



REGISTRATION STANDARD FOR SPECIALIST REGISTRATION

February 2015

REGISTRATION STANDARD FOR SPECIALIST REGISTRATION FOR THE PODIATRY SPECIALTY OF PODIATRIC SURGERY

Authority

This registration standard has been approved by the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council (the Ministerial Council) on 10 October 2014 pursuant to the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory (the National Law). It takes effect from 24 February 2015.

Summary

The Podiatry Board of Australia (Board) has approval from the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council (Ministerial Council) for specialist registration for the podiatry specialty of podiatric surgery.

The Board has developed this standard for specialist registration under Part 7, Division 2 of the National Law.

This standard sets out the requirements that a podiatrist must meet to be granted specialist registration to practise as a podiatric surgeon in Australia and the ongoing requirements to maintain specialist registration.

An applicant for specialist registration must be eligible for specialist registration; and have completed a minimum of two years full-time (or equivalent) general podiatry practice in a clinical setting. An applicant must also meet the requirements for general registration as a podiatrist in Australia and any additional requirements for podiatric surgeons as specified in the Board's registration standards, including the Board's *Continuing professional development registration standard*.

Practitioners may hold both general registration as a podiatrist and specialist registration as a podiatric surgeon. These practitioners will be included on the Register of Podiatrists and the Board's Specialists Register.

Practitioners may hold specialist registration as a podiatric surgeon without also holding general registration as a podiatrist. These practitioners will be included on the Board's Specialists Register only and will have a restricted scope of practice, limiting the practitioner to practice that is relevant to the scope of practice of podiatric surgery.

Scope of application

This standard applies to all applicants for specialist registration as a podiatric surgeon under Part 7, Division 2 of the National Law and to all applicants for renewal of specialist registration under Part 7, Division 9 of the National Law.

Background

Section 57 of the National Law sets out the requirements for eligibility for specialist registration, which includes among other things, that an individual must be qualified for registration in the specialty and meet any other requirements for registration stated in an approved registration standard for the specialty. Section 58 of the National Law sets out the qualification requirements for specialist registration.

A link to the National Law is available at www.ahpra.gov.au under *About*.

An approved qualification for the specialty is a qualification obtained by completing an approved program of study for the specialty. The Board's approved programs of study for the podiatry specialty of podiatric surgery are published on the Board's website.

Information on how overseas trained podiatric surgeons can have their knowledge and clinical skills assessed to ascertain whether they are qualified to hold specialist registration as a podiatric surgeon in Australia is available on the Board's website under *Specialist registration*.

Requirements for initial registration

All applicants for specialist registration as a podiatric surgeon are required to:

1. Meet the eligibility requirements for specialist registration as defined in section 57 of the National Law.
2. Provide evidence of having completed a minimum of two years' full-time (or equivalent) general podiatry practice in a clinical setting.

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For the purpose of this registration standard two years' full-time (or equivalent) general podiatry practice is defined as a minimum of 35 hours per week; and practice in a clinical setting means that at least 80 per cent of work as a registered podiatrist involves direct clinical care and management of podiatric pathology.

This general practice requirement may be achieved by experience outside Australia, subject to assessment and approval by the Board.

3. Meet the requirements for general registration as a podiatrist in Australia and any additional requirements for podiatric surgeons as specified in the Board's registration standards, including the Board's *Continuing professional development registration standard*.
4. Submit the relevant application form for specialist registration with the required documentation and any requisite fee as set out in the application form.
5. Provide any other information the Board may require under section 80 of the National Law to determine whether the applicant is a suitable person to hold specialist registration.

Period of registration

The Board will initially grant specialist registration for the period until the following 30 November. Thereafter, specialist registration may be renewed for a period of 12 months at a time, with an expiry date of 30 November of each year.

Restricted scope of practice

A podiatric surgeon who holds specialist registration but does not hold general registration as a podiatrist will have a restricted scope of practice limiting the practitioner to practice that is relevant to the scope of practice of podiatric surgery. This will be recorded on the Board's Specialist Register.

Requirements for renewal of specialist registration

Renewal of specialist registration will be subject to the practitioner meeting the following requirements:

1. Completion of an annual renewal form including a statement as required by section 109 of the National Law.
2. Demonstrated compliance with any conditions on registration.
3. Any additional investigation, information, examination or assessment required by the Board in accordance with section 80 of the National Law.

Review

Effective from: 24 February 2015

Date of review: The Board will review this standard at least every three (3) years from the date of commencement.