



Submission from the New Zealand Chiropractic Board

To whom it may concern,

The New Zealand Chiropractic Board (NZCB) appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback on the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency's (AHPRA) consultation documents. This feedback is provided on behalf of the Board, if you have any questions regarding this feedback please contact the Board's Registrar Angela Sinclair at registrar@chiropracticboard.org.nz or +64 4 474 0703.

Criminal History Registration Standard

The Board supports option 1 status quo. The current standard's ten factors for consideration have proved useful to the NZCB which has borrowed the factors for considering the criminal history of applicants. The factors clearly articulate a wide variety of considerations that the NZCB thinks are important in making registration decisions. The current standard is in line with the NZCB's criminal history registration standard and the Board notes that consistencies between the Australian Chiropractic Board and the NZCB are important with regard to the Trans Tasman Mutual Recognition Act of 1997 (TTMR Act).

English Language Skills Registration Standard

The Board understands that AHPRA's preferred option is to develop a new English language standard. For AHPRA's information please find provided the NZCB's current policy on English language below:

- Candidates are required to be proficient in English. Sections 16(a) and (b) of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 require the Board to ensure that any person granted registration to practice chiropractic in New Zealand is able to comprehend and communicate effectively in English.
- Candidates who come from English speaking countries or who were taught chiropractic with English as the sole language of instruction are not required to pass an approved English test .
- A candidate **may** be exempt from passing an approved English test if he or she provides evidence of continuous work as a registered chiropractor in an institution or practice where English was the primary language for a period of at least two years within the five years immediately prior to application.
- Candidates whose first language is not English are required to provide evidence of sitting the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) and attaining the minimum scores listed in the table below in one sitting.
- The Board will only accept an IELTS result within two years from the date of the test was undertaken.

Test Date	Required score
On or after 1 February 2009	Minimum requirements: - Speaking 7.5 - Listening 7.5 - Writing 7.0 - Reading 7.0

In developing AHPRA's English Language standard, the NZCB request that the implications of the TTMR Act are considered.

23/12/2013