Application for specialist registration

For a competence assessment

Profession: Dental

This form is for applicants who:

- have applied for, or hold general registration
- wish to apply for specialist registration, and
- hold a qualification in one of the following specialties:
  - forensic odontology, or
  - public health (community dentistry)

Your qualification will be assessed to determine its relevance for the specialty and you will be required to undertake an assessment against the entry-level competencies for the specialty you are applying for. These entry-level competencies can be found at www.dentalboard.gov.au/Registration/Specialist-Registration.

If you are also making an application for general registration as a dentist, please submit both application forms at the same time and one set of supporting documentation.

It is important that you refer to the Board’s registration standards, codes and guidelines when completing the form. Registration standards, codes and guidelines can be found at www.dentalboard.gov.au.

This application will not be considered unless it is complete and all supporting documentation has been provided. Supporting documentation must be certified and translated in accordance with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra) guidelines. For more information, see Certifying documents in the Information and definitions section of this form.

Privacy and confidentiality

The Board and Ahpra are committed to protecting your personal information in accordance with the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth). The ways the Board and Ahpra may collect, use and disclose your information are set out in the collection statement relevant to this application, available at www.ahpra.gov.au/privacy.

By signing this form, you confirm that you have read the collection statement. Ahpra’s privacy policy explains how you may access and seek correction of your personal information held by Ahpra and the Board, how to complain to Ahpra about a breach of your privacy and how your complaint will be dealt with. This policy can be accessed at www.ahpra.gov.au/privacy.

SECTION A: Trans-Tasman mutual recognition

1. Do you currently hold registration as a dental specialist in the relevant specialty with the Dental Council of New Zealand? YES NO Go to the next question

You are not eligible to use this application form. To apply for specialist registration, please complete the application form Application for Trans-Tasman mutual recognition as a dental practitioner - ATM-20.

SECTION B: General dental practice experience

The Board’s Specialist registration standard requires applicants applying for specialist registration to have completed a minimum of two years general dental practice in addition to meeting all other requirements for general registration as a dentist.

This general practice requirement may be achieved outside Australia, subject to assessment and approval by the Board.

2. Do you have at least two years general dental practice experience in Australia? YES NO Go to the next question

Please read the information below – then go to Section C: Application inclusions

Details of your general dental practice experience in Australia must be described in your CV which is requested at question 12.
3. Do you have at least two years general dental practice experience outside of Australia?

YES

Details of your general dental practice experience outside of Australia must be described in your CV which is requested at question 12. This experience is subject to assessment and approval by the Board.

NO

Stop

If you do not have at least two years general dental practice experience in or outside of Australia you are not eligible to apply for specialist registration.

SECTION C: Application inclusions

The Board maintains a list of approved specialties and related specialist titles. The complete list of approved specialties, fields of specialty practice and related specialist titles are in the List of specialties registration standard which can be found on the Board’s website at www.dentalboard.gov.au/Registration-Standards.

4. What specialty are you applying for?

If you are applying for more than one specialty, you must complete an application form for each specialty.

Mark the specialty you are applying for

- Forensic odontology
- Public health (community dentistry)

SECTION D: Personal details

The information items in this section of the application marked with an asterisk (*) will appear on the public register.

5. What is your name and date of birth?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title*</th>
<th>MR</th>
<th>MRS</th>
<th>MISS</th>
<th>MS</th>
<th>DR</th>
<th>OTHER</th>
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<tr>
<td>Family name*</td>
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<td>First given name*</td>
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<td>Middle name(s)*</td>
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<td>Previous names known by (e.g. maiden name)</td>
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Date of birth D D / M M / Y Y Y Y

If you have ever been formally known by another name, or you are providing documents in another name, you must attach proof of your name change unless this has been previously provided to the Board. For more information, see Change of name in the Information and definitions section of this form.

SECTION E: Contact information

Once registered, you can change your contact information at any time. Please go to www.ahpra.gov.au and:

- download and complete the change of address form CHDT-00 – Request for change of address details on the register, or
- log in to your Ahpra account to change your details online.

6. What are your contact details?

Provide your current contact details below – place an [x] next to your preferred contact phone number.

Business hours

Mobile

After hours

Email
7. What is your residential address?

When you are not yet practising, or when you are not practising the profession predominantly at one address:

- your residential address will be recognised as your principal place of practice, and
- the information items marked with an asterisk (*) will appear on the public register as your principal place of practice.

Refer to the question below for the definition of principal place of practice.

Residential address cannot be a PO Box.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site/building and/or position/department (if applicable)</th>
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</table>

Site/building and/or position/department (if applicable)

Address (e.g. 123 JAMES AVENUE; or UNIT 1A, 30 JAMES STREET)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City/Suburb/Town*</th>
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<tr>
<th>State or territory (e.g. VIC, ACT)/International province*</th>
<th>Postcode/ZIP*</th>
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</table>

Country (if other than Australia)

8. Will the address of your principal place of practice be the same as your residential address?

Principal place of practice for a registered health practitioner is:

- the address at which you will predominantly practise the profession; or
- your principal place of residence, if you are not practising the profession or are not practising the profession predominantly at one address.

Principal place of practice cannot be a PO Box.

The information items marked with an asterisk (*) will appear on the public register.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site/building and/or position/department (if applicable)</th>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>State/Territory* (e.g. VIC, ACT)</th>
<th>Postcode*</th>
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</table>
9. What is your mailing address?

☐ My residential address
☐ My principal place of practice
☐ Other (Provide your mailing address below)

Site/building and/or position/department (if applicable)

Address/PO Box (e.g. 123 JAMES AVENUE; or UNIT 1A, 30 JAMES STREET; or PO BOX 1234)

City/Suburb/Town

State or territory (e.g. VIC, ACT)/International province

Postcode/ZIP

Country (if other than Australia)

SECTION F: Specialist qualification for the profession

10. What are the details of your specialist qualifications?

Specialist qualification

Title of qualification

Name of institution (university/college/examining body)

Country

Year commenced

Year completed

Number of academic years of the qualification (as described in course information)
**SECTION G: Registration history**

11. What is your health practitioner registration history?

If you have been previously registered outside of Australia, the Board requires a Certificate of Registration Status or Certificate of Good Standing from every jurisdiction outside of Australia in which you are currently, or have previously been registered as a health practitioner during the past five years.

**Most recent registration**
- **State/Territory/Country**
- **Profession**
- **Period of registration**
  - From: DD/MM/YYYY to DD/MM/YYYY

**Additional registration**
- **State/Territory/Country**
- **Profession**
- **Period of registration**
  - From: DD/MM/YYYY to DD/MM/YYYY

If you have been previously registered outside of Australia, you must arrange for original Certificates of Registration Status or Certificates of Good Standing to be forwarded directly from the registration authority to your Ahpra state office. Refer to [www.ahpra.gov.au/About-Ahpra/Contact-Us](http://www.ahpra.gov.au/About-Ahpra/Contact-Us) for your Ahpra state office address.

Attach a separate sheet if your registration history does not fit in the space provided.

**SECTION H: Work history**

12. What is your full practice history?

It is important that you refer to *Curriculum vitae* in the *Information and definitions* section of this form for mandatory requirements of the CV. Your curriculum vitae will further inform the Board in relation to your recency of practice and registration history.

You must attach to your application a signed and dated curriculum vitae that describes your full practice history and any clinical or procedural skills training relevant to the specialty you are applying for.
SECTION I: Supporting your application

13. Use the checklist table below to make sure you provide all the necessary additional information and documentation in support of your application for specialist registration.

It is your responsibility to ensure that all required information is provided. Incomplete applications will not be assessed until all required documents have been received by Ahpra.

You must provide all the documents supporting your application for specialist registration listed in the checklist below. The documents must be submitted in the order as listed in the checklist below. Separate all documents with a clearly labelled cover sheet and add an index at the front. Do not use plastic sleeves or staples. If you are unable to provide the required documents you must provide a written statement that explains why.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Documentation/Information</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Attached</th>
<th>Office use only (tick if complete)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1  Certified copy of your academic transcript referring only to a single specialty</td>
<td>If the certified copy of your academic transcript does not indicate the specialty you have completed, you must also provide a certified copy of a letter from the education provider confirming your specialty.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2  Certified copy of your testamur (degree/award certificate) referring to a single specialty</td>
<td>If the certified copy of your testamur (degree/award certificate) does not indicate the specialty you have completed, you must also provide a certified copy of a letter from the education provider confirming your specialty.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 3  Specialist program material such as curriculum, program overview, unit descriptors referring to: | • the single specialty, and  
• the program duration                                                                                                                                                                    |          |                                   |
| 4  Evidence from the dental regulatory authority or registration body confirming that the qualification is currently recognised for specialist registration |                                                                                                                                                                                               |          |                                   |
| 5  Self-assessment against entry level competencies                                       | You must complete and submit the self-assessment template for your specialty available at www.dentalboard.gov.au/Specialist-Registration                                                                 |          |                                   |

SECTION J: General registration status

If you currently hold general registration as a dentist, you must provide an annual statement on your suitability as defined in the National Law and the requirements set out in the Board’s registration standards. Refer to www.dentalboard.gov.au/Registration-standards for further information.

If you do not hold general registration as a dentist, you must complete and submit the application form Application for general registration as a dental practitioner – AGEN-20. Information on your suitability for registration is required on this form.

14. Do you currently hold general registration as a dentist?  YES □  NO □

Details required below – then go to Section K: Suitability statements

Registration number

Choice appropriate option – then go to Section L: Obligations and consent

☐ I am lodging my application for general registration as a dentist at the same time as my application for specialist registration.

☐ I have already submitted my application for general registration.
SECTION K: Suitability statements

Information required by the Board to assess your suitability for specialist registration is detailed in the following questions. It is recommended that you provide as much information as possible to enable the Board to reach a timely and informed decision.

Please note that registration is dependent on suitability as defined in the National Law, and the requirements set out in the Board’s registration standards. Refer to www.dentalboard.gov.au/Registration-Standards for further information.

15. Since your last declaration to Ahpra, has there been any change to your criminal history in Australia that you have not declared to Ahpra?

It is important that you have a clear understanding of the definition of criminal history. For more information, see Criminal history in the Information and definitions section on page two of this form.

YES □ NO □

You must attach a signed and dated written statement with details of any change to your criminal history in Australia and an explanation of the circumstances.

16. Since your last declaration to Ahpra, has there been any change to your criminal history in one or more countries other than Australia that you have not declared to Ahpra?

NO □ Go to the next question

YES □

You are required to:

- obtain an international criminal history check from an approved vendor for each country and provide details below, and
- provide details of the change in your criminal history in a signed and dated written statement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Check reference number</th>
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<tbody>
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</table>

You must attach a separate sheet if the list of overseas countries and corresponding check reference number does not fit in the space provided.

You must attach the international criminal history check (ICHC) reference page provided by the approved vendor.

You must attach a signed and dated written statement with details of any change to your criminal history in each of the countries listed and an explanation of the circumstances.

17. Were you awarded your specialist qualifications more than one year ago?

YES □ NO □

18. Have you practised in the specialty in the past five years?

YES □ NO □

The Board will assess your recency of practice and may require you to provide additional information before progressing your application.

For more information on practice, see Practice in the Information and definitions section.
19. Will you be performing exposure-prone procedures in your practice?

Exposure prone procedures (EPPs) are procedures where there is a risk of injury to the healthcare worker resulting in exposure of the patient’s open tissues to the blood of the healthcare worker. These procedures include those where the healthcare worker’s hands (whether gloved or not) may be in contact with sharp instruments, needle tips or sharp tissues (spicules of bone or teeth) inside a patient’s open body cavity, wound or confined anatomical space where the hands or fingertips may not be completely visible at all times.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YES</th>
<th>Go to the next question</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>Go to question 21</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

20. Do you commit to comply with the Australian National Guidelines for the management of healthcare workers living with blood borne viruses and healthcare workers who perform exposure prone procedures at risk of exposure to blood borne viruses?

This includes testing for HIV, Hepatitis C and Hepatitis B at least once every three years. Testing for Hepatitis B is not necessary if you have demonstrated immunity to HBV through vaccination or resolved infection.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
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</table>

21. Do you have an impairment that detrimentally affects or is likely to detrimentally affect your capacity to practise the profession?

For more information, see Impairment in the Information and definitions section of this form.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
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</table>

You must attach to this application details of any impairments and how they are managed.

22. Is your registration in any profession, in Australia or overseas, currently suspended or cancelled?

You must attach to this application details of any registration suspension or cancellation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
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</table>

23. Have you previously had your registration cancelled, refused or suspended in Australia or overseas?

You must attach to this application details of any cancellation, refusal or suspension.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
</table>

24. Has your registration ever been subject to conditions, undertakings or limitations in Australia or overseas?

You must attach to this application details of any conditions, undertakings or limitations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
</table>

25. Are you disqualified from applying for registration, or being registered, in any profession, under the National Law or a corresponding prior Act?

You must attach to this application details of any disqualifications.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
</table>
26. Have you been, or are you currently, the subject of conduct, performance or health proceedings whilst registered under the National Law, a corresponding prior Act or the law of another jurisdiction in Australia or overseas, where those proceedings were not finalised?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
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*You must attach to this application details of any conduct, performance or health proceedings.*

27. Do you commit to having appropriate professional indemnity insurance (PII) arrangements in place for all practice undertaken during the registration period?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
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</thead>
</table>

The Board requires all applicants to have appropriate professional indemnity arrangements in place when practising the profession in Australia. Applicants unable to meet this requirement are ineligible for registration. For more information, see *Professional indemnity insurance* in the *Information and definitions* section of this form.
### SECTION L: Obligations and consent

**Obligations of registered health practitioners**

The National Law pt 7 div 11 sub-div 3 establishes the legislative obligations of registered health practitioners. A contravention of these obligations, as detailed at points 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 or 8 below is an offence. Health practitioners are also obligated to meet the requirements of their Board or regulated body as established in registration standards, codes and guidelines.

**Continuing professional development**

1. A registered health practitioner must undertake the continuing professional development required by an approved registration standard for the health profession in which the practitioner is registered.

**Professional indemnity insurance arrangements**

2. A registered health practitioner must not practise the health profession in which the practitioner is registered unless appropriate professional indemnity insurance arrangements are in force in relation to the practitioner’s practice of the profession.

3. A National Board may, at any time by written notice, require a registered health practitioner registered by the Board to give the Board evidence of the appropriate professional indemnity insurance arrangements that are in force in relation to the practitioner’s practice of the profession.

4. A registered health practitioner must not, without reasonable excuse, fail to comply with a written notice given to the practitioner under point 3 above.

**Notice of certain events**

5. A registered health practitioner must, within 7 days after becoming aware that a relevant event has occurred in relation to the practitioner, give the National Board that registered the practitioner written notice of the event. Relevant event means—
   a) the practitioner is charged, found guilty of an offence or convicted of an offence punishable by 12 months imprisonment or more; or
   b) the practitioner is convicted of or subject to a finding of guilt for an offence, whether in a participating jurisdiction or elsewhere, punishable by imprisonment or a term of imprisonment; or
   c) appropriate professional indemnity insurance arrangements are no longer in place in relation to the practitioner’s practice of the profession; or
   d) the practitioner’s right to practise at a hospital or another facility at which health services are provided is withdrawn or restricted because of the practitioner’s conduct, professional performance or health; or
   e) the practitioner’s billing privileges are withdrawn or restricted under the Human Services (Medicare) Act 1973 (Cth) because of the practitioner’s conduct, professional performance or health; or
   f) the practitioner’s authority under a law of a State or Territory to administer, obtain, possess, prescribe, sell, supply or use a scheduled medicine or class of scheduled medicines is cancelled or restricted; or
   g) a complaint is made about the practitioner to the following entities—
      i) the chief executive officer under the Human Services (Medicare) Act 1973 (Cth);
      ii) an entity performing functions under the Health Insurance Act 1973 (Cth);
      iii) the Secretary within the meaning of the National Health Act 1953 (Cth);
      iv) the Secretary to the Department in which the Migration Act 1958 (Cth) is administered;
      v) another Commonwealth, State or Territory entity having functions relating to professional services provided by health practitioners or the regulation of health practitioners.

6. A registered health practitioner must, within 30 days of any of the following changes happening, give the National Board that registered the practitioner written notice of the change and any evidence providing proof of the change required by the Board—
   a) a change in the practitioner’s principal place of practice;
   b) a change in the address provided by the registered health practitioner as the address the Board should use in corresponding with the practitioner;
   c) a change in the practitioner’s name.

**Employer’s details**

7. A National Board may, at any time by written notice given to a health practitioner registered by the Board, ask the practitioner to provide the Board with the following information—
   a) information about whether the practitioner is employed by another entity;
   b) if the practitioner is employed by another entity—
      i) the name of the practitioner’s employer; and
      ii) the address and other contact details of the practitioner’s employer.

8. The registered health practitioner must not, without reasonable excuse, fail to comply with the notice.

### Consent to nationally coordinated criminal history check

I authorise Ahpra and the Board to carry out a nationally coordinated criminal history check for the purpose of assessing this application. I acknowledge that:

- a complete criminal history, including resolved and unresolved charges, spent convictions, and findings of guilt for which no conviction was recorded, will be released to Ahpra and the Board.
- my personal information will be extracted from this form and provided to the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission (ACIC) and Australian police agencies for the purpose of conducting a nationally coordinated criminal history check, including all names under which I am or have been known.
- my personal information may be used by police for general law enforcement purposes, including those purposes set out in the Australian Crime Commission Act 2002 (Cth).
- my identity information provided with this application will be enrolled with Ahpra to allow for any subsequent criminal history checks during my period of registration.
- if and when this application for registration is granted, Ahpra may check my criminal history at any time during my period of registration as required by the Board for the purpose of assessing my suitability to hold health practitioner registration; or in response to a Notice of Certain Events; or for an application for Removal of Reprimand from the National Register.
- I may dispute the result of the nationally coordinated criminal history check by contacting Ahpra in the first instance.

I, the applicant, consent to the Board and Ahpra making enquiries of, and exchanging information with, the authorities of any Australian state or territory, or other country, regarding my practice as a health practitioner or otherwise regarding matters relevant to this application.

- the Board may validate documents provided in support of this application as evidence of my identity.
- failure to complete all relevant sections of this application and to enclose all supporting documentation may result in this application not being accepted.
- notices required under the National Law and other correspondence relating to my application and registration (if granted) will be sent electronically to me via my nominated email address, and
- Ahpra uses overseas cloud service providers to hold, process and maintain personal information where this is reasonably necessary to enable Ahpra to perform its functions under the National Law. These providers include Salesforce, whose operations are located in Japan and the United States of America.

I undertake to comply with all relevant legislation and Board registration standards, codes and guidelines.

I understand that Ahpra may:

- disclose the date my registration is to commence and future registration details; and
- verify the accuracy of my registration details including my date of birth and address to entities (such as prospective employers) who disclose that information to Ahpra for the purpose of confirming my identity.

Ahpra will only do this where the entity seeking the information or verification has a legal undertaking they have obtained my consent to these disclosures and this verification.

I confirm I have read the privacy and confidentiality statement for this form.

I declare that:

- I consent to the Board and Ahpra making enquiries of, and exchanging information with, the authorities of any Australian state or territory, or other country, regarding my practice as a health practitioner or otherwise regarding matters relevant to this application.
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Ahpra will only do this where the entity seeking the information or verification has a legal undertaking they have obtained my consent to these disclosures and this verification.

I confirm that I have read the privacy and confidentiality statement for this form.

I declare that:

- the above statements, and the documents provided in support of this application, are true and correct, and
- I am the person named in this application and in the documents provided.

I make this declaration in the knowledge that a false statement is grounds for the Board to refuse registration.

**Signature of applicant**

**Name of applicant**

**Date**

**Effective from: 24 October 2019**
SECTION M: Payment

You are required to pay an application fee and assessment fee. If you are applying for and submitting your complete application for general registration at the same time, you only need to pay one application fee.

Your required payment is detailed below

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application fee:</th>
<th>+</th>
<th>Assessment fee:</th>
<th>=</th>
<th>Amount payable:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$343</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1696</td>
<td></td>
<td>$2039</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Refund rules
The application and assessment fees are non-refundable.

28. How are you paying your fee?
Payment by cheque, money order or bank draft must be in Australian currency, drawn on an Australian bank. A receipt will be provided.

Mark one box below only

- Visa or MasterCard
  Complete credit/debit card payment slip below
- Cheque/Money order/Bank draft
- Cash/EFTPOS
  (only available if paying in person)

You must attach cheque or money order payable to the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency.

On the back of the cheque, money order or bank draft, you must write your:
- name
- date of birth, and
- registration number (if you have one).

Credit/Debit card payment slip – please fill out

Amount payable

$ __________

Visa or MasterCard number

Expiry date

SIGN HERE

Name on card

Cardholder’s signature
## SECTION N: Checklist

Have the following items been attached or arranged, if required?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Additional documentation</th>
<th>Attached</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Question 5 Evidence of a change of name</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Question 10 Certified copies of your specialist qualifications</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Question 10 A separate sheet with additional specialist qualification details</td>
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<tr>
<td>Question 11 Certificate of Registration status or Certificate of Good Standing has been requested from relevant authority</td>
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<tr>
<td>Question 11 A separate sheet with additional registration history details</td>
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<tr>
<td>Question 12 Your curriculum vitae</td>
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<tr>
<td>Question 13 Certified copies of all the documentation supporting your application for specialist registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Question 13 A separate sheet explaining why you are unable to provide required documents (if applicable)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Question 15 A signed and dated written statement with details of any change to your criminal history in Australia and an explanation of the circumstances</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Question 16 A separate sheet of overseas countries and corresponding ICHC reference number</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Question 16 ICHC reference page provided by the approved vendor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Question 16 A signed and dated written statement with details of any change to your criminal history overseas and an explanation of the circumstances</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Question 21 A separate sheet with your impairment details</td>
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<tr>
<td>Question 22 A separate sheet with your current suspension or cancellation details</td>
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<tr>
<td>Question 23 A separate sheet with your previous cancellation, refusal or suspension details</td>
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<tr>
<td>Question 24 A separate sheet with your conditions, undertakings or limitations details</td>
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<tr>
<td>Question 25 A separate sheet with your disqualification details</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Question 26 A separate sheet with your conduct, performance or health proceedings</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Payment

| Application fee                                                                 |          |
| If paying by cheque/money order/bank draft, your name and registration number are written on the back |          |

Please post this form with payment and required attachments to:

**Ahpra**  
GPO Box 9958  
Sydney NSW 2001

You may contact Ahpra on 1300 419 495 or you can lodge an enquiry at [www.ahpra.gov.au](http://www.ahpra.gov.au)
Information and definitions

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF HEALTHCARE WORKERS LIVING WITH BLOOD BORNE VIRUSES AND HEALTHCARE WORKERS WHO PERFORM EXPOSURE PRONE PROCEDURES AT RISK OF EXPOSURE TO BLOOD BORNE VIRUSES

The Communicable Diseases Network Australia (CDNA) has published these guidelines. The following is a summary of the requirements in the CDNA guidelines:

Healthcare workers who perform exposure prone procedures (EPPs) must take reasonable steps to know their blood-borne virus (BBV) status and should be tested for BBVs at least once every three years. They are also expected to:

- have appropriate and timely testing and follow up care after a potential occupational exposure associated with a risk of BBV acquisition
- have appropriate testing and follow up care after potential non-occupational exposure, with testing frequency related to risk factors for virus acquisition
- cease performing all EPPs if diagnosed with a BBV until the criteria in the guidelines are met, and
- confirm that they comply with these guidelines when applying for renewal of registration if requested by their board.

Practitioners who are living with a blood-borne virus and who perform exposure-prone procedures have additional requirements. They are expected to:

- be under the ongoing care of a treating doctor with relevant expertise
- comply with prescribed treatment
- have ongoing viral load monitoring at the appointed times
- not perform EPPs if particular viral load or viral clearance criteria are not met (see detailed information in the guidelines according to the specific BBV)
- seek advice regarding any change in health condition that may affect their fitness to practise or impair their health
- release monitoring information to the treating doctor
- if required, release de-identified information to the relevant area of the jurisdictional health department/Expert Advisory Committee, and
- if required, release health monitoring information to a designated person in their workplace in the event of a potential exposure incident to assess the requirement for further public health action.


CERTIFYING DOCUMENTS

DO NOT send original documents unless specified. Copies of documents provided in support of an application, or other purpose required by the National Law, must be certified as true copies of the original documents. Each and every certified document must:

- be in English. If original documents are not in English, you must provide a certified copy of the original document and translation in accordance with Ahpra guidelines, which are available at www.ahpra.gov.au/registration/registration-process
- be initialled on every page by the authorised officer. For a list of people authorised to certify documents, visit www.ahpra.gov.au/certify
- be annotated on the last page as appropriate e.g. ‘I have sighted the original document and certify this to be a true copy of the original’ and signed by the authorised officer, and
- list the name, date of certification, and contact phone number, and position number (if relevant) and have the stamp or seal of the authorised officer (if relevant) applied.

Certified copies will only be accepted in hard copy by mail or in person (not by fax, email, etc.). Photocopies of previously certified documents will not be accepted.

For more information, Ahpra’s guidelines for certifying documents can be found online at www.ahpra.gov.au/certify.

CHANGE OF NAME

You must provide evidence of a change of name if you have ever been formally known by another name(s) or if any of the documentation you are providing in support of your application is in another name(s).

Evidence must be a certified copy of one of the following documents:

- Standard marriage certificate (ceremonial certificates will not be accepted).
- Deed poll.
- Change of name certificate.

Faxed, scanned or emailed copies of certified documents will not be accepted.

CRIMINAL HISTORY

Criminal history includes the following, whether in Australia or overseas, at any time:

- every conviction of a person for an offence
- every plea of guilty or finding of guilt by a court of the person for an offence, whether or not a conviction is recorded for the offence, and
- every charge made against the person for an offence.

Under the National Law, spent convictions legislation does not apply to criminal history disclosure requirements. Therefore, you must disclose your complete criminal history as detailed above, irrespective of the time that has lapsed since the charge was laid or the finding of guilt was made. The Board will decide whether a health practitioner’s criminal history is relevant to the practice of the profession.

You are not required to obtain or provide your Australian criminal history report, Ahpra will obtain this check on your behalf. You may be required to obtain international criminal history reports.

For more information, view the full registration standard online at www.dentalboard.gov.au/Registration-Standards

CURRICULUM VITAE

Your curriculum vitae must:

- detail any gaps in your practice history of more than three months from the date you obtained your qualification
- indicate whether positions were undertaken full-time or part-time, and specify the nature of any practice (e.g., provision of clinical care, management, administration, regulatory or policy development role) detail your continuing professional development over the last three years and refer to the Board’s registration standard and guidelines for continuing professional development on the level of detail required
- be in chronological order
- be signed and dated with a statement ‘This curriculum vitae is true and correct as at (insert date)’, and be the original signed curriculum vitae (no faxes or scanned copies will be accepted).

It must also contain all the elements defined in Ahpra’s standard format for curriculum vitae which can be found at www.ahpra.gov.au/cv.

IMPAIRMENT

Impairment means a physical or mental impairment, disability, condition, or disorder (including substance abuse or dependence) that detrimentally affects or is likely to detrimentally affect your capacity to practise the profession. The National Law requires you to declare any such impairments at the time of renewal, including details of the impairment and how it is managed.

INFECTION CONTROL

When applying for, and at renewal of, registration you are required to make a declaration that you are aware of your infection status for blood-borne viruses and that you will comply with the Communicable Diseases Network Australia’s Australian National Guidelines for the Management of Health Care Workers known to be infected with Blood-Borne Viruses and with the requirements of the Board’s guidelines on infection control.

For more information, view the full guideline online at www.dentalboard.gov.au/Codes-Guidelines/Policies-Codes-Guidelines.
PRACTICE
Practice means any role, whether remunerated or not, in which you use your skills and knowledge as a health practitioner in your profession. Practice in this context is not restricted to the provision of direct clinical care. It also includes using professional knowledge (working) in a direct non-clinical 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.

PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY INSURANCE (PII)
When practising dentistry in Australia, dental practitioners must be covered by professional indemnity insurance that meets the requirements for PII arrangements outlined in the PII arrangements registration standard. For more information, view the full registration standard online at www.dentalboard.gov.au/Registration-Standards

RECENCY OF PRACTICE
To ensure that you are able to practise competently and safely, you must have recent practice in dentistry and in any field of practice in which you intend to work during the period of registration for which you are applying. If in the previous five years you have not practised in dentistry or the field of practice in which you intend to work during the period of registration, you will need to satisfy the Board’s recency of practice requirements before your application for registration can be decided. Recent graduates who apply for registration within the first year of graduation will not need to meet the recency of practice requirements. For more information, view the full registration standard online at www.dentalboard.gov.au/Registration-Standards.