

# **Course Accreditation Standards for Pedorthic Tertiary Education Programs**



**PEDORTHIC ASSOCIATION  
OF AUSTRALIA**

**VERSION 3**

**OCTOBER 2021**

## Contents

Overview .....	4
Purpose .....	5
Governance, Structure, Resources and Environment.....	5
Education Provider.....	5
Approved Course .....	6
Course Name.....	6
Clinical, Educational and Laboratory Facilities .....	7
Access to Patients .....	9
Staffing .....	9
Delivery of Pedorthic Units.....	9
Experience and range.....	9
Higher Education .....	9
Academic and Administrative Staff.....	10
Student Experience   Student Admission .....	10
Student Representation .....	10
Curriculum .....	10
Introductory Elements of Allied Health .....	11
Pathology.....	11
Anatomy .....	11
Biomechanics .....	11
Orthoses and Orthotic Appliances.....	12
Foot Assessment .....	12
Footwear Assessment.....	12
Prescription.....	12
Custom-made manufacture of Footwear .....	13
Footwear and Orthoses Modifications .....	13
Fitting of prefabricated footwear .....	13
Product Development .....	13
Regulatory framework.....	13
Patient Care.....	14
Sales and Marketing .....	14
Management.....	14
Assessment .....	14

Education.....	15
Clinical Maturity.....	15
Accreditation Process .....	15
Applications and Assessment .....	15
Compliance.....	16
Fee .....	16
Release .....	16
Accreditation Document Review Terms .....	16
Glossary.....	16
Code Review .....	18

## Overview

Pedorthists apply a person-centred and evidence-based approach to health care provision and demonstrate a diverse range of professional attributes. They possess clinical and technical expertise, which is utilised in the provision of prefabricated and custom-made orthopaedic footwear and lower limb orthoses to minimise impairment, maximise function, improve mobility and promote health and wellbeing in patients and clients.

The field of Pedorthics is highly specialised. Practitioners require comprehensive knowledge of health and human sciences and an understanding of lower limb pathologies and high-risk foot conditions. Pedorthists are skilled in clinical assessment and the development and implementation of treatment plans. They also demonstrate technical proficiency through well-developed manual skills and a high level of craftsmanship. Additionally, pedorthists possess an aptitude for design and engineering, aesthetic awareness, and problem-solving ability. Finally, pedorthists require business acumen and practice management skills.

Course accreditation is a quality assurance process and an important component of the self-regulation of the pedorthic profession. Accreditation standards help to ensure that education providers equip students with the knowledge, skills and attributes to practise Pedorthics competently, safely and professionally. The Pedorthic Association of Australia (PAA) is responsible for accrediting a higher education provider to deliver education and training in Pedorthics.

## History

At the 2012 IVO (International Pedorthic Association) World Congress conference held in Sydney, it was officially announced that an Australian tertiary institution would implement the southern hemisphere's first and only tertiary program offering a qualification in the allied health profession of Pedorthics. The first intake of students to the Bachelor of Pedorthics was accepted in 2013, representing a significant step forward for the pedorthic profession in the Asia-Pacific region.

Before this landmark event, the Australian School of Pedorthics, a private institution, provided theoretical and technical training courses in Pedorthics. The school was overseen by the Australian Pedorthic and Medical Grade Footwear Association (APMGFA). APMGFA also managed the certification of pedorthists. Student assessment was conducted by the Registrar of Certified Pedorthists, who also undertook monitoring and re-assessment of certified pedorthists.

In 2009, a team from APMGFA visited education providers in the Netherlands, Germany, and Japan that offered well-established, high quality and sustainable pedorthic degree courses. A review of these education providers and research conducted at these institutions informed the current Standards. The APMGFA evolved into the Pedorthic Association of Australia (PAA), which took responsibility for revising and developing pedorthic certification criteria and course accreditation processes.

The Pedorthic Association of Australia (PAA) is the peak industry body for Pedorthics in the southern hemisphere. The PAA Board of Directors has drafted the Course Accreditation Standards for Pedorthic Tertiary Education Programs, which specify the minimum criteria against which an education course is assessed for accreditation. The Board of Directors is elected by members every year at the Association's Annual General Meeting.

## Purpose

The PAA Board of Directors has applied due diligence in writing and authorising of the Standards so that they:

- Assure students that a pedorthic course is safe, relevant and delivered to a high standard
- Provide safeguards for the public by ensuring graduates have appropriate qualifications, credentials and skills to practice as entry-level pedorthists
- Assure the pedorthic industry that graduates from accredited courses are competent, safe and prepared to undertake entry-level employment and become part of a sustainable workforce
- Demonstrate that an education provider delivers a course that meets the accreditation standards and continually seeks to improve the quality of education provided
- Guarantee that an education provider offers a program that fulfils the needs of the pedorthic profession and the community and are not mere additions to existing academic programs and facilities.

## Governance, Structure, Resources and Environment

### Education Provider

- The education provider holds current registration with TEQSA (Tertiary Education and Quality Standards Agency) as an Australian university or other higher education provider.
- The education provider holds current registration as a Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS) provider, where relevant, for visa classification.
- The education provider has a clearly articulated academic governance structure that illustrates academic oversight of the program and promotes high-quality teaching and learning, scholarships, research, and ongoing evaluation, including a relevant program advisory committee that demonstrates a partnership with key stakeholders.
- The higher education provider has established frameworks to facilitate course delivery and provide a safe, positive and rewarding student experience.
- The accredited course has its own mission, objectives, goals, strategic plan and competencies that reflect those of the higher education provider, the profession and community needs.

### Approved Course

- The program is approved by the education provider and meets AQF requirements for a minimum level 7 award.
- The program is registered on CRICOS as an approved course for international students.

### Course Name

The title of the program and the award title must include the term “Pedorthics” and only emphasise the profession of Pedorthics.

## Clinical, Educational and Laboratory Facilities

The clinical, educational and laboratory facility requirements for a higher education provider offering a recognised program in Podorthotics are listed in the table below. Unless otherwise stated, the facilities can be common purpose areas.

Facility	Requirement	Specifications
<b>1. Clinical</b>	1.1 A private patient/clinician assessment / fitting area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Desk and clinician chair.</li> <li>- Forms and documents.</li> <li>- Elevated assessment chair with platform for the patient to stand on and bench for supine/ prone assessment.</li> <li>- Assessment aids including but not limited to goniometer, foot skeleton, diagrams, pedograph, foam impression boxes, and non-plaster casting equipment.</li> </ul>
	1.2 A gait analysis area with standard and advanced equipment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A space of suitable area of length and width to allow for walking over short distances.</li> <li>- Advanced assessment and analysis tools to perform plantar pressure mapping and in-shoe pressure mapping.</li> <li>- Video and other digital recording and analytical equipment.</li> <li>- Walking rails.</li> </ul>
	1.3. An area for digital record keeping, note taking and discussion close to but separate from the assessment and/or gait analysis areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chairs and tables.</li> <li>- Wi-Fi connection.</li> </ul>
	1.4 Casting area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Elevated casting chair.</li> <li>- Platform for weight bearing casting.</li> <li>- Bench for supine/ prone casting.</li> <li>- Safety rails.</li> <li>- Suitable surfaces for easy cleaning.</li> <li>- Plaster traps.</li> </ul>
	1.5 Reception and waiting room.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chairs for clients.</li> <li>- Reading and health educational material.</li> </ul>
<b>2. Educational</b>	2.1 Training area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Training rooms comprising comfortable areas that consider the personal space of the students.</li> </ul>

	2.2 Research and study areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Library</li> <li>- ICT terminals</li> <li>- Other facilities that ensure adequate resources to meet curriculum expectations and enhance the student learning experience</li> </ul>
3. <b>Laboratory</b>	3.1. Work bench area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- An area of suitable size for each student to use for the entire duration of each session.</li> <li>- Adequate lighting</li> <li>- Adequate dust collection and ventilation.</li> <li>- Pedorthic bench tooling for each student to complete the tasks of shoemaking and orthoses manufacture.</li> <li>- Areas suitable for cast and last preparation and filling.</li> <li>- Storage and shelving for each student whilst working on footwear and orthoses.</li> </ul>
	3.2 Machinery area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- An area of suitable size for each student to use to complete operational tasks with adequate lighting, dust collection and ventilation.</li> <li>- Grinding, brushing, finishing machinery and tools with attachments suitable to complete the tasks of shoemaking.</li> <li>- Heating and vacuum forming equipment suitable to complete the tasks of orthoses manufacture.</li> <li>- Clicking (cutting) equipment suitable to complete the tasks of shoemaking and orthoses manufacture.</li> <li>- Stitching equipment suitable to complete the tasks of shoemaking and orthoses manufacture.</li> <li>- Lockable storage area for each student for project pieces.</li> <li>- Suitable storage for each student for footwear and orthoses between classes.</li> </ul>
	3.3 Material storage Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A suitable area where prefabricated footwear, shoemaking and orthotic materials are kept, and stock is monitored.</li> </ul>



### Access to Patients

The higher education provider can demonstrate that it has the resources to identify and engage patients who will provide consent for the student to safely practice the skills and knowledge required of a Pedorthist under appropriate supervision by staff. In addition, the higher education provider must demonstrate it has access to a wide variety of patient conditions and treatment objectives to achieve student learning outcomes and competencies.

### Staffing

The higher education provider will need to demonstrate that it has access to appropriately qualified academic, professional and support staff with knowledge, skills and experience commensurate with their roles to ensure effective development and delivery of the course.

### Delivery of Pedorthic Units

Staff responsible for delivery of pedorthic units should hold one of the following pedorthic qualifications:

- Certified Pedorthist Custom Maker, Australia (CPedCM Au)
- Orthopaedic Shoemaker Meister, Germany, The Netherlands, Austria & Switzerland
- Certified Pedorthist Master Craftsman, Canada (C.Ped MC)

As Pedorthics is an emerging and highly specialised field, pedorthic educators and trainers may not hold academic qualifications but have demonstrated vocational skills, knowledge and professional experience that are essential to ensure competent and high calibre graduates.

### Experience and range

Staff responsible for delivery of pedorthic units should have the following professional experience:

- Five years of continuous clinical and practical work in private or public practice of more than 20 hours per week.
- Demonstrated management of a significant patient caseload and treatment of a wide variety of conditions affecting the lower limb.

### Higher Education

Staff responsible for delivery of pedorthic units should have the following educational background:

- Holds appropriate educational qualifications
- Demonstrated record of teaching, training and course delivery that is learner-centric and research-informed.
- Can employ a range of teaching strategies to achieve effective student learning.
- Demonstrated history in the delivery of one-on-one hand skills and practical training.

### Academic and Administrative Staff

The higher education provider will need to show a detailed staff plan, including professional development opportunities, indicating sufficient academic and administrative support staff to cover curriculum and clinical practice requirements.

## Student Experience

### Student Admission

The higher education provider must show clear, consistent and equitable student admission standards and processes as appropriate to the school's academic/professional entry and consistent with immigration, English language, visa and health requirements.

### Student Support

The higher education provider must demonstrate that it offers appropriate student support, including academic, cultural and personal support services.

### Student Representation

The higher education provider will have opportunities for students to be involved in decision-making and provide feedback about course content and delivery.

## Curriculum

The course curriculum prepares students to meet the minimum standards for entry into the pedorthic profession and have the necessary knowledge and skills to apply to become Certified Pedorthists as recognised by the Pedorthic Association Australia (PAA). The course curriculum should include the following:

- Current, evidence-based content that is relevant to population health care needs.
- A combination of clinical, technical, scientific and research domains.
- Integrated clinical placements to allow the achievement of competencies across various practice areas.
- Cultural awareness, cultural competency and cultural safety are incorporated into course content.
- Clearly defined learning outcomes.

Graduates of the course should meet the Association's Criteria for Certification in Pedorthics, Competency Standards and English language requirements. The Criteria for Certification in Pedorthics and Competency Standards for Australian Professional Pedorthists are based on vocational training historically provided in Australia, the certified pedorthist program in North America and orthopaedic shoe technology programs in Europe.

Certified Pedorthists require the following attributes, which should reflect in the curricular framework and course content:

1. The Certified Pedorthist is required to have the appropriate ability to assess, prescribe and provide treatment regimens for a patient with pathologies, foot health issues and/or impaired mobility of the lower limb.
2. The Certified Pedorthist must possess the clinical maturity to make informed and reasoned decisions regarding a patient's medical condition/s and be capable of prescribing and producing footwear and orthotic devices.
3. The Certified Pedorthist shall work within a professional scope of practice, be capable of working collaboratively and work in a wide variety of settings.
4. The Certified Pedorthist adheres to applicable regulatory and legal frameworks and demonstrates ethical and evidence-based practice.

The curricular framework should incorporate the following areas.

### Introductory Elements of Allied Health

The curriculum should include essential elements consistent across allied health professions such as:

- Health science fundamentals
- Behavioural sciences
- Clinical pathologies
- Human movement
- Interdisciplinary practice
- Health care systems

### Pathology

Certified Pedorthists require a comprehensive understanding of diseases that impact foot health and footwear. Key diseases to be understood include but are not limited to:

- Diabetes
- Arthritis
- Bone degradation and wear
- Neuromuscular disorders
- Disorders of the paediatric foot
- Disorders of the geriatric lower limb and their impact on mobility
- Sports-related disorders of the foot and ankle

### Anatomy

Certified Pedorthists have a sound understanding of human anatomy with extensive anatomical knowledge of the foot, ankle, legs, pelvis and spine.

### Biomechanics

Certified Pedorthists demonstrate a detailed understanding of the biomechanics of the human body and how the body moves. This includes the relationship between bone, muscle, ligaments, skin and brain signal propagation for mobility.

## Orthoses and Orthotic Appliances

The Certified Pedorthist needs a detailed understanding of prescription, design, construction and application of foot and leg orthoses and orthotic appliances worn on the body to reduce or prevent deformity or provide support, relieve pain and facilitate movement. These include but are not limited to:

- Accommodative orthoses
- Functional orthoses
- Orthoses and orthotic appliances below the ankle
- Lower limb orthoses and orthotic appliances
- Compression therapy

## Foot Assessment

The Certified Pedorthist must demonstrate a very high level of skill and detailed understanding of foot assessment and assessment of related structures. Such skills and knowledge enable the Certified Pedorthist to formulate, implement, manage and evaluate a patient-centred treatment plan that includes the necessary elements for prescription, design, application, bespoke manufacture and fitting of pedorthic footwear and orthoses.

## Footwear Assessment

The Certified Pedorthist must display a very high level of skill and a detailed understanding of footwear assessment. Assessment involves footwear observation, inspection and/or recommendations regarding the current footwear's use, repair, maintenance, and functional changes to the current footwear to improve a patient's health, mobility or safety, including condemning footwear.

The Certified Pedorthist needs to apply a broad range of evidence-based assessment tools competently, possess good observational skills and demonstrate the ability to record accurate and relevant assessment documentation.

## Prescription

The Certified Pedorthist must demonstrate a very high level of skill in prescribing appropriate treatments and appliances following foot and footwear assessments. They need to be able to:

- Link pathologies, biomechanical deficits, impairments, deformities and other related lower limb conditions to the need for and specifications of:
  - Prefabricated footwear
  - Footwear modifications
  - Custom-made footwear and/or
  - Orthoses and orthotic appliances
- Incorporate knowledge of the foot and leg with the understanding and application of materials used in footwear and orthoses manufacture.

### Custom-made manufacture of Footwear

The Certified Pedorthist must demonstrate a very high level of skill in the manufacture of custom-made pedorthic footwear and orthoses in a consistent manner. Footwear and orthoses manufactured by the Certified Pedorthist need to be appropriate for a patient's anatomical, biomechanical, functional and psychological needs and align with their treatment goals, prescription and management plan. Processes include but are not limited to:

- Produce negative and positive cast for last and accommodative orthoses.
- Produce negative and positive cast for last and corrective orthoses.
- Designs, evaluate and produces patterns for custom-made pedorthic footwear.
- Produces custom-made pedorthic footwear.
- Ensures custom-made pedorthic footwear is structurally and functionally safe and complies with legislation and manufacturing guidelines and standards.
- Provides education, guidance and documentation in clear terms for the use and maintenance of custom-made pedorthic footwear.
- Evaluates fit, function, comfort, suitability, quality and safety of custom-made pedorthic footwear.
- Grades leather and evaluates other commonly used materials.

### Footwear and Orthoses Modifications

The Certified Pedorthist must demonstrate a very high level of skill in performing footwear and orthoses modifications to improve fit, function and patient mobility. These may include but are not limited to:

- Upper modification
- Sole unit modification
- Insole modification

### Fitting of prefabricated footwear

The Certified Pedorthist demonstrates a very high skill level in appropriately selecting, fitting, adjusting and reviewing prefabricated pedorthic footwear.

### Product Development

The Certified Pedorthist can develop, design, test and review new footwear, orthoses and related products. This will include conceptualising new devices and/or improvement of existing products. During the product development process, the Certified Pedorthist must be able to:

- Research and evaluate footwear and orthotic conditions, processes and products.
- Use traditional and modern instruments for assessment, design and testing.
- Understand the structure, composition and function of materials used in footwear and orthoses manufacture.

### Regulatory framework

Certified Pedorthists are aware of the regulatory and legal frameworks in which they operate and conduct themselves in a lawful, safe, ethical and evidence-based manner. This will

include scheduling by government bodies and funding provisions by government and private health funds.

### Patient Care

The Certified Pedorthist needs to establish and maintain professional and respectful relationships to achieve patient-centred care. This includes identifying effective communication strategies, awareness of cultural paradigms, and collaborating with a patient's healthcare team.

Key areas include:

- Comprehensive pedorthic assessment, prescription and treatment.
- Cultural sensitivity, inclusiveness and awareness of patient preferences, needs, rights, values and the importance of informed consent.
- Ethical, therapeutic and professional oral and written communication skills.
- Interdisciplinary collaboration.
- Documentation of all stages of patient care provision to support safe, high-quality and continuous patient care.

### Sales and Marketing

The Certified Pedorthist must be able to:

- Estimate and supply quotes for products and services.
- Develop and implement a sales or marketing plan.
- Manage sales and service delivery.
- Provide advice on products and services.
- Manage, maintain and order stock.
- Provide a high level of client service.

### Management

The Certified Pedorthist must apply administrative and management skills to practice safely and deliver high-quality pedorthic services. The Certified Pedorthist:

- Understands principles of small business management and applies related knowledge and skills in marketing, financial management, operations and human resources to monitor and manage business operations.
- Develops and maintains a quality management system to appropriate standards.
- Manages the pedorthic practice in accordance with applicable legislation and organisational policies and procedures.
- Supervises staff and delegates tasks where indicated.
- Understands the structure and functions of the Australian healthcare system.

### Assessment

Students undergo assessment to qualify as a Certified Pedorthist Custom Maker in Australia and be recognised by the Pedorthic Association of Australian (PAA) as a Certified Pedorthist Custom Maker.

## Education

Students are evaluated with reliable and valid assessment methods aligned with the Criteria for Certification in Pedorthics and Competency Standards that enable successful completion of a pedorthic program at the level of a Certified Pedorthist Custom Maker offered by an approved higher education institution. The higher education provider can demonstrate that assessment policies are clear, equitable and consistent and academic progression policies are upheld and are accessible for students.

## Clinical Maturity

Assessment shall include demonstration of a student's clinical maturity through the presentation of a case study during the final semester of study to an expert certification panel made up of representatives from the PAA, Pedorthic Registrar, higher education institution and the health profession. The case presentation allows the student to:

- Demonstrate advanced skills in working as a safe and competent pedorthic practitioner
- Demonstrate a professional level of case management skills consistent with an entry-level pedorthic practitioner
- Demonstrate competent and professional communication skills
- Demonstrate the ability to provide person-centred pedorthic advice and appliances for complex cases based on assessment skills, technical proficiency and sound clinical judgement
- Demonstrate their capacity to critically review pedorthic practice

## Accreditation Process

### Applications and Assessment

Course accreditation is available for Australasian and New Zealand tertiary programs in Pedorthics. The PAA Board of Directors coordinates the course accreditation approval process.

Applications for accreditation should be received between nine and twelve months before the commencement of any Pedorthics course. Incomplete applications will be returned unprocessed.

Applications are to be submitted to the PAA. The application for approval will be assessed by an accreditation panel chosen by the PAA Board of Directors and will include a representative of the PAA Board of Directors, the Pedorthic Registrar, Certified Pedorthists and at least one senior academic. Application assessors may request further details in order to decide on accreditation.

The PAA Board of Directors will have the sole decision-making responsibility regarding accreditation.

Following the initial assessment, including a site visit, the course will be considered for **Conditional Accreditation** if the education provider is on target with the proposed

course plans. A final assessment occurs following the graduation of the first cohort of students and, if successful, the education provider will be granted **Full Accreditation** for five years.

### Compliance

The higher education provider will demonstrate evidence of compliance in all areas of the Standards.

### Fee

The fee for a new course accreditation and the reaccreditation fee are currently under review.

### Release

Each applicant for accreditation by completing and signing the application forms thereby releases and forever discharges the PAA, its officers, employees and each of its members and their heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns of and from any and all manner of actions, causes of action, suits, dues, contracts, claims, demands, damages, costs and expenses whatsoever which the applicant ever had, now has or can, shall or may have, from or in respect of or arising out of the application, the timing of the processing of the application or the granting, refusal to grant or revocation, of accreditation (including, without limitation, the granting of accreditation based on documents submitted by an applicant which are false, incomplete or misleading).

### Accreditation Document Review Terms

This accreditation document may be reviewed from time to time but must be reviewed by the PAA Board of Directors within a four-year period.

## Glossary

The following glossary of terms applies across all PAA governance documents:

**Advice:** Provision of information, education, guidance and/or recommendations regarding foot health, foot care, footwear, pedorthic footwear and orthotic appliances.

**AGM:** Annual General Meeting.

**ANTA:** Australian National Training Authority or succeeding organisations. a statutory authority operating between 1992-2005 that focussed on vocational education and training (VET).

**Appeal:** A written request to review a PAA or APRB Committee decision.

**Appeal Committee:** A committee nominated by the PAA Board to manage the appeals process.

**Applicant:** An individual who has applied for membership with the PAA or certification/re-certification.

**APRB Committee Chair/Committee Chair:** A member of the APRB Committee responsible for administering the certification process and maintaining the pedorthic register.



**APRB Committee Members:** A managing committee of five (5) individuals nominated and endorsed at the PAA AGM. Each Committee member is elected for three (3) years.

**Australian Pedorthists Registration Board (APRB) Committee or APRB**

**Committee:** A PAA sub-committee that manages certification of pedorthists in Australia and investigates all complaints received by the PAA.

**Bachelor program:** A higher education program accredited by the PAA Board to deliver pedorthic education.

**Board of Directors:** The body responsible for governance of the PAA.

**Certification:** The formal recognition and registration process of pedorthists in Australia.

**Certification Panel:** A panel of examiners that reviews certification applications and makes a decision regarding an applicant's competency and suitability for certification.

**Certified Person:** An individual formally recognised and registered by the APRB Committee including Certified Pedorthic Retailer, Certified Pedorthist and/or Certified Pedorthist Custom Maker.

**Complaint:** Any expression of concern, dissatisfaction or disagreement with a decision or action made by the PAA, APRB, certified pedorthists or other members, the quality or delivery of service or the conduct of another person.

**Criteria for Certification in Pedorthics or Criteria:** The program prepared by the PAA which sets out the requirements and processes for pedorthic certification and re-certification in Australia.

**Custom-made:** Unique and made specifically for an individual.

**Evidence-based or evidence:** Valid and reliable information that is supported by rigorous research.

**Fabricated or fabricates:** All aspects involved in producing an orthotic appliance or pedorthic footwear. Similar terms include "manufactures", "makes" or "custom-makes."

**Informed consent or consent:** A voluntary decision by an individual agreeing to a treatment or intervention following provision of comprehensive, accurate, relevant and clear information.

**Investigating Officer** – The person delegated by the APRB Committee to investigate a complaint and provide a report to the APRB Committee Chair.

**IVO:** Internationaler Verband Orthopaedieschuhtechnik (IVO), also known as the International Association of Pedorthics, of which the PAA is a member.

**Orthotic Appliances:** An appliance worn on the body to reduce or prevent deformity or to provide support, relieve pain and facilitate movement such as foot and lower limb orthoses, foot orthotics, orthomechanical devices, ankle foot orthoses (AFOs), knee ankle foot orthoses (KAFOs), compression garments, splints, below knee walkers, controlled ankle movement (CAM) walkers, moonboots, Charcot Restraint Orthotic Walkers (CROW), ankle braces, and drop foot braces.

**Patient:** a recipient of pedorthic care, products and services. Includes terms such as client, user, recipient of service, insured person, consumer, beneficiary or participant. The term may include stakeholders who represent the patient such as carers, support people, family members, partners, workers and/or guardians.

**Patient- or person-centred care:** Care that involves identifying and understanding what is important to the patient, establishing trust and mutual respect and working together to share decision-making,

**Pedorthic Association of Australia (PAA) or Association or PAA:** A voluntary fee-based membership organisation and peak representative body for pedorthists in Australia.

**Pedorthic Footwear:** Footwear specially designed, fabricated and/ or modified to improve health and mobility, reduce discomfort and/or minimise the propensity for lower limb impairment in the future. Similar terms include medical grade, orthopaedic, therapeutic, extra-depth or surgical footwear.

**Pedorthic Register:** A list of certified persons maintained by the APRB Committee.

**Pedorthics** - The professional field concerned with the provision of pedorthic footwear, orthotic appliances and appropriate advice to a patient after assessment and analysis of the patient's condition(s). Includes the provision of prefabricated footwear, alteration and modification of prefabricated footwear, custom-designed and fabricated pedorthic footwear and orthotic appliances, and advice on the need and application of pedorthic footwear and orthotic appliances.

**Pedorthic Services:** Strategies to improve, maintain or promote patient health and mobility that includes advice regarding foot health care, footwear, and orthotic appliances and/or provision of prefabricated or custom-made pedorthic footwear, prefabricated or custom-made orthotic appliances and/or footwear modifications. Includes the terms "pedorthic care" and "pedorthic intervention."

**Pedorthist:** A person trained in Pedorthics who provides pedorthic footwear and orthotic appliances, pedorthic advice and pedorthic services.

**Practice:** Work performed in any role, whether remunerated or not, in which an individual uses their skills or knowledge to contribute to the safe and effective delivery of pedorthic services.

**Prefabricated:** Industrially manufactured and not custom-made to individual specifications. Similar terms include "ready-made", "off-the-shelf" and "over-the-counter".

**Recent:** An individual who has utilised their professional knowledge and skills in activities that meet the definition of practice since qualifying as a pedorthic retailer or pedorthist.

**Re-certification:** The process of renewing pedorthic certification in Australia.

**Registrar of Pedorthists or Registrar:** The agency that credentials individuals as certified pedorthists. The Registrar is the APRB Committee.

**Relevant Regulatory Body:** Includes any department or nominated individual, or body empowered by the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia, States and Territories and local councils.

**Review Board:** A panel of representatives from which the Certification Panel is drawn.

**TCF Training Package:** Textiles, Clothing and Footwear (TCF) Training Package Medical Grade Footwear LMT07 as endorsed by the National Training Quality Council 2008 or later versions endorsed by the relevant government authority and PAA.

**VET:** Vocational education and training.

## Code Review

Version: Version 3 (October 2021), replacing Version 2, 2018  
Revision Due: October 2025