

## CMBA regulatory examinations policy

---

October 2023

### Multiple-choice question examination repeats

#### Purpose

This document sets out the Chinese Medicine Board of Australia's (CMBA) policy on examination repeats for the CMBA regulatory examinations for overseas-qualified Chinese herbal medicine practitioners and acupuncturists (CMBA regulatory examinations).

#### Scope

The CMBA regulatory examinations includes a multiple-choice question (MCQ) examination and an objective structured clinical examination (OSCE).

A candidate must pass the MCQ examination to be eligible to undertake the OSCE. This policy applies to all candidates who fail the MCQ examination.

#### Policy

##### Examination repeats

A candidate who fails the MCQ examination will be allowed to submit a new application for registration as a Chinese herbal medicine practitioner and/or acupuncturist and to repeat the MCQ examination(s) as a new applicant. When a candidate repeats an examination, they must complete all items in the examination. Results from a candidate's previous attempt(s) will not be taken into consideration when determining the result of the candidate's repeat examination.

There is no limit to the number of times a candidate can sit the MCQ examination. A candidate, who wishes to re-sit the MCQ examination, must submit a new application for registration each time and pay the relevant MCQ examination fees in full for each attempt.

As the MCQ examination sessions are scheduled for specific months, a candidate can sit the MCQ examination only when there is a scheduled session. No special arrangement in addition to the scheduled examination sessions will be arranged.

MCQ examination results are valid for five (5) years from the date of the MCQ examination.

Candidates who do not pass the OSCE will have their MCQ results retained for a period of five (5) years for future applications for registration.

##### Candidate feedback

Candidates who pass the MCQ examination will be provided with information and access to the next step of the regulatory examination (the OSCE). Candidates who fail the MCQ examination will be provided with a report identifying the area(s) where they selected incorrect answers.

Although there is no limit on the number of times a candidate can repeat the MCQ examination, the CMBA and Ahpra recommend that candidates carefully consider the results of their previous examination(s) before deciding to repeat an examination.

### Monitoring, evaluation and review

This policy will be reviewed from time to time as required. This will generally be at least every three years.

### Definitions and abbreviations

**Candidate** is an overseas-qualified Chinese herbal medicine practitioner or acupuncturist who is sitting the CMBA regulatory examinations.

**CMBA regulatory examinations** are used by the CMBA to assess overseas-qualified Chinese herbal medicine practitioners and acupuncturists who apply to register in Australia and who are assessed as holding a qualification that is relevant but not substantially equivalent or based on similar competencies to an Australian approved qualification (and who meet the mandatory registration standards).

### Associated documents

*CMBA regulatory examinations candidate handbook – multiple-choice question examination*

### Effective date

October 2023