

Registration standard: Consultation draft

Date: 21 December 2010

Proposed Registration Standard: Section 53(b) General registration for dental practitioners with qualifications substantially equivalent to approved qualifications

Introduction to the consultation draft

Under the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009* (the National Law), the Board is empowered to develop and recommend to the Ministerial Council registration standards about issues relevant to the eligibility of individuals for registration in the dental profession. The Dental Board of Australia (the Board) has prepared this draft Registration Standard in terms of requiring **overseas trained practitioners** to have an approved qualification from an overseas jurisdiction and **in addition** to be eligible to be registered in the overseas jurisdiction. This means practitioners will need to have passed any registration examination required by the regulatory authority in the country where their qualification was obtained. For example in Canada graduates of Accredited Dental Programs and Accredited Qualifying Programs are required to successfully complete the National Dental Examining Board of Canada's [Written Examination](#) and [Objective Structured Clinical Examination \(OSCE\)](#) in order to obtain 'certification' as a general dentist.

The *List of Approved Qualifications from Overseas Jurisdictions* on the last page of the consultation document is not part of the Registration Standard. The Board however is also seeking comments from interested stakeholders on the content of the list. Stakeholders should note that the specific qualifications listed at point 1 (from UK and Ireland) reflect the qualifications that were approved by State and Territory Boards prior to 1 July 2010.

Your comments invited

The Board now invites interested stakeholders to provide their written comments on the draft document. Your feedback can be emailed or posted:

To: The Executive Officer
Dental Board of Australia

Email: dentalboardconsultation@ahpra.gov.au
or

Post: GPO Box 9958
Melbourne VIC 3001

Due date: **Friday 25 February 2011.**

Your submission will be published on the website unless you request otherwise.

The Board will consider all submissions received before finalising the proposed standard and providing it to Ministerial Council for approval.

Consultation Draft

REGISTRATION STANDARD

Section 53(b) General registration for dental practitioners with qualifications substantially equivalent to approved qualifications

Authority

This Registration Standard has been developed by the Dental Board of Australia ('the Board') for consultation under section 38 of the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009* ('National Law').

Summary

Sections 52 and 53 of the National Law set out the requirements for eligibility for general registration. Section 53(b) allows the Board to approve qualifications the Board considers to be substantially equivalent, or based on similar competencies, to approved qualifications.

This Registration Standard provides a pathway to general registration for overseas qualified dental practitioners who have a qualification from the Board's published *List of Approved Qualifications from Overseas Jurisdictions*. These approved qualifications are those which the Board considers to be substantially equivalent to a qualification for general registration under section 53(b) of the National Law.

Scope of application

This Registration Standard applies to overseas qualified dental practitioners who have a qualification from the Board's published *List of Approved Qualifications from Overseas Jurisdictions*.

Requirements

1. **Eligibility for General Registration** - All requirements for general registration as a dental practitioner under the National Law must be satisfied.
2. **An approved qualification from an overseas jurisdiction** – A verifiable qualification from the Board's published *List of Approved Qualifications from Overseas Jurisdictions* which the Board considers to be substantially equivalent to an approved qualification.
3. **Eligibility for registration as a dental practitioner in the relevant overseas jurisdiction in which the qualification was obtained** - The completion of an examination or any other pre-requisites (where relevant) required for registration in the relevant overseas jurisdiction.

Definitions

List of Approved Qualifications from Overseas Jurisdictions – A list published on the Board's website at www.dentalboard.gov.au entitled *List of Approved Qualifications from Overseas Jurisdictions* and as amended from time to time after consultation in accordance with the requirements of the National Law

Review

This Registration Standard will commence on the day it is approved by the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council. The Board will review this Registration Standard every three years.

Consultation Draft

List of Approved Qualifications from Overseas Jurisdictions¹

1. Bachelor degrees in dentistry granted by the following universities in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland:
 - University of Belfast
 - University of Birmingham
 - University of Bristol
 - University of Dundee
 - University of Durham
 - University of Edinburgh
 - University of Glasgow
 - University of Liverpool
 - University of London
 - University of Manchester
 - University of Newcastle upon Tyne
 - University of St. Andrews
 - University of Sheffield
 - University of Wales
 - University of Leeds
 - University of Dublin
 - National University of Ireland

2. Bachelor of Dental Surgery University of Otago, New Zealand

3. Degrees of Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) or Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD) in general dentistry awarded on or after 31 March 2010 by universities in Canada (accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada).

¹ This *List of Approved Qualifications from Overseas Jurisdictions* will be reviewed by the Dental Board of Australia on a regular basis and may be updated as a result.