

Authority

This registration standard has been approved by the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council on 20 December 2011 under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory (the National Law).

Summary

Section 69 of the National Law on limited registration for teaching or research allows the Dental Board of Australia (the Board) to register dental practitioners in order to fill teaching or research positions.

This registration standard sets out the requirements, under section 69 of the National Law, for the Board to register dental practitioners with overseas qualifications who are not qualified for general registration. These limited registrants will be in an employment relationship with a registered training organisation or a recognised research facility in order to be eligible for consideration.

This registration standard sets out both the initial and the ongoing requirements of limited registration for teaching or research.

Scope of application

This registration standard applies to overseas-trained dental practitioners who are applying for limited registration in order to fill a teaching or research position, under section 69 of the National Law, or for renewal of limited registration for teaching or research under part 7 division 9 of the National Law.

Requirements

The Board requirements for limited registration for teaching and research are:

1. Compliance with the requirements of section 65 of the National Law – ‘Eligibility for limited registration’.
2. A dental practitioner qualification of equivalent duration to an Australian graduate in the division of the Register of Dental Practitioners for which registration is being sought. The Board will apply the following minimum requirements:
 - Dentist – four years full-time.
 - Dental prosthetist – three years full-time including dental technician course.
 - Oral health therapist – bachelor degree three years full-time.
 - Dental therapist and dental hygienist – two years full-time or dual-qualified three years full-time.

For specialists, the minimum requirement is four years general training and two years post-general qualification practice, plus a three year full-time course in a dental specialty.

3. Evidence of current registration to practise clinical dentistry and, where the applicant’s qualification was awarded more than three years before the date of application, evidence that the applicant has practised clinical dentistry for a minimum of 250 hours per year for the past three years.
4. Practice only in accordance with the Board’s *Guidelines on supervision* and comply with the planning or supervision requirements (as set out in the Board’s *Guidelines on supervision*), if required.
5. Compliance with the relevant registration standards, codes and guidelines of the Board.
6. A written description of the employment position, with verification from the employer, of the teaching or research position (inclusive of the details of practice which the limited registrant will undertake), which is approved by the Board (the approved position description).
7. A limited registrant is not able to undertake private practice.

Length of registration period

Limited registration for teaching and research is inextricably linked to the employment of the dental practitioner in a teaching or research position. In accordance with section 72 of the National Law, the Board will publish the limited registration period on its website. Where the approved teaching or research position ceases or is terminated, the limited registration for teaching and research will end after 30 days.

Ability to renew limited registration

Limited registration, as set out in section 72 of the National Law, must be renewed annually and can be renewed a maximum of three times. After this time, a new application for limited registration can be made and will need to meet the requirements of this registration standard, and any other registration requirements as set by the Board at that time.

Board’s ability to refuse to renew limited registration for teaching or research

The Board may refuse to renew the limited registration for teaching or research for any one of the following reasons:

- a) The registrant’s employment ceases or is terminated.

- b) The registrant has not complied or practised in accordance with the approved position description.
- c) The requirements of the Board's *Guidelines on supervision* have not been complied with.
- d) The registrant cannot demonstrate compliance with any terms, conditions or requirements on the limited registration for teaching or research.
- e) Unsatisfactory professional performance in the teaching or research position has been demonstrated.
- f) The registrant has not met all of the requirements of the National Law.

Non-compliance with registration standards

A breach of any of the requirements of this registration standard or any of the Board's registration standards may be a basis to consider the breach 'unprofessional conduct' or 'unsatisfactory professional performance' of the dental practitioner, in accordance with the National Law.

Purpose of registration and notation on the Register of Dental Practitioners

Dental practitioners granted limited registration for teaching or research should note that the registration is granted for the particular purpose of the teaching or research employment position in accordance with the approved position description. A dental practitioner registered under this category of limited registration will not be eligible to undertake private practice. The terms of the limited registration for teaching or research will be notated on the Register of Dental Practitioners and any practice outside those terms is **not permitted**.

The type of notation that will appear on the public register will be, for example:

Limited registration for teaching or research is granted under section 69 of the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law from <date> to <date> for the purpose of <description of teaching position and/or research role and supervision arrangements> at <location/s>. Private practice and practice outside these parameters is not permitted.

In addition to the requirements of this registration standard, the Board may grant limited registration for teaching or research, in accordance with section 83 of the National Law, subject to any conditions the Board considers necessary or desirable in the circumstances.

Applications for variation in changed circumstances

If a registrant in limited registration for teaching or research

has a **significant change** in circumstances, such as a change in the employment position, they must submit a new application for limited registration. However, registrants can apply to the Board for a variation if there is a minor change to their circumstances, a change in the approved position description or change in their supervisor.

Definitions

Supervision plan

A plan that sets out the arrangements for supervision of the dental practitioner, which is a prerequisite for limited registration for teaching or research, as described in the Board's *Guidelines on supervision*.

Supervision report

A report that sets out how the arrangements outlined in the supervision plan have been implemented, as described in the Board's *Guidelines on supervision*.

Approved position description

A written position description inclusive of the details of practice which the limited registrant will undertake in the teaching or research position, verified by the employer and approved by the Board at the time of granting limited registration. The approved position description may be reviewed by the Board during the period of limited registration.

Review

The Board will review this registration standard every three years.

