

AMDRAS Board Newsletter

OCTOBER 2025

Welcome to the October 2025 edition of the AMDRAS Board Newsletter.

In this edition:

- **Transition Update:** Most former RMABs now fully recognised under AMDRAS — see which providers have achieved RTP and RAP status.
- **Revised Standards Released:** Key changes to the AMDRAS Standards.
- **National Mediation Conference 2025 Recap:** Highlights, insights, and moments of inspiration from Sydney.
- **New FDRP Protocol:** Launch of the Alternative Pathway Protocol and AMDRAS Registers.
- **RAP & RTP Application Deadlines:** Important reminders for providers finalising accreditation.
- **Elder Mediation Accreditation:** Recognition of a new specialist field and what it means for practitioners.
- **2025 AGM & Board Nominations:** Invitation to nominate for the AMDRAS Board — help shape the future of AMDRAS accreditation.
- **Here to Help:** How to get in touch with the AMDRAS Board for support or feedback.

With the 1 July transition date now passed, the AMDRAS Board is pleased to report that a vast majority of our NMAS Recognised Mediator Accreditation Bodies (RMABs) are now designated Recognised Providers under AMDRAS, with a handful currently working with the Board's Application Assessment Committee to obtain final approvals.

A list of all authorised Recognised Providers is now published on the AMDRAS website, including details of those that have been designated RTP and/or RAP status. The list also details the RTPs that have been approved to deliver the Certificate of Training (COT), Certificate of Assessment (COA) and/or Practicum Certificate. [Recognised Providers - AMDRAS](#)

Revised Standards – Summary of changes

The Board has recently approved amendments to the AMDRAS Standards. These revisions have primarily been driven by the Board's need to respond to issues and questions that have arisen during the review of applications for accreditation of RAPs and RTPs. Nevertheless, the Board thanks those practitioners and providers who have provided other informal feedback. The Board has also taken the opportunity to address some minor formatting and typographical inconsistencies.

A summary of the changes can be found here [Revision](#)

The Revised Standards can be viewed here [Standards](#)

National Mediation Conference

The AMDRAS Board was proud to be the **Principal Collaborator** of the 2025 National Mediation Conference in Sydney.

Across three and a half days, more than 350 mediators and dispute resolution professionals came together for dialogue, learning, and connection. From the incredible opening keynote by Dr Monique Williams - urging us to see violence as a contagion that must be addressed with the same urgency as any epidemic - to the final reflections on practice and community, reminded us of the power of this profession to craft safer, kinder, and more connected futures.

Conference highlights included:

- Powerful keynotes and sessions that challenged us to reframe, reimagine, and renew our practice.
- Practical actions and stories of impact shared by practitioners across diverse contexts.
- The launch of the new AMDRAS National Register and conversations about the evolving accreditation framework.
- Hundreds of meaningful connections made at the AMDRAS stand where many of you contributed your ideas and shared your enthusiasm for the future of accreditation.
- We thank the NMC Organising Committee, facilitators, and presenters for creating such a dynamic and thought-provoking program.
- Most of all, we thank each of you who brought your wisdom, questions, and energy to the conference. The conversations and connections sparked here will continue to guide us long after the event.

Announcement on the Launch of the FDRP Protocol

The AMDRAS Board has released a new **Alternative Pathway Protocol – Certificate of Training for Family Dispute Resolution Practitioners (FDRPs)**, to provide clarity and guidance for Recognised Providers (RPs) about how the training and qualifications of accredited FDRPs conform to AMDRAS. The Protocol offers guidance for RPs considering Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and professional experience for FDRPs seeking AMDRAS accreditation (who are not currently AMDRAS accredited).

The protocol outlines how existing qualifications and registration can meet the Certificate of Training (COT) requirements through two pathways — one for FDRPs accredited before **30 June 2025**, and another for those with recent qualifications issued from **1 July 2024** onward. This ensures fairness, consistency, and recognition of professional expertise while maintaining the integrity and standards of AMDRAS accreditation.

Criteria for the Alternative Pathway Protocol for FDRPs can be found here [FDRP Protocol](#)

Recognised Provider Applications Update

Recognised Accreditation Provider (RAP) Applications

We extend our thanks to those RAPs who submitted their applications for accreditation by 30 June 2025 and remind you that the additional 3-month grace period ended on 30 September 2025. Members who do not meet this deadline will have their AMDRAS registration suspended and will be removed from the AMDRAS register.

Recognised Training Provider (RTP) Applications

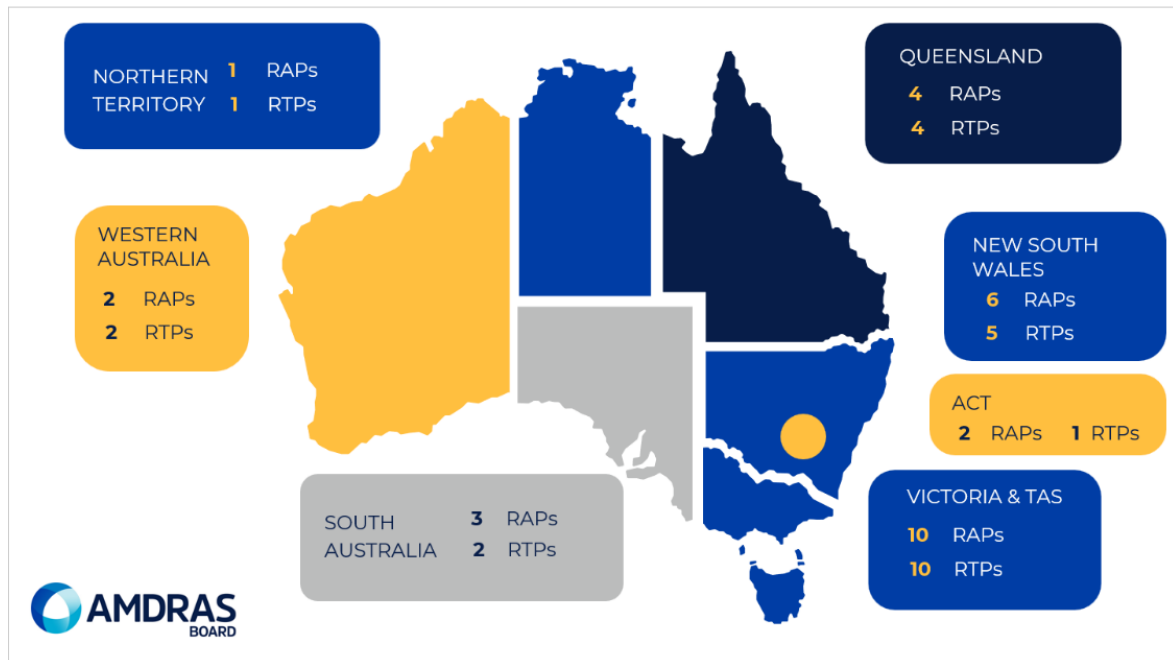
The Board thanks all members who have applied to become RTPs under AMDRAS. The Board still welcomes applications to become RTPs, but approval must be sought and granted prior to any course delivery.

If you have not applied and been approved, you cannot deliver, promote or advertise the COT, COA and/or Practicum Certificate as approved by the AMDRAS. Similarly, without AMDRAS approval, you cannot advertise training that meets the requirements and standards of the AMDRAS for accreditation as a mediator.

Recognised Providers or education/training providers needing clarification are encouraged to contact the Board promptly at info@amdras.au

Approved RAPs & RTPs

The Board is pleased to share the number of RTPs and RAPs who have successfully attained accreditation under AMDRAS.



Specialist Accreditation – Elder Mediation

As of August 2025, the Board has resolved to specify criteria for recognition under AMDRAS of specialist accreditation in Elder Mediation. The Board acknowledges Elder Mediation as a recognised field of specialisation.

Elder Mediation recognises the unique complexities involved in supporting older adults and families through disputes or difficult decision making.

Criteria for Elder Mediation accreditation can be found here [Elder Mediation Criteria](#) or on the AMDRAS website.

Nominate for a Board position

This year, the Board will host the AMDRAS Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Friday 14 November in Melbourne (and online). The official Notice & Agenda was emailed to all members on Friday 24 October 2025.

Nominations for [Board positions now open](#)

The Australian Mediator and Dispute Resolution Accreditation Standards (AMDRAS) Board is inviting nominations for election to the AMDRAS Board of Directors ahead of the 2025 Annual General Meeting, to be held on Friday 14 November 2025.

If you are passionate about the development, integrity, and advancement of mediation and dispute resolution across Australia, we encourage you to consider nominating.

AMDRAS Board Directors play a vital role in:

- Overseeing the development, maintenance and review of the **National Mediator Accreditation Standards** and the **National Register**
- Supporting and encouraging **Recognised Providers** and **training organisations** in maintaining high professional standards
- Promoting **public trust, innovation, and excellence** in dispute resolution practice
- Guiding the organisation's strategic direction, projects, and engagement with the mediation community

Directors are **voluntary positions**, with reasonable travel expenses covered. The Board meets approximately eight times per year (a mix of in-person and online), and also has committees focussed on specific projects or areas of work.

If you'd like to hear first-hand about what past directors have experienced as members of the AMDRAS Board, head to our video library [here](#).

All nominations must be submitted using the official form and supported by a Recognised Provider by COB **Friday 31 October 2025**.

- [Nominee Directors Information Pack 2025](#)
- [Nomination Form \(Word\)](#)
- [Nomination Form \(PDF\)](#)

Here to Help

The AMDRAS Board thanks all members, providers, and practitioners for their continued engagement and support. Together, we are shaping a stronger, more transparent, and more inclusive future for mediation and dispute resolution across Australia.

We welcome your questions and feedback. Please email info@amdras.au and we will respond as soon as possible.

The Board remains committed to supporting you, our community, by responding to all enquiries as soon as practicable with the volunteer resources available.