

Position Description

Position title:	General Manager, Policy and Government Relations
Division:	Policy and Government Relations
Location:	National Office, Camberwell – Melbourne
Reports to:	CEO
Approved by:	CEO
Date approved:	June 2020

About us

The Australian Physiotherapy Association (APA) is the peak body representing the interests of over 28,000 physiotherapists and their patients. The APA believes that all Australians should have access to quality physiotherapy, when and where required, to optimise health and wellbeing.

The APA advocates for access to quality physiotherapy services, providing leadership in the wider health landscape, creating lifelong information and learning opportunities for members, and promoting the value of physiotherapy to the community.

The APA is proud to have a great working culture and it is underpinned by our values:

- professional
- excellence
- united
- community minded
- visionary

More information at australian.physio

About the role

The General Manager, Policy and Government Relations is a member of the executive leadership team, reporting to the CEO and with regular interactions with the National President. It leads the formation and delivery of the policy and advocacy strategy for the organisation, operationalisation of key pieces of policy work and relationship building with various stakeholders, including members, Ministers, parliamentarians, health organisations etc.

Responsibilities:

- understand the broader healthcare landscape in Australia, including opportunities and barriers to the advancement of the physiotherapy profession
- identify ways the APA can advance physiotherapy through policy and advocacy
- develop a fit-for-purpose policy and advocacy strategy for the APA to drive the achievement of organisational goals
- resource and operationalise the strategy with efficiency
- build and develop relationships with key stakeholders, internally and externally, to deliver policy and advocacy outcomes
- enable stakeholders, including engaged members, office bearers and Directors, to advocate effectively on the profession's behalf
- constantly 'keep the finger on the pulse' and be up-to-date with key physiotherapy, healthcare and political issues
- lead a team of policy and advocacy professionals in adherence with the APA's cultural values
- The position will require occasional interstate travel and attendance at meetings outside standard working hours.

About you

You will need:

- tertiary qualifications in health policy, public health, economics or similar
- deep experience in policy leadership in a healthcare-based organisation
- thorough understanding and knowledge of the Australian health sector
- proven skills in synthesising workable solutions to complex issues
- ability to work with professionals on structural and systemic issues that affect their ability to deliver high quality services
- ability to work within a context of change and ambiguity and identify potential solutions within this context
- demonstrated skills and confidence in presenting indicative solutions to panels of peers
- proven experience in reporting to and working with a Board of Directors
- strong leadership qualities and team building skills
- a relationship-focused approach, with the ability to build and nurture relationships with various stakeholders
- team focus and the drive to support the values of the organisation
- the ability to effectively prioritise work in a high-pressure environment
- excellent written and verbal communication skills, and experience preparing board papers, briefs and background analyses