVE: Represent community interests and views with regards to ethical concerns brought to the attention of Speech Pathology Australia's (the Association's) Ethics Board.

NATURE AND SCOPE: The position requires attendance at three teleconferences of approximately one hour each per year, an annual training weekend and participation in Investigation Panels as required. The position is appointed for a three-year term.

Background:

In accordance with the Association's current [Ethics Board Procedures](#), the Ethics Board has up to 13 members. Due to a significant increase in the number of Association members, the Ethics Board membership will increase to a maximum of 16 members from 2023: the Chair of the Ethics Board, five senior speech pathology members, five elected speech pathology members and five community representatives. The community representatives are appointed by the National President of the Association with approval of the Association's Board, to ensure breadth and depth of representation to ensure a diversity of community views.

A community representative Ethics Board member:

- is appointed for a three-year term
- must not be a member of the Association
- must not be a speech pathologist
- is required to be capable of fairly representing the views of the community
- may be a nominee from a relevant consumer group or represent an individual
- may re-nominate on two occasions and therefore may serve a maximum of three consecutive terms
- is required to sit on investigation panels to consider formal complaints.

Responsibilities:

- A contributing member of the Ethics Board, through input into investigation panels and attendance at meetings.
- Internal relationships with Chair of the Ethics Board, Ethics Board members, Vice President Communications, the Association's Board of Directors and Manager Ethics and Professional Issues.
- Attend all meetings of the Ethics Board, including at least three videoconferences per year, annual face-to-face meeting and training.
- Maintain confidentiality and demonstrate an understanding of the core values and principles underlying the Association's [Code of Ethics](#).

- Participate and contribute to discussions for determination of broad strategies and provide consumer advocacy and engagement within Ethics Board activities.
- Exercise due diligence in decision making and act in the best interests of the Association.
- Follow the [Ethics Board Procedures](#).
- Participate in and contribute to discussions and decision-making regarding consumer issues, strategy, policy documents and program development and evaluation.
- Contribute to the ethics education of the profession; development of strategy, plans for implementation of education for the profession, assist with publications in peer reviewed journals on occasion.
- Sit on an investigation panel when a formal complaint is received, to provide community perspective in discussions and decision making.
- Participate in revision of the Association's [Code of Ethics](#) from time to time.
- Maintain an awareness of local and national issues which may impact on the profession and how these may link with the Ethics Board.

Knowledge, skills and attributes:

1. Ability to learn and become familiar with the work of the Association.
2. Willingness to undertake orientation and training as required at the Association's National Office, Melbourne.
3. An interest in, and understanding of, advocacy and representation with a strategic focus.
4. Ability to build alliances integral to the ongoing success of the Ethics Board.
5. Ability to work with and understand the perspectives of others.
6. Demonstration of integrity and use of constructive communication.
7. Enthusiastic and positive outlook.
8. An interest in professional ethics.
9. Independent of the Association and free of conflicts of interest.

General:

Financial remuneration:

- Sitting fees in line with the AHPRA schedule of fees for board, committee and panel members.
- Meetings/ teleconferences of less than five hours will attract a proportion of this fee.
- All travel and accommodation expenses are covered by the Association.

Speech Pathology Australia is committed to promoting a diverse and inclusive community and workplace – a place where we can all be ourselves, and each have the equal opportunity to succeed and be recognised for our unique contribution. We value the experiences, skills and perspectives of all individuals and actively encourage nominations from people with diverse backgrounds. We make decisions based on nominees' knowledge, skills and attributes, ensuring all nominations are treated fairly.

A current national criminal check must be provided by the successful applicant.