

Fitness for Practice Policy

HESF ¹	1 Student participation and attainment	2 Learning environment	3 Teaching	4 Research and research training	5 Institutional quality assurance	6 Governance and accountability	7 Representation, information and information management
APAC ²	1 Public Safety	2 Academic governance and quality assurance	3 Program of study	4 The student experience	5 Assessment		

1. Purpose:

The Fitness for Practice Policy at ISN Psychology is established to ensure the safety of the public when interacting with students of Schedule 1 courses who are undertaking practica and placements.

2. Scope:

This policy applies to all enrolled students participating in Schedule 1 courses, as well as to Institute staff with oversight of these students.

3. Policy Statement:

This policy applies principles embedded in the registration of Psychologists in Australia to ensure that students undertaking Schedule 1 courses are fit to practice and provides a preventative and educative approach to supporting students to become safe practitioners who exhibit appropriate professional behaviours.

4. Policy Details:

4.1 The Institute is committed to supporting the rights of all people who wish to pursue a career as a psychologist.

4.2. Inherent requirements for all courses are provided to enable prospective and current students to understand the demands of courses, including in relation to undertaking practice and placements where they are relevant, and available reasonable adjustments for which they may apply if eligible.

4.3 Students are responsible for self-monitoring of fitness for practice, including when enrolling in a Schedule 1 course and at relevant intervals during their course, as well as demonstrating freedom from impairment that may be associated with risk of substantial harm to the public and, to a standard consistent with their level of training:

- professional behaviour and conduct
- professional competence and performance
- compliance with relevant rules and regulations

4.4 Staff, students and associates of the Institute are responsible for notifying the Institute of reasonable concerns about the fitness for practice of a student enrolled in a Schedule 1 course.

¹ Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2021

² Australian Psychology Accreditation Council Accreditation Standards for Psychology Programs V1.2

4.5 The Institute is responsible for investigating notifications in a timely manner and instituting proportionate and appropriate measures. Minor or isolated issues would not normally result in the Fitness for Practice Policy being invoked.

4.6 Where the Institute determines that a student does not meet the fitness for practice requirements the student will be notified, and the process managed in accordance with the Fitness for Practice Procedure.

4.7 Students who do not meet fitness for practice requirements will not be eligible to enrol or continue with practicum and/or placements units, which may impact their capacity to complete their course. The Institute reserves the right to exclude a student temporarily or permanently from a Schedule 1 course where the student will be unable to complete their course within the maximum allowable period.

5. Responsibilities:

Policy Owner	Dean
Policy Approver	Academic Board
Accountable	Dean

6. Policy Suite:

C Grievances, Complaints, and Appeals

C 1.2 Inherent Requirements Policy

F9 Disability Provisions Policy

H Placement Policy

I Clinic Policy

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Policy

Student Support Policy

7. History, Version and Document Management Control:

This policy is reviewed biennially.

Date	Summary of changes	Authority	Effective date
16 April 2024	Establishment of policy	Academic Board	15 July 2024

Schedule 1

Master of Professional Psychology

Master of Psychology (Clinical)

Master of Psychology (Sport & Exercise)

Doctor of Psychology (Sport & Exercise, Clinical)