



Consultation Paper:

Development of an Intellectual Disability Health Capability Framework



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Thank you for taking the time to contribute to this process and to those who have already contributed to the development of the Intellectual Disability Health Capability Framework.

Your experiences, thoughts and expert advice are highly valued.

Section 1: Context

Background to the Intellectual Disability Health Capability Framework

The Department of Health and Aged Care (the Department) is leading the Intellectual Disability Health Curriculum Development Project, a short-term action under the [National Roadmap for Improving the Health of People with Intellectual Disability](#). A key component of the project is the development of an Intellectual Disability Health Capability Framework (the Framework) in collaboration with people with intellectual disability, their families, carers and support workers, First Nations peoples, accreditation bodies, universities, health professionals and academic experts.

The purpose of the Framework is to set out clear core capabilities (the Capabilities) and learning outcomes regarding health care for people with intellectual disability. The Framework also includes implementation guidelines, tools, and resources to support:

- accreditation authorities to integrate the Capabilities within health professional accreditation standards, and
- education providers to integrate intellectual disability health care principles into their current pre-registration education curricula.

The ultimate aim is to prepare graduates with the required capabilities to provide the highest quality care to people with intellectual disability throughout their future health professional careers.

What is the purpose of this consultation?

This is the second open consultation for this project (the first asked for feedback on the core capabilities). The purpose of this consultation process is to seek your feedback on the draft Framework. Your feedback will help us further improve and finalise the Framework.

To view the Framework and provide your feedback, please go to the Department's [Consultation Hub](#).

What has been the process of developing the draft Framework?

The Framework has been developed by the Department, in collaboration with a drafting group consisting of members from:

- the Department of Developmental Disability Neuropsychiatry (3DN), School of Clinical Medicine, UNSW Medicine & Health, Discipline of Psychiatry and Mental Health
- the Paramedic Unit, College of Medicine and Public Health, Flinders University
- the Australian Medical Council
- the School of Medicine and Dentistry, Griffith University
- the Department of Medical Education, Melbourne Medical School.

The development of the Capabilities and Framework have been informed by:

- interviews and focus groups with people with intellectual disability, their families, carers and support workers, First Nations peoples, and academic, accreditation and professional experts
- a survey with academic, accreditation and professional experts
- a public open consultation on the draft Capabilities
- a Delphi survey with experts in intellectual disability health and education to reach consensus on the final list of Capabilities
- discussions with an expert advisory group at each stage of the development process.

Section 2: The Framework

A copy of the draft Framework is available on the [Consultation Hub](#). It is aimed at accreditation authorities and pre-registration education providers. It contains the Capabilities, learning outcomes and implementation guidelines.

To note:

- After extensive consultation as outlined above, consensus on the Capabilities has been reached using the Delphi method and as such no further changes will be made.
- We plan to include artworks by people with intellectual disability and quotes.
- We plan to cross-reference the learning outcomes.
- The Executive Summary will be written once the content of the Framework is finalised.
- Once finalised, the draft Framework will be formatted into a downloadable document by graphic designers. Below are further details about the release of the Framework and resources that will follow to support its implementation.

Section 3: Consultation

Please complete the survey on the Department's [Consultation Hub](#). For your reference, we will ask you questions on the:

- learning outcomes
- implementation guidelines
- capacity assessment tools
- terms and language used in the Framework.

What's next?

A summary of the findings from this consultation will be publicly released and may include de-identified responses from submissions. The feedback from the consultation will be used to refine the Framework before finalisation.

Further consultations with First Nations peoples and organisations are currently taking place to explore their thoughts and perspectives on the learning outcomes and elements of the Framework. We are also holding a focus group with people with a lived experience of intellectual disability to ask their thoughts on design elements and what people with intellectual disability will want to know about the Framework. This will inform an Easy Read summary factsheet about the Framework.

The Framework is planned for release in early 2024. The next stage of the Intellectual Disability Health Curriculum Development Project is to curate and produce a more comprehensive set of tools and resources to support accreditation authorities and pre-registration education providers to implement the Framework.

For more details about the project, please contact IntellectualDisability@Health.gov.au.