

Policy

October 2025

Supervision conditions imposed on occupational therapists registered under Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition

Purpose

The Occupational Therapy Board of Australia (the Board) protects the public by ensuring that anyone who is registered as an occupational therapist in Australia is safe and competent to practice.

This policy clarifies the OTBA position that an occupational therapist whose registration in New Zealand is subject to conditions requiring supervision will be subject to a period of supervised practice if they are registered in Australia under the Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act 1997.

Supervised practice reassures the community, National Boards and Ahpra that a registered health practitioner whose practice is being supervised is safe and competent to practise and is not putting the public at risk

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that supervision conditions are consistent, effective, and monitorable, and should be read in conjunction with the [Supervised Practice Framework](#).

Who this policy is for

This policy applies to people who:

1. hold current registration with recertification and/or supervision conditions, and a current practising certificate that allows them to practise as an occupational therapist in New Zealand, and
2. wish to apply to the Board for general registration as an occupational therapist in Australia under the Commonwealth [Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act 1997](#).

This policy does not apply to:

- New Zealand new graduates who completed their qualification at a New Zealand University within the preceding two years.
- People applying for registration as an occupational therapist who have completed an [approved program of study](#)
- People who hold an [international qualification](#) and are applying directly to the Board for registration as an occupational therapist.

Conditions on general registration for Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition applicants

The Board may impose the below conditions on the General Registration of an occupational therapist registered under the Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act 1997:

1. *From [start date], the practitioner must not practise other than in accordance with an approved supervised practice arrangement including under the supervision of another [registered health practitioner/profession].*
2. *From [start date], the practitioner must not practise other than at the following approved practice location(s):*
3. *The practitioner must:*
 - a. *comply with the Supervised practice framework in force at the date these conditions are imposed and then as updated from time to time*
 - b. *provide acknowledgement, that they have read and understood the requirements of this condition within [timeframe] of the [start date] or as otherwise required*
 - c. *only practise in accordance with the approved supervised practice arrangement.*
 - d. *cease practice on or after [start date] if no supervised practice arrangement is approved, the approval of a supervised practice arrangement is not published above, or if they are unable to practise according to the approved supervised practice arrangement.*

For the purposes of this condition, '**practise**' and the **level of supervision** are defined in the [Supervised practice framework](#).

Document history

Approved by: Occupational Therapy Board of Australia, 23 September 2025

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Next review due: 3-years

Document control table

Approval date	Version	Reason for change