



DENTAL BOARD OF AUSTRALIA

Meeting Number 3
20 November 2009

Hilton Melbourne Airport, Melbourne, Victoria

Final decisions and actions arising

Members present

Dr John Lockwood, Chair
Ms Susan Aldenhoven
Mrs Jennifer Bishop
Dr Carmelo Bonnano
Dr Gerard Condon
Mr Stephen Herrick
Mr Paul House
Dr Mark Leedham
Mr Peter Martin
Dr John Owen
Mrs Myra Pincott
Mr Micheal Miceli

In attendance

Leonie Smith, National Registration and Accreditation Implementation Project (NRAIP)
(notetaker)
Chris Robertson, NRAIP

1. Welcome and general overview matters

Mrs Pincott conveyed her thanks to the NRAIP for the timely arrival of hard copy papers for the meeting

Item 1.1 Disclosure of conflict of interest

Members:

1. in accordance with Section 8(1) of Schedule 4 of the National Law, declared any possible conflict of interest in relation to matters to be considered at this meeting, and
2. discussed any declarations made at (1) in the terms prescribed in Section 8(3) and (4).

ACTION: Chair

Item 1.2 ~~Record of decisions and actions arising from last meeting~~

Members:

1. noted the record of decisions and actions arising from the last meeting
2. noted that the record had been finalised out of session in accordance with the Board's procedures, and
3. clarified that under 5.5 in the decisions, the intent is that the same fee will apply across all divisions of the register.

ACTION: Nil

Item 1.3 Implementation update

Members noted the implementation update.

ACTION: Nil

Item 2 Transition matters

1. No matters discussed

ACTION:

3. Registration matters

Item 3.1 Overview of submissions received

Members noted the number of submissions on registration standards and related matters received by all boards up to 5 November 2009.

ACTION: Nil

[illegible]

Members:

- 3

3. agreed to the new versions of the English language and criminal history standards at Attachments A and B as the basis for the final versions of the standards to be considered by boards in December, and with a possible amendment re OET for dental, and
4. noted that a further paper with additional information and any changes arising from the consultation process will be provided out of session after the consultation period closes, to facilitate finalisation of the standards in December 2009.

ACTION: Agency;

Dental Board to decide on whether a stronger requirement re the OET be included for dental

Item 3.4 Preparing for submission to Ministerial Council

Members:

1. agreed to use the standard definitions proposed for definitions commonly used across the boards in the registration standards, and
2. noted the style sheet that will be used by the editors for the final proposals to go to the Ministerial Council.

ACTION: Agency

Item 3.5 Consultation papers from other boards

Members:

1. considered whether they wish to provide comments on any of the consultation papers prepared by other boards
2. agreed to provide comments on the following papers: no papers that Board wished to comment on, and
3. considered whether, in reviewing the consultation papers from other boards, there were ideas they wish to pick up in their own registration standards or other proposals.

ACTION: Nil

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Dental Board of Australia
English language skills standard**

Summary

All applicants must be able to demonstrate English language skills at IELTS academic level 7 or the equivalent, and the Board may require this in a number of ways.

An internationally qualified applicant or an applicant who is an international student must have the necessary English language skills for registration purposes by achieving a minimum score of 7 in the IELTS academic module, OET or specified alternatives (see 'Definitions', below).

Test results will generally need to be obtained within two years, but preferably within 12 months prior to applying for registration. The Board may grant an exemption in specified circumstances.

Scope of application

This standard applies to all applicants seeking registration or renewal of registration and registrants under the national law.

Requirements

An applicant who is:

- (a) an internationally qualified applicant or
- (b) an applicant who did not complete their secondary education in English and in one of the countries specified in exemption one below

must submit evidence, or arrange for evidence to be provided, to the relevant Board of competency in English language skills as demonstrated by having completed the IELTS examination (academic module) to the following standard:

1. The applicant must have achieved a minimum score of 7 in each of the four components (listening, reading, writing and speaking).
2. Alternative English proficiency tests that will be accepted are:
 - (a) completion and an overall pass in the OET with grades A or B only in each of the four components; or
 - (b) other tests as approved by the Board (to be specified in the standard).
3. Results must have been obtained within two years prior to applying for registration.
4. An IELTS (or approved equivalent) Test Report Form more than two years old will be accepted as current if accompanied by proof that a candidate has actively maintained employment as a registered health practitioner using English as the primary language of practice in a country where English is the native or first language. Test results must comply with the current requirements of this policy.
5. Results from any of the abovementioned English language examinations must be obtained in one sitting.
6. The applicant is responsible for the cost of English tests.
7. The applicant must make arrangements for test results to be provided directly to the Board by the testing authority; for example, by secure internet login.

Exemptions

1. The Board may grant an exemption where the applicant provides evidence that:
 - (a) they completed secondary education that was taught and assessed in English, and
 - (b) the applicant's tertiary qualifications in the relevant professional discipline were taught and assessed in English in one of the countries listed below, where English is the native or first language:
 - Canada
 - Republic of Ireland
 - New Zealand
 - United Kingdom
 - United States of America
 - South Africa
 - Australia.
2. The Board may grant an exemption where an applicant applies for limited registration in special circumstances, such as:
 - to perform a demonstration in clinical techniques
 - to undertake research that involves limited or no patient contact
 - to undertake postgraduate study or training while working in an appropriately supported environment that will ensure patient safety is not compromised.

These special circumstances exemptions will generally be subject to conditions requiring the use of a translator and/or supervision by a registered health practitioner.
3. The Board reserves the right at any time to revoke an exemption and/or require an applicant to undertake a specified English language test.

Board specific requirements

(Specify any Board specific requirements)

Definitions

IELTS means the International English Language Testing System developed by the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate, The British Council and IDP Education Australia. The test is administered at least once a month by IELTS Australia and The British Council at over 230 centres worldwide (see <http://www.ielts.org/>).

OET means Occupational English Test (OET) administered by the Centre for Adult Education (see <http://www.occupationalenglishtest.org/>).

An **internationally qualified applicant** means a person who qualified as a health practitioner outside Australia.

Review

This standard will commence on 1 July 2010. The Board will review this standard at least every three years.

[illegible]

RELEASED UNDER THE
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1982 (Cth)

Attachment

[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
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