

**RELEASED UNDER THE
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1982 (Cth)**



To:
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Fw: Consultation Paper on Registration Standards and Related Matters

Attention: Chair, Pharmacy Board of Australia

Hereunder are this Council's comments on your invitation to comment on the abovementioned consultation paper.

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

English Language

Currently, the level required for pharmacy through APEC is 7.5 in the IELTS or a pass in the OET with grades no less than A or B in each component. Council believes these levels should be maintained. It therefore recommends that the first paragraph under the heading "Summary" be amended to read ".....by achieving a minimum score of 7.5 in the IELTS academic module, an overall pass in the OET with grades of A or B only in each of the four components or specified alternatives...."

It seems likely that language skill levels at entry to university courses are a matter for the universities. If this is the case, dot point one in the second paragraph of the proposed standard has no standing and the words "other than student registration" should be added to the paragraph under the heading "Scope of application"

The Council has no awareness of the Professional Linguistic Assessment Board or a New Zealand Registration Examination. It therefore is unable to comment on the appropriateness of these assessments for registration purposes.

There seems to be an inconsistency between the second paragraph under the heading "summary" and item 3 under the heading "Requirements." The former says "test results will generally need to be obtained within two years, but preferably within 12 months....." whereas the latter demands "must have been obtained within two years....."

Council agrees there is a need for provision for exemptions. However, it holds a mild concern that the proposed standard limits the countries from which education in English would be accepted. It suggests listing them as examples in the form "including, but not necessarily limited to Canada etc..."

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Registrar

Pharmaceutical Council of Western Australia