

Registration standard

Limited registration in the public interest

Authority

This standard has been approved by the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council on 10 August 2012 pursuant to the section 12 of the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act* (the National Law) as in force in each state and territory, with approval taking effect from 10 August 2012

Summary of the registration standard

The Board has developed this registration standard to set out the requirements that a chiropractor must meet to be granted limited registration to practise as a chiropractor in the public interest, under section 68 of the National Law.

Application of the registration standard

This registration standard applies to chiropractors with international qualifications who do not qualify for general registration in Australia under the National Law.

The Board will determine whether it is in the public interest to register a chiropractor but, in general, will only register a chiropractor under this type of registration for a limited time and/or for a limited scope.

This registration standard does not apply to Australian chiropractors who have a qualification in a program of study approved by the Board, chiropractors from New Zealand who qualify for general registration in Australia via trans-Tasman mutual recognition, or those overseas-trained chiropractors who have passed an assessment of the Council on Chiropractic Education Australasia (CCEA) under section 53(c) of the National Law.

The Board would consider it in the public interest to apply this registration standard to register a chiropractor when there is an:

- unexpected situation where a natural disaster has occurred, or
- international event (including sporting events), or
- internationally-recognised expert required to demonstrate or teach a procedure, or
- overseas-qualified chiropractor seeking to participate in a workshop/seminar which involves cervical manipulation or which is attended by an overseas-qualified practitioner who wishes to use the title 'chiropractor'.

National Law requirements

All applicants granted limited registration in the public interest must comply with the requirements for registration set out in this registration standard, including:

- 1 Compliance with the requirements of section 65 on eligibility for limited registration
- 2 Chiropractic qualifications as recognised and listed by the Councils of Chiropractic Education International and/or determined to be relevant and suitable for the purpose of limited registration in the public interest
- 3 Evidence of compliance with the Board's registration standard on English language skills
- 4 Evidence of work practice history that meets the Board's registration standard on recency of practice
- 5 Confirmation that the applicant will meet the requirements of the Board's registration standard on professional indemnity insurance
- 6 Details of registration history, including certificates of good standing/registration status from each registration authority with which the applicant has been registered in the previous five years (supplied where possible directly to the Board from the relevant registration authority).
- 7 Written confirmation and detail of the:
 - a. employer/sponsoring organisation and/or sponsoring chiropractor, including contact details and
 - b. the position description and/or clinical activities that will be undertaken, including dates and locations and, in the case of a demonstration or workshop, any organisation who is sponsoring the demonstration or workshop
- 8 When registration is required for more than one month, details of a supervision plan approved by the Board explaining how supervision will be provided to ensure the chiropractor's safe practice and details of the registered chiropractor nominated as the supervisor.
- 9 When the position involves practice on members of the Australian public rather than demonstrations or participation in a course, agreement to practise only under the supervision of a nominated registered chiropractor approved by the Board and written confirmation from the proposed supervisor that he or she agrees to provide supervision and to comply with reporting requirements as specified by the Board.
- 10 Reasons why it is in the public interest to register the practitioner

- 11 Satisfactory completion of a criminal record check that meets the Board's registration standard on criminal history
- 12 Any other information the Board requires under section 70 to determine whether the practitioner is a suitable person to hold limited registration and
- 13 A declaration that the individual is not disqualified under the National Law or a law of a co-regulatory jurisdiction from applying for this type of registration.

Period of limited registration

Registration is granted for a maximum period of one month unless there are special circumstances to require limited registration for up to but not exceeding three months. Please see *Renewal of limited registration in the public interest* in this registration standard for more information.

Chiropractic qualification

The applicant must have a chiropractic qualification which is recognised and listed by the Councils of Chiropractic Education International and/or as determined to be relevant and suitable by the Board.

The Board may require the applicant to obtain a desktop assessment of his or her qualifications from the Board's accreditation authority, the Council on Chiropractic Education Australasia (CCEA) to determine whether the chiropractic qualification is relevant and suitable.

Please note: overseas-qualified chiropractors who have successfully passed a CCEA assessment are qualified for general registration under section 53(c) of the National Law. Limited registration applies to overseas-qualified chiropractors who are not qualified for general registration in Australia.

Applicants must provide evidence of their current registration status or eligibility for registration to practise chiropractic in their home jurisdiction.

The Board reserves the right to review and make determinations on individual applications through its powers under the National Law. The Board must be satisfied that the applicant's qualifications are suitable for the public interest activities proposed to ensure public safety.

Compliance requirements

Registrants with limited registration in the public interest are required to:

- comply with any supervision plan approved by the Board
- ensure that supervisors provide regular reports about the registrant's safety and competence to practise

- perform satisfactorily in the position or clinical activities specified in the application and
- restrict their practice to the position or clinical activities specified in their application.

If a practitioner with limited registration in the public interest does not maintain his or her employment or engagement in the clinical activities specified in the application, he or she is unable to comply with the requirements on practice and can no longer practise chiropractic. A chiropractor registered under this type of limited registration in the public interest is **not** able to undertake private practice of any sort.

Period of limited registration

Limited registration in the public interest is a short-term type of registration and, therefore, will be granted generally for a period of one month unless there are special circumstances to require limited registration for up to, but not exceeding, three months.

These requirements are established under this registration standard to ensure safe and competent practice for the period of limited registration.

Renewal of limited registration

Given the short-term nature of limited registration in the public interest, it is unlikely that renewal of registration will be necessary. If the public interest circumstances continue and the practitioner makes an application for renewal of registration, the following are requirements for the application to be considered by the Board:

- a. demonstration of an ongoing public interest to register the practitioner
- b. demonstrated compliance with any conditions or requirements on registration
- c. satisfactory performance in the position and
- d. any additional investigation, information, examination or assessment required by the Board in accordance with section 80 of the National Law.

Limited registration is granted for a period no more than 12 months and may be renewed three times only, as set out by section 72 of the National Law. If limited registration has been renewed three times, a chiropractor seeking limited registration may submit a new application for limited registration which will need to meet the requirements set by the Board at that time.

Refusal to renew

The Board may refuse to renew the practitioner's registration if:

- a. it is no longer in the public interest to register the practitioner
- b. the practitioner's employment/sponsorship ceases or is terminated
- c. the practitioner fails to comply with any supervision requirements and/or

- d. during any assessment or supervision, deficiencies are identified in the practitioner's practice that the Board considers significant.

The Board may also refuse renewal for any of the reasons specified in section 112 of the National Law.

Application for variation in changed circumstances

If a practitioner's circumstances change substantially, he or she must submit a new application for limited registration. However, practitioners can apply to the Board for a variation if there is a minor change to their circumstances, such as a change in supervisor.

When making an application for a variation, the Board requires details of the change of circumstances from the sponsoring employer/sponsor and confirmation from the registrant that each agrees to the change in circumstances. Supporting documentation must be submitted. If the Board considers that the variation is significant, it will require the registrant to submit a new application.

Notations on the register

Chiropractors granted limited registration in the public interest should note that the registration is granted for a particular purpose and for a limited time. The terms of the limited registration will be noted on the national register of chiropractors and any practice outside those terms is not permitted.

Application

It is recommended that applicants apply to the Board as soon as possible before registration is required to ensure timely assessment of the application.

- Applicants seeking registration under section 68 of the National Law must make a written application to the Board using the limited registration in the public interest as a chiropractor application form available at www.chiropracticboard.gov.au under *Forms*, together with supporting documents.
- It is recommended that applicants submit their application, with supporting documentation, at least two months before the position/requirement commencing, to ensure time for the application to be assessed.
- Applicants may request that the registration pre-dates their commencement of the position that is in the public interest by up to one month.
- The Board requires details of the position, including details signed by the applicant and the sponsor.
- The Board may request any additional details necessary to consider the application for registration.

Definitions

Practice means any role, whether remunerated or not, in which the individual uses his or her skills and knowledge as a health practitioner in the 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.

Supervision plan means a plan that sets out the arrangements or proposed arrangements for clinical supervision of the chiropractor applying for, or granted, limited registration.

Supervisor means a person approved by the Board to oversee a registrant under this registration standard who ensures the compliance of the registrant with all terms and conditions placed upon that registration, including the published codes and guidelines of the Board; the supervisor may also be required to ensure the registrant's compliance with an approved supervision plan, including reporting requirements to the Board.

Private practice means the provision of chiropractic services to the public on an independent and self-supporting basis.

Clinical practice means performing the duties expected of a chiropractor for a patient in a clinical setting.

Review

Date of issue: This registration standard will commence on 10 August 2012

Date of review: This registration will be reviewed at least every three years from date of issue

Last reviewed: 10 August 2012