

educator news july 2018

AMT National Educators' Forum - 12 October 2018

This year, AMT has returned to hosting the National Educators' Forum in conjunction with the AMT Annual Conference. It will be held on Friday 12 October at the Rydges Sydney Central. The venue is accessible via direct rain line from Sydney Domestic Airport. It is approximately 5 minutes walk from Central Station.

We aim to have the program circulated by the end of October. Please let us know if there are any specific topics or speakers you would like us to feature at the Forum this year.

AMT set to launch formal mentoring scheme in September

AMT is now on the home stretch of finalising a formal industry mentoring scheme, which we will be launching in September. In the first intake, we will recruit a cohort of currently enrolled students to take part in the pilot of the scheme at no cost. We hope that RTOs will assist us in recruiting the first program participants. Please stay tuned.

Once the pilot is complete, we plan to run two intakes of mentees annually, ranging from recent graduates to longer term practitioners who feel they may benefit from a one-to-one relationship with a senior practitioner. We're very excited about the launch!

The AMT Blog

The AMT blog has now been running for nearly a year and we've published close to 50 articles on it. It has been wildly successful, garnering interest both locally and internationally. The blog averages around 8000 unique visitors a month with some of the more popular and viral posts attracting 25,000 to 30,000 views!

If you're yet to visit the AMT blog and you're not sure where to start, this might help:

<http://bit.ly/bestoftheblog>

Many of the articles that AMT publishes via the blog would be of interest to students. A few that immediately spring to mind are:

<http://bit.ly/tipsfornewtherapists>

<http://bit.ly/pricesetting>

Complementary Health Industry Reference Group

AMT continues to represent the massage sector on the Complementary Health Reference Group. We were heavily involved in the drafting of the 2018 Industry Forecast which will be publicly available soon.

Discussion at the most recent Industry Reference Group meeting mostly focused on the four advanced diploma qualifications that were removed from the Health Training Package (Naturopathy, Western Herbalism, Nutrition and Homeopathy). It is challenging trying to ensure that massage therapy remains fairly represented in the dialogue, especially since it constitutes the major portion of VET (over 90%) under the complementary health umbrella.



AMT's National Police Check scheme now in force

All AMT members are now required to complete a criminal check every three years, as a condition of practitioner status. The police check requirement has been in place for new applicants to AMT since 1 August 2017 and also applies to student members of AMT.

AMT now has an arrangement in place with a preferred provider for criminal checks. The company offers a reduced rate to AMT members, and has a fast and efficient online service. AMT does not benefit financially from this arrangement.

The commitment to introduce mandatory criminal checks is part of AMT's broader commitment to public safety. It will bring AMT members more in line with the regulatory requirements for registered health professionals and, along with the AMT Code of Ethics and Code of Practice, will help us to promote AMT members as a safe and ethical choice for members of the public.

The requirement is not designed to pick up minor offences like shoplifting, road traffic offences, or minor drug and alcohol offences. It is designed to screen for serious indictable offences that may impact on a practitioner's capacity to practise massage therapy safely and honestly, for example, a sexual assault conviction or a dishonesty offence such as one involving fraud. AMT has adopted the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency's criminal checking standard as the framework for determining the relevance of offences to current practice.

AMT's YouTube channel

Just a reminder that the plenary presentations from last year's AMT conference are available for download from our YouTube channel. This includes Lisa Fiddes' presentation on Patient Engagement and Aran Bright's presentation on Pain Science.

You will find AMT's YouTube channel here:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRJENFpS1dZI66oTSH4UIRw>

AMT requires a 'Name Only' Police Certificate. This is a certificate that is based on a search of your name against the criminal history records held by police services Australia wide.

