

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title:	Policy Advisor Physiotherapy (0.8 – 1 FTE)
Division:	Policy and Government Relations
Location:	National Office, Melbourne
Reports to:	General Manager, Policy and Government Relations
Date approved:	January 2019

Organisational context

The Australian Physiotherapy Association (APA) is the peak body representing the interests of over 24,000 physiotherapists in Australia. It does so by advocating for access to quality physiotherapy services, providing leadership in the wider health landscape, creating lifelong information and learning opportunities for members, and working with stakeholders to support members' interests.

Main purpose of the position

To help APA members define public policy barriers to the provision of sustainably safe, high quality physiotherapy; help members construct viable alternatives and help members develop strategies to promote these alternatives to critical stakeholders.

You will:

- facilitate the member identification and definition of structural and systemic barriers to safe, high quality physiotherapy, especially when practised at an advanced level
- facilitate member development and documentation of options for structural and systemic change that can be championed by the APA
- support of members as they participate in consultations on public policy issues, including the (co)design and re-design of funding programs that support the provision of physiotherapy
- support members in articulating the value of physiotherapy
- understand the engagement of the APA and our members with Local, State, and Federal Government agencies
- support physiotherapists who are participating in reviews and inquiries likely to have a substantive impact on the APA's strategy
- provide secretariat support for APA committees, working parties and meetings in the health policy
- collaborate with staff in teams across the APA to ensure the organisational strategy and tactics being used to pursue policy goals align with those occurring in professional education, communications and marketing .

Skills, Knowledge and Experience

- the ability to work with professionals on structural and systemic issues that affect their ability to deliver high quality services
- the ability to work within a context of change and ambiguity and identify potential solutions within this context
- sound knowledge of the Australian health sector, particularly the ways in which health funding schemes operate
- excellent written and verbal communication skills, and experienced in preparing briefs and background analyses
- sound skills and experience in rapidly appraising large volumes of information and deriving critical issues from it
- demonstrated skills and confidence in presenting indicative solutions to panels of peers
- experience in working independently on substantive problems and collaborating in a team-oriented environment
- the ability to effectively prioritize and execute tasks in a high-pressure environment
- experience in a policy-related position after practice as an allied health clinician is considered an advantage.

Special Requirements

The position will require occasional interstate travel and attendance at meetings outside standard working hours including two weekend National Advisory Council meetings per year, for which time in lieu will be accrued with the approval of the General Manager, Policy and Government Relations.

Decision Making

All positions are bound by the Association's general operating, human resources management and finance policies and procedures including the delegations schedule.