Standards of Proficiency Review 2005

Visitors' questionnaire: information

Introduction

We established the Standards of Proficiency for the 12 original professions that we regulate in 2003. We said that we would not change these standards during the transitional arrangements for registration (the 'grandparenting' period), but that we would review them in the future.

The Council is now reviewing the standards. To do this, it has established a Professional Liaison Group (PLG). This group will consider evidence from a variety of individuals and stakeholders with knowledge of how the standards are working, how well they relate to registrants' practice, and whether they need to be amended.

This is why we have created this questionnaire for visitors. Part of your role involves ensuring that people who successfully complete the programmes we approve meet the Standards of Proficiency. You therefore have experience of using the standards to recommend decisions to approve or not approve, so that the public are protected.

We would therefore like to ask you to complete this questionnaire as fully as you feel able to, drawing on your experience as a visitor. If you would prefer to only complete part of the questionnaire, then please do so. Likewise, although we would encourage you to give your name so that we can contact you if we need to discuss your comments, you do not have to give your name if you would prefer to respond anonymously.

About the standards

We have set the Standards of Proficiency in order to determine the threshold professional skills that are necessary in order to register with us. They are set at the level that is necessary in order to protect the public, and we recognise that most registrants and education providers will exceed the standards, and that they sit alongside the standards published by other organisations, which may be concerned with promoting best practice.

Your response

Please answer the questions as fully as you are able to, and give as much information as you can. If you can give examples in order to support your opinions, please do so. (You do not have to include the names of education providers or programmes if you would prefer not to.)

What we would like to know from you

We have designed this questionnaire to enable you to give us information about the Standards of Proficiency: how well do they work in the context of education? Do they ensure that applicants have the required skills before they can register? Are they meaningful in the education environment? Are there gaps in the standards? Or are there standards which have become redundant?

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If you find that you have additional comments to make, which the questions do not allow you to share, please feel free to include them as part of your answer to the final question, or to email these to us.

When you are putting together your answer, the more information you can give us about why you have this opinion about the standards, the more helpful this will be to the PLG. Because the Standards of Proficiency are so central to how the HPC and the Register work, the PLG will be looking for strong evidence in order to assure itself that a change is necessary. (For example, if you feel that an area of your profession is missing from the SOPs, and an additional standard is needed, it would be very helpful if you could tell us whether you feel that this area is covered by existing approved courses, whether it forms part of other professional standards or guidelines issued by other organisations, whether it has arisen directly from a change in your profession, and how or when this change occurred.)

What happens next

The PLG will look at the responses we receive from professional bodies, and will also consider other pieces of evidence about how the standards work, and will draw upon all of this information in making its recommendations to the Council.

If the standards need to be amended, this will be the subject of a consultation.

If you are able to assist with this work, please could you send your response to info@hpc-uk.org by XX/XX/05.

We are very grateful for your help with this important review.

Finding out more about the review

If you have any questions about the project being undertaken, please don't hesitate to contact the Policy and Standards team at HPC:

Policy & Standards,
Health Professions Council,
Park House,
184 Kennington Park Road,
London,
SE11 4BU

Rachel Tripp, Policy Manager
rachel.tripp@hpc-uk.org
0207 8409 760

Information about the work of the professional liaison group will be posted on the HPC's website here:
www.hpc-uk.org/aboutus/professionalliaisongroups/sops/

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Visitors' questionnaire

Section 1 Your details

1.1 Name Type your name here
1.2 Profession Please select your profession
1.3 Registration number Please type your registration number here
1.4 Number of visits you have attended to date:
Please select from this drop-down list

Section 2 Using the standards

2.1 What has been your experience of how education providers enable those who complete the programme to meet the generic standards?
Please type your response in here. This box will expand as you type into it.

2.2 What has been your experience of how education providers enable those who complete their programme to meet the profession-specific standards for your profession?
Please type your response in here. This box will expand as you type into it.

Section 3. Visiting education providers

3.1 Have you recommended any conditions for a programme against SET 4.1, ('The learning outcomes must ensure that those who successfully complete the programme meet the Standards of Proficiency for their part of the Register')?
Please select from the list below
If yes, please go to question 3.2
If no, please go straight to question 4

3.2 Which parts of the Standards of Proficiency were not met by the programme(s)?
Please type your response in here. This box will expand as you type into it.

3.3 What conditions did you recommend? (I*f you do not have your report to hand, please just let us know the education provider, programme title, and approximate date of the visit, and we will look up your visitors report. If you have access to your recommended condition, and can put brief details here, this will save us time in collating responses – thank you*)
Please type your response in here. This box will expand as you type into it.

3.4 Do you have any additional comments to make about the standards you have outlined above, or about why, in your opinion, the programme(s) did not meet them?
Please type your response in here. This box will expand as you type into it.

Section 4. Additional comments

In this section, we would welcome any additional comments that you would like to make about your experience of using the Standards of Proficiency in the context of education.
Please type your response in here. This box will expand as you type into it.

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Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. Your input is very much appreciated.

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