

RELEASED UNDER THE
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1982 (Cth)

**Submission in response
to consultation paper
on registration standards
and related matters
November 2009**

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Consideration must be given to capturing refugees in this group, who are not listed as international students by universities and TAFEs, but are always from a non-English speaking background.

OET

OET should be accepted as a test. However, it should be noted that a very small number of applicants use this test to demonstrate English language proficiency. The overwhelming majority undertake IELTS (academic).

IELTS timeframe

An IELTS (or approved equivalent) more than two years old should not be accepted as current under any circumstances.

Reference to 1(a)

The extensive work undertaken by the ANMC resulting in national standards for international applications should be noted. There is currently no waiver for English language testing for internationally-qualified applicants, which ensures consistency and fairness to all applicants.

With current trends in globalisation and multiculturalism, a list of countries that have traditionally used English as a first language is becoming less relevant. Therefore, the list of countries should be removed.

Anecdotally, QNC receives a significant number of unsatisfactory English languages test results from the list of proposed exempted countries, including the UK and particularly South Africa.

If the list is not removed, it is totally inappropriate to consider South Africa as an English speaking country, as there are 8 generic languages. Similarly, Canada has a significant number of French speaking citizens. The reference under 'Exemptions 1(a) should be amended to clarify the secondary education to ensure that English is the medium of instruction.

Reference to 1(b)

This list should also be removed as all of these tasks require satisfactory English language proficiency to ensure safe practice, even if there is no patient contact. These tasks will eventually result in patient contact and it is not appropriate for a profession to make exemptions in this regard.

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