

Authority

This standard was approved by the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council in December 2011 pursuant to the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act*, as in force in each state and territory (the National Law) with approval taking effect from 1 July 2012

Summary

Under the National Law practitioners who were registered on 30 June 2012 with any of the Medical Radiation Practitioner Registration Boards (ACT, Tas, WA, Vic, NT, Qld) will automatically transition to the new national registration and accreditation scheme on 1 July 2012. Registration under the national scheme is required in all states and territories of Australia.

Medical Radiation Practitioners who do not automatically transition into the national scheme on 1 July 2012 must apply to be registered. You must be registered in order to practice as a medical radiation practitioner.

Under section 52 of the National Law, an individual is eligible to apply for general registration if they have successfully completed a qualification recognised under the National Law as an approved program of study, or if they hold an overseas qualification which is considered by the Board as equivalent to an approved program of study.

Section 303 of the National Law, sets out the 'grandparenting' provisions for individuals to be eligible to apply for registration to the profession but who do not hold an academic qualification gained by completing an approved program of study. These provisions apply until 1 July 2015.

The intent of the grandparenting provisions is to ensure that practitioners who are legitimately practising the profession (particularly in those jurisdictions that did not require registration) are not unjustly disadvantaged because they are not current state or territory registrants or do not hold a qualification obtained by completing an approved program of study.

Scope of application

This standard applies to all individuals seeking to apply for general registration.

Requirements

Practitioners may be qualified for registration within one or more of the following divisions:

- Diagnostic imaging/radiography;
- Radiation therapy; and
- Nuclear Medicine

An applicant for general registration must meet the eligibility requirements of the National Law, Section 52, including meeting the requirements of the approved mandatory registration standards and any requirements of the Board for supervised practice or any examination or assessment.

A person is eligible to apply for general registration under section 52(1)(a) if the individual is qualified for general registration in the profession. That is if an individual:

- a) has completed a qualification recognised by the Board as an approved program of study or
- b) holds an overseas qualification in Medical Radiation Practice recognised by the Board

Section 303(1) of the National Law states that for the purposes of section 52(1)(a), an individual who applies for registration as a Medical Radiation Practitioner before 1 July 2015 may be qualified for general registration in the profession if the individual:

- a) holds a qualification or has completed training in the profession, that the National Board considers is adequate for the purposes of practising the profession; or
- b) holds a qualification or has completed training in the profession, and has completed any further study, training or supervised practice in the profession required by the Board for the purposes of this section; or
- c) has practised the profession at any time between 1 July 2002 and 30 June 2012 for a consecutive period of 5 years or any periods together which amount to 5 years.

Section 303(1) of the National Law is referred to as the grand-parenting provisions.

Assessment of applications for general registration under grand-parenting provisions

The Board will assess applicants for general registration made in accordance with section 303(1)(a) to (c) of the grand-parenting provisions on their individual merit.

For applicants making application under 303(1)(a) or (b) the Board may also consider supporting evidence such as a Statement of Accreditation from the Australia Institute of Radiography or the Australia and New Zealand Society of Nuclear Medicine.

Applicants for registration who do not hold an approved or recognised qualification in accordance with Section 303(1)(c) of the grand-parenting provisions must provide to the satisfaction of the Board or its delegate, the following evidence in support of their application:

- A declaration from the applicant to declare that they have practised the profession for 5 years full time or

a part time equivalent between 1 July 2002 and 30 June 2012.

- A statement/s of service or other documentation from an employer/s that demonstrates five years of full time practice or part time equivalent between 1 July 2002 and 30 June 2012.
- Copies of position descriptions, certified by their employer and describing the nature of qualifications or knowledge required, skills required and duties performed and duration of employment.
- A minimum of 2 references, 1 attesting to their practice as a Medical Radiation Practitioner from a Medical Radiation Practitioner peer (practising within the 12 month period before 1 July 2012), and 1 character reference.

All documents must be certified copies. Refer to the *Certified Documents (02/2011)* guidelines accessible on the AHPRA website (www.ahpra.gov.au).

Section 80 of the National Law empowers the Board make further requests of an applicant, which includes a requirement for an applicant to undergo an examination or assessment.

Conditions of registration

Section 83 of the National Law, enables the Board to impose conditions when registering practitioners for general registration of the National Law.

The Board may refuse to grant registration on any of the grounds set out in s.82 (1)(c) of the National Law.

Definitions

Practice means any role, whether remunerated or not, in which the individual uses their skills and knowledge as a health practitioner in their profession. For the purposes of this registration standard, practice is not restricted to the provision of direct clinical care. It also includes working in a direct nonclinical relationship with clients; working in management, administration, education, research, advisory, regulatory or policy development roles; and any other roles that impact on safe, effective delivery of services in the profession and/or use their professional skills.

For the purpose of this registration standard, **practice for 5 years** refers to 5 years of full -time or equivalent part-time practice during the specified period.

Approved program of study means an accredited program of study approved under section 49(1) by the

National Board and included in the list published by the National Agency (AHPRA) under section 49(5).

As a transitional arrangement, the National Law also enables a program of study that provided a qualification for registration in a registering jurisdiction (ACT, Tas, WA, Vic, NT, Qld) to be taken to be an approved program of study as if it had been approved by the Board under the National Law.

A list of approved programs of study will be published on the AHPRA website.

Grandparenting provisions are defined as the transitional provisions outlined in section 303 of the National Law.

Review

This standard will commence on 1 July 2012. The Board will review this standard at least every 3 years

