



Quality
Innovation
Performance

NSQHS Standards accreditation

Quality Innovation Performance Limited (QIP) is a not-for-profit accreditation organisation dedicated to supporting health and community services in managing safety, risk, and quality through accreditation, certification, and quality assurance services.

QIP is approved by the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (the Commission) as an accrediting agency under the Australian Health Service Safety and Quality Accreditation (AHSSQA) Scheme.

The AHSSQA Scheme

The AHSSQA Scheme provides national coordination for accreditation processes across Australian health services, involving assessments against the National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) Standards (second edition).

The NSQHS Standards

The NSQHS Standards, developed by the Commission, drive the implementation of safety and quality systems and enhance the quality of healthcare in Australia.

The NSQHS Standards provide a nationally consistent statement

about the level of care consumers can expect from health service organisations.

QIP makes accreditation against the NSQHS Standards a streamlined and personalised process.

Who requires accreditation?

All hospitals, licensed day procedure services, and most public dental services across Australia are required to be accredited to the NSQHS Standards.

The Commission announced accreditation under the mandatory Cosmetic Surgery Standards will commence early 2025.

Where cosmetic surgery is performed in a service already accredited to the NSQHS Standards, that service will continue to be assessed to the NSQHS Standards and will also be required to implement and be assessed to a small number of actions from the Cosmetic Surgery Standards, that address the specific safety and quality risks unique to cosmetic surgery.



Cosmetic Surgery Module

For organisations already accredited to the NSQHS Standards, the Cosmetic Surgery Module integrates seamlessly and includes an additional five standards and 20 actions not covered by the NSQHS Standards, including:

- Clinical Governance (8 additional actions)
- Partnering with Consumers (6 additional actions)
- Medication Safety (3 additional actions)
- Comprehensive Care (2 additional actions)
- Recognising and Responding to Acute Deterioration (1 additional action)

This mechanism will enable a service to demonstrate compliance against both the NSQHS Standards and the Cosmetic Surgery Standards, while undergoing only one assessment process.

Short-notice assessments

The Commission introduced short-notice assessments, replacing announced and voluntary short-notice assessments for all health service organisations where licensing requires accreditation to the NSQHS Standards.

Short-notice assessments ensure outcomes accurately reflect daily practices, helping hospitals and day procedure services improve safety and quality processes.

For health services that fall outside of the Commission's licensing requirements, mandated short-notice assessments do not apply, unless the governing regulator or funding body specifies this as a requirement.

Multi-Purpose Services (MPS) Program

The Multi-Purpose Services (MPS) Program, a joint initiative by the Australian Government and state and territory governments, integrates health and aged care services for small, regional, and remote communities.

Recognised by the Australian Government, MPS facilities are assessed against the NSQHS Standards and the MPS Aged Care Module, which integrates specific aged care quality requirements without separate assessments against the Aged Care Quality Standards.

The MPS Aged Care Module specifies six actions to meet specific aged care quality requirements not covered by the NSQHS Standards, ensuring streamlined compliance and high standards of care across all services provided.

NSQHS Standards for Ambulance Health Services

QIP offers accreditation against the NSQHS Standards tailored specifically for Ambulance Health Services. This application of the NSQHS Standards ensures that ambulance services maintain the highest standards of safety and quality across diverse operational settings.

The Ambulance Health Services module is aligned with the core standards and actions that apply to other healthcare services, with modifications to recognise the unique operational needs of ambulance operations.

Accreditation to these standards demonstrates a commitment to excellence in pre-hospital care and patient transport, positioning safety and quality at the forefront of ambulance service delivery.

Why choose QIP ?

QIP supports your organisation throughout the accreditation journey by providing:

- A dedicated QIP Client Liaison team on hand to provide personalised assistance at every stage of your accreditation journey
- Access to the QIP accreditation hub, which includes:
 - Our user friendly AccreditationPro self-assessment tool
 - Our extensive online education and resource library, offering interpretive guides, customisable templates, fact sheets, checklists, and complimentary e-learning
- Regular QIP Communications to help you stay up-to-date with industry and organisational news, helpful tips and your standards information with QIP communications, including periodical e-newsletters advising of any changes to processes, systems, standards or evidence requirements as they are released
- Marketing collateral to promote your accredited status including a framed A3 certificate, display stickers, customisable media release and digital files.



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