

Summary of Decisions

From the Dental Council meetings in December 2021

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The Dental Council (Council) is the statutory body constituted under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 (the Act) to maintain the health and safety of members of the public by providing mechanisms to ensure that health practitioners are competent and fit to practise. Council endeavours to keep its key stakeholders up to date with key decisions.

This document is a summary of Council's decisions from the meeting held in December 2021.

AUT Bachelor of Health Science (oral health) programme – external assessment report

In August 2021, the Council appointed an external examiner to observe the exit final year assessments for the AUT BHSOH programme.

The report covered the following areas:

- Summary of the assessment process, including any moderation and feedback processes followed before and after the assessments
- The robustness and fairness of the assessment process; including moderation and application of progression criteria
- Based on their involvement, an opinion on the competency and preparedness for practice of the final year students

The Council agreed with the accreditation's recommendation and accepted the report on the review of the AUT oral health programme assessments. The programme must report on the recommendations contained in the report, as part of the 2022 accreditation review process, in its accreditation submission.

The Council also emphasised to the programme:

- its expectation that an external examiner be used for the end-of-year assessments, as per the criteria of accreditation standard 5.
- that the limited clinical experiences of students reported was within the extraordinary context of COVID-19, and that it does not expect this lower level of clinical experiences to become acceptable as the ongoing minimum standards for future cohorts.

Programmes COVID-19 monitoring reports

The Council agreed with the Accreditation Committee's recommendations to accept the COVID-19 November 2021 monitoring reports, as satisfactory, from the AUT oral health programme and University of Otago for its accredited programmes.

Consultation outcome – proposed 2022-23 budget and fees

The Council recently consulted on the draft 2022-2023 budget, proposed APC fees and disciplinary levies and other fees for oral health practitioners.

A total of four submissions were received. The Council considered all the feedback received and after revisiting the full year forecast and upcoming planned and budgeted work, Council approved the fees as proposed in the consultation document.

The 2022-23 fees will be published in the NZ Gazette and will take effect from 1 April 2022.