Expressions of Interest
Midwifery Education Advisory Committee (MEAC)

The Australian College of Midwives (ACM) is seeking midwives and midwifery students who are interested in joining the Midwifery Education Advisory Committee (MEAC).

The committee would like to ensure that midwifery representation is present from all areas that deliver or are impacted by education. This includes, but is not limited to university lecturers, researchers, clinical educators, clinical midwives and midwifery students.

MEAC Purpose
There are ongoing challenges to address core midwifery education in Australia requiring the active involvement of the ACM. The Midwifery Education Advisory Committee provide advice and make recommendations to the ACM on these matters and, where necessary, liaise with the ACM's Professional Development Advisory Committee (PDAC), which provides advice and guidance on the development, implementation and progress of continuing professional development (CPD) programs.

The role of the Committee is to:
- provide expert advice to the ACM via the ACM's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) on matters relating to midwifery education;
- provide expert advice and support to the CEO on methods to utilise national and international policies and developments in midwifery education, thus assisting with the ongoing development of midwifery education in Australia;
- recommend ways in which the ACM can effectively contribute to the ongoing development of midwifery education in Australia;
- undertake specified tasks or projects as requested by the CEO, such as drafting ACM policies on midwifery education, supporting ACM delegates when preparing for International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) meetings, responding to requests for information and advice relating to midwifery education, and other relevant projects;
- represent the ACM, either as an individual or a group, when requested to do so by the CEO on matters of relevance to midwifery education;
- liaise with various international midwifery education organisations on behalf of the ACM;
- provide input to the CEO on the selection of experts representing the ACM on national/international committees;
- liaise with other ACM committees through the Chair as matters arise; and
- carry out this role in a culturally-safe manner, demonstrating respect and understanding of a wide variety of cultural beliefs and practices.

Appointment
As per the TOR the appointment is for a period of 3 years.

Members will need to undertake a membership renewal EOI process at the end of their first term, thus reconfirming their commitment to the Committee and the Committee obligations. Re-appointment to the Committee will be dependent on a successful EOI being completed, as well as, evidence being noted of active participation in Committee meetings and project work over the period of the previous appointment.

Meetings
MEAC meets quarterly by Zoom or teleconference however a majority of work is undertaken by email.

The current meeting schedule is as follows

Month: February, May, August, November
Day: 2nd Tuesday
Time: 14:00 AEST/AEDT
Expressions of Interest
Midwifery Education Advisory Committee
(MEAC)

Transparency
Names and profiles of members will be communicated to ACM members via e-bulletin, website and social media. This is to ensure transparency of governance and inform members of ACM activity.

Expectations
- Members should be prepared to attend all scheduled meetings for the Committee, with a minimum of 50% attendance per year to maintain Committee membership;
- Members should be prepared to actively participate in all dialogue that occurs “out of session” pertaining to Committee business, which may on occasion require a quick response. E.g. regularly check email correspondence and promptly respond to requests, even if this is to say "I’m sorry I can't contribute!". This information will inform decisions related to continued membership of the committee;
- In busy periods you may anticipate the need to dedicate approximately 1-2 hours per week to the committee;
- Contribute to or lead committee work which may include providing opinions on courses or web pages, commenting on documents, contributing to submissions, writing for the Australian Midwifery News, etc.

What's in it for you?
- You will receive a letter of acknowledgement of your appointment to the ACM MEAC which can be used in your professional portfolio;
- You can add this role to your CV as evidence of your professional engagement and personal/professional development;
- You can log all hours that you undertake attending meetings or addressing work for the MEAC in your professional portfolio as CPD hours;
- You will have access to resources and engagement with fellow health professionals with expertise in the field of midwifery education;
- You will have the opportunity to help guide Midwifery Education developments and change;
- You will gain experience in working on a Committee and there may be opportunities to represent the ACM at local or national events;
- You will build up your personal/professional network by working with your midwifery peers.

Selection Criteria
The MEAC is a skills-based committee with appointments made against the following criteria:

1. be a current financial member of the ACM;
2. be registered as a midwifery student* or midwife with AHPRA. Midwives need to be able to meet recency of practice requirements. Students must be in at least their 2nd year of a Bachelor of Midwifery program and be registered as such with AHPRA;
3. have experience in, or a capacity to represent midwives with regards to midwifery education (a student representative need only have an interest in this area but be willing to represent at a university level);
4. have a well-developed capacity to analyse research evidence and other sources of information relating to midwifery education;
5. have access to an active email account; and
6. be willing to donate time and expertise to the scheduled meetings and activities undertaken by the committee, on behalf of the ACM and as outlined in the Committee’s TOR.

MEAC Terms of Reference
Download the TOR here
Expressions of Interest
Midwifery Education Advisory Committee
(MEAC)

For further information
Please contact Kirsty Andermahr on education@midwives.org.au or 08 7129 4431.

To apply
You will need to send the following details:
- Current CV
- Written response to all of the Selection Criteria

Send to: education@midwives.org.au

Process for selection
- Once applications are received they will be reviewed for completeness. An incomplete application will not be considered.
- Completed applicants that have addressed the selection criteria will be sent to the Midwifery Advisor Education Unit & the current MEAC Chair for review.
- Approved applications will be submitted to the ACM CEO for approval.
- Successful applicants will be recruited to the MEAC in readiness for the next available meeting.
- Unsuccessful applicants will be contacted and advised of the reasoning for their application not being approved.
- Ideally the process will take no more than 6 weeks from receipt of application. ACM will advise if there are any anticipated delays.