

Memo

To: All staff
From: Professor Dinesh Arya, Chief Psychiatrist
Date: 23 September 2024

Subject: New Statutory Approval Process

The statutory approval process to become Approved Personnel under the *Mental Health Act 2013* has been updated, **effective from 23 September 2024**. The revision aims to simplify the process and make it less cumbersome for clinicians. The new approval process is outlined below:

Approved Medical Practitioner (AMP)

To become AMP under the Mental Health Act, the applicants are required to submit:

1. [The revised request form](#)
2. AMP online competency certificate.

Every five years, AMPs with continuous employment over these five years will be automatically reappointed as AMPs without needing to reapply.

AMPs (including locums) without a continuous period of appointment returning to the Tasmanian Health Service within 12 months, will also be reappointed without need to repeat the training.

Mental Health Officer (MHO)

To become MHO under the Mental Health Act, the applicants are required to submit:

1. [The revised request form](#)
2. MHO online competency certificate
3. A photograph for MHO ID card.

Approval for MHOs will be granted for five years, consistent with the current process.

Approved Nurse

To become Approved Nurse under the Mental Health Act, the applicant is required to submit:

1. [The revised request form](#)
2. Approved Nurse online competency certificate.

In future nurses must apply to the Chief Psychiatrist to become an Approved Nurse (regardless of their qualifications).