



# Australian Health Informatics Education Council (AHIEC)

## Strategic Plan 2012 and 2013

**AHIEC is a collaboration of organisations and individuals striving to advance health informatics education and training in Australia.  
We consider that health informatics skills and knowledge are critical to improving healthcare and health outcomes.**

### **Mission**

AHIEC exists to ensure a coherent, comprehensive approach to quality health informatics education and training in Australia, in order that the health workforce is able to leverage advances in health informatics to improve health services and outcomes.

### **Roles**

AHIEC's roles comprise coordinating and facilitating activities to:

- Analyse and forecast education and training requirements and strategies
- Develop policy proposals
- Provide leadership and advocacy
- Liaise with key agencies such as Health Workforce Australia (HWA), the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA) and Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR), and training providers.

### **Key Result Areas (KRAs)**

AHIEC's areas of focus for 2012 and 2013 include:

1. Identifying current and emerging health informatics competencies
2. Reviewing Australian health informatics education and training offerings
3. Encouraging adoption of health informatics competency standards
4. Building recognition of the importance of health informatics.

### **Governance**

AHIEC is not a legal entity but a collaboration of interests. It is led and auspiced by the Australian College of Health Informatics (ACHI), the Australian Computer Society (ACS), the Health Information Management Association of Australia (HIMAA), the Health Informatics Society of Australia (HISA) and Health Level 7 Australia (HL7 Aust). It is governed by a Steering Committee comprising representatives from the above 5 auspicing organisations, together with invited observers – currently DoHA and the national E-Health Transition Authority (NEHTA). Working Committees of AHIEC undertake work as directed by the Steering Committee. Working Committee meetings are open to any individual or organisation. Further information about AHIEC's nature and governance are available at [www.AHIEC.org.au](http://www.AHIEC.org.au).



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## Activities

During 2012 and 2013, AHIEC will:

- Publish and widely promote the health informatics scope, careers and competencies document (KRA 1)
- Review its documentation of health informatics scope, careers and competencies (available at [www.AHIEC.org.au](http://www.AHIEC.org.au)) and ensure that these reflect needs and trends emerging from developments in the health sector and health informatics (KRA 1)
- Encourage use of the documented competencies by (KRAs 1, 4):
  - Health policy makers, regulators and funders
  - Education providers and curriculum developers
  - Industry training authorities at federal and state levels
  - Major employers
- Review or assist the review of existing Australian health informatics education and training against the documented competencies, and conduct a gap analysis (KRA 2)
- Develop a White Paper on the extent, nature and quality of health informatics education and training in Australia (KRA 2)
- Advocate for the Community Services and Health Industry Skills Council (CSHISC) to endorse the adoption of health informatics competencies and recommend them to the National Skills Standards Council (NSSC) (KRA 3)
- Collaborate with the Industry Skills Council to expand the competencies document into a full set of Competency Standards using the DEEWR/Industry Skills Council template for Training Packages ([https://www.cshisc.com.au/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=71&Itemid=153](https://www.cshisc.com.au/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=71&Itemid=153)) (KRAs 1, 3)
- Develop a communication strategy (KRA 4)
- Reinforce health sector recognition of the health informatics competencies via targeted marketing and communications (KRA 4)

For more information see [www.AHIEC.org.au](http://www.AHIEC.org.au).

