

Authority

This registration standard has been approved by the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council on 27 April 2012 pursuant to the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act* (the National Law) as in force in each state and territory with approval taking effect from 18 June 2012.

Summary

Section 66 of the National Law (on limited registration for postgraduate training or supervised practice) allows the Board to register individuals to undertake a period of postgraduate training or supervised practice or to undertake assessment or sit an examination that is approved by the Board such as the clinical part of a postgraduate physiotherapy program or the Australian Physiotherapy Council (APC) assessment process.

The registration standard sets out both the initial and ongoing requirements of limited registration for postgraduate training or supervised practice.

The Board will include the requirements of limited registration on the national register pursuant to section 225 of the National Law.

Scope of application

This registration standard applies to individuals applying for limited registration for postgraduate training or supervised practice, under section 66 of the National Law, or for renewal of limited registration for postgraduate training or supervised practice, under section 107 of the National Law.

Requirements

All applicants must have completed a qualification that is relevant to and suitable for either the postgraduate training, supervised practice, assessment or examination.

The provision of all information required for an application for limited registration or an application to renew limited registration is the responsibility of the applicant.

Applicants must comply with the requirements of section 65 of the National Law which includes meeting the Board's registration standards on English language skills, professional indemnity insurance arrangements, criminal history, recency of practice and continuing professional development. These registration standards are available on the Board's website at www.physiotherapyboard.gov.au under *Registration standards*.

Non-compliance with registration standards

Engaging in practice beyond the scope of practice permitted by the registration standards may amount to *unprofessional conduct* or *professional misconduct* under Part 8 of the National Law (or the relevant sections of the law pertaining to co-regulatory jurisdictions). Should a breach of the registration standards occur (such as an individual continues to practise after the expiration of the *APC Interim Certificate*), the Board may commence action under Part 8 of the National Law to place conditions on practitioner's registration so that the practitioner is not able to practise in Australia because the requirements for limited registration have not been met (being 'relevant action' within the meaning of section 178 of the National Law). A breach of any of the requirements of this registration standard or any of the Board's registration standards may also satisfy the requirements of immediate action under section 156 of the National Law.

Purpose of registration and notation on the register of physiotherapists

Individuals granted limited registration for postgraduate training or supervised practice should note that the registration is granted for the particular purpose of undertaking a period of postgraduate training or supervised practice or to undertake assessment or sit an examination that is approved by the Board such as the clinical part of a postgraduate physiotherapy program or to complete the APC assessment process. The terms of the limited registration for postgraduate training or supervised practice will be notated on the register of physiotherapists and any practice outside those terms **is not permitted**.

The type of notation that will appear on the public register will be, for example:

For limited registration for postgraduate training:

Limited registration for postgraduate training is granted under section 66 of the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act as in force in each state and territory to <date> for the purpose of <postgraduate training (if applicable), with practice at place under the supervision of person>. Practice outside these parameters is not permitted.

For limited registration for supervised practice:

Limited registration for supervised practice is granted under section 66 of the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act as in force in each state and territory to <date> for the purpose of supervised practice to prepare for the APC Clinical Assessment (for those

*applicants who do not seek to practise: <No practice is permitted> or for those applicants who seek to practise physiotherapy: <with practise at place under the supervision of person>. Practice outside these parameters **is not permitted***

In addition to the requirements of this registration standard the Board may grant limited registration for postgraduate training or supervised practice, in accordance with section 83 of the National Law, subject to any conditions the Board considers necessary or desirable in the circumstances.

Postgraduate training

1. Only successful completion of the APC assessment process will qualify a physiotherapist trained overseas for general registration.
2. Limited registration for postgraduate training is inextricably linked to the individual's enrolment in an Australian postgraduate physiotherapy program of study. Participation in such a program of study does not lead to general registration. The individual must be studying full-time or part-time.
3. In accordance with section 72 of the National Law, the period of registration can be no more than 12 months. If the Board decides to register a physiotherapist, the registration starts when the Board makes the decision and expires at the end of the last day of the period of registration as published on the Board's website (www.physiotherapyboard.gov.au) from time to time, or 30 days from when the postgraduate physiotherapy program of study ceases or the physiotherapist defers from the postgraduate program of study, whichever is sooner.
4. The Board may investigate an individual for non-compliance or refuse to renew the limited registration for postgraduate training when the individual's enrolment in the postgraduate program of study ceases, the individual defers from the program of study, or the enrolment is terminated from the postgraduate program of study.
5. The individual must provide written evidence from the education provider that all practice as a registrant with limited registration will be under supervision.
6. Limited registration is restricted to undertaking training. An application for working outside the training program, under appropriate supervision (in accordance with the Board's supervision guideline published at www.physiotherapyboard.gov.au under *Codes and guidelines*) may be considered by the Board. Such applicants must comply with application requirements of *limited registration for supervised*

practice with the exception of holding an APC *Interim Certificate*, as detailed in this registration standard.

Renewal of limited registration for postgraduate training

Limited registration, as set out by section 72 of the National Law, must be renewed annually and can be renewed a maximum of three (3) times. After this, a new application for limited registration can be made and will need to meet the requirements of this registration standard and any other registration requirements as set by the Board at that time.

Renewal of limited registration for postgraduate training may be granted when the period of the program is greater than 12 months.

The Board may also renew limited registration when the program provider indicates that a subsequent assessment or a repeat of a component of the program is indicated.

Renewal of limited registration for postgraduate training will be subject to the physiotherapist meeting the following requirements:

1. completion of an annual renewal form in accordance with section 107 of the National Law, including an annual statement in accordance with section 109 and
2. demonstrated compliance with any conditions or requirements on registration, including adherence to the Board's supervision guidelines, where applicable.

Limited registration for supervised practice

1. The individual must hold a valid APC *Interim Certificate*. Practice may only be undertaken up until the end date of the valid APC *Interim Certificate*.
2. In accordance with section 72 of the National Law, the period of registration can be no more than 12 months. If the Board decides to register a physiotherapist, the registration starts when the Board makes the decision and expires at the end of the last day of the period of registration as published on the Board's website (www.physiotherapyboard.gov.au) from time to time, or when the APC *Interim Certificate* expires, is cancelled or terminated, whichever is sooner.
3. The Board may investigate an individual for non-compliance or refuse to renew the limited registration for supervised practice if the individual's APC *Interim Certificate* expires, is cancelled or is terminated before the end date of the registration period and the individual continues to practise after this date, or if

the individual does not adhere to the requirements of supervision.

4. Practice is only allowed in accordance with the Board's supervision guideline, available at www.physiotherapyboard.gov.au. If the individual seeks to practise physiotherapy in Australia.
5. A letter from the host employer confirming the offer of employment including details of the date(s), location(s) of practice, scope/area of practice and information on supervisor(s) according to the Board's supervision guideline must be provided to the Board with the individual's application.

Renewal of limited registration for supervised practice

Limited registration, as set out by section 72 of the National Law must be renewed annually and can be renewed a maximum of three (3) times. After this time a new application for limited registration can be made and will need to meet the requirements of this registration standard and any other registration requirements as set by the Board at that time.

Renewal of limited registration for supervised practice will be subject to the physiotherapist meeting the following requirements:

1. submission of a completed renewal form in accordance with section 107 of the National Law, including an annual statement in accordance with section 109 and
2. demonstrated compliance with any conditions or requirements on registration, including adherence to the Board's supervision guideline.

Definitions

Supervision means the monitoring of and reporting on the performance of a physiotherapist by a physiotherapist with general registration in accordance with the Board's *Supervision guidelines for physiotherapy*.

National Law means the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act (the National Law) as in force in each state and territory.

References

Supervision guidelines for physiotherapy, Physiotherapy Board of Australia.

Recency of practice registration standard, Physiotherapy Board of Australia.

Review

Date of issue: 18 June 2012

Date of review: This standard will be reviewed at least every three years

Last reviewed: