



NEW ZEALAND
CHIROPRACTIC BOARD
TE POARI KAIKOROHITI O AOTEAROA

POLICY AND GUIDELINES:

NEWLY REGISTERED OVERSEAS-TRAINED PRACTITIONERS:
RECERTIFICATION PROGRAMME

May 2024

Associated Policy Documents

- CPD Recertification programme
- Competency standards

Revision Schedule

Version	Date Approved	Next Review
One	01 April 2020	April 2023
Two	16 May 2024	May 2027

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1. INTRODUCTION

1. The Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 (the Act) provides a framework for the regulation of health care providers. The principal purpose of the Act, as set out in section 3, is:

“to protect the health and safety of members of the public by providing mechanisms to ensure that health practitioners are competent and fit to practise their professions.”

2. Among other responsibilities set out in section 118 of the Act, it is the Chiropractic Board’s (the Board’s) role to recognise, accredit and set programmes to ensure the ongoing competence of health practitioners. These programmes are referred to as recertification programmes under section 41 of the Act.
3. The Board has identified that chiropractors who completed their primary training in a jurisdiction other than New Zealand do not receive education in aspects of healthcare unique to New Zealand. There are public health and safety risks associated with the failure of a health practitioner to understand the legal, cultural, and structural environment in which healthcare services are being provided. The Board has therefore set a recertification programme under section 41(3)(f) of the Act, requiring all chiropractors whose primary qualification was not obtained in New Zealand, and who register or re-register as a chiropractor after the date of the programme’s introduction, to complete education on practising in the New Zealand context.
4. This recertification programme is an additional requirement to the Board’s CPD recertification programme for practising chiropractors; however, education undertaken as part of this programme can count towards the required hours for that programme where the individual chiropractor can link the education to a rationale, learning objective, reviews and reflects on learning as appropriate.

2. NEW REGISTRANT RECERTIFICATION PROGRAMME REQUIREMENTS

CORE REQUIREMENTS

1. This recertification programme applies to all chiropractors who:
 - a. did not obtain their primary chiropractic qualification in a New Zealand training institution and obtained registration with the New Zealand Chiropractic Board on or after the date that this recertification programme is implemented:
 - b. have registered via the provisions of the Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act 1997 and do not hold a qualification from a New Zealand training institution:
 - c. did not obtain their primary chiropractic qualification in a New Zealand training institution and are re-registering having previously been removed from the Register for any reason more than three years prior to the date of their application for re-registration.
2. All chiropractors to whom this recertification programme applies must successfully complete the following training courses relevant to the practice of chiropractic in New Zealand:
 - i. [Mauriora: Foundation course in cultural competence](#)
 - ii. [Tāhū Hauora: Learning and education modules on understanding bias in health care](#)

3. Costs associated with completing the requirements of this recertification programme will be met by the individual chiropractor.
4. Evidence of completion of all courses (by way of certificates of completion) must be provided to the Board (admin@chiropracticboard.org.nz) within three-months of the date of registration of the chiropractor. Chiropractors must supply all three certificates in one email.

CONSEQUENCES OF NON-COMPLIANCE

5. This recertification programme is a key aspect of the Board's obligations to ensure that chiropractors who did not train in New Zealand are competent to practise within the New Zealand context, having regard to the unique legal, cultural, and structural elements of the provision of healthcare services in New Zealand. The Board will take a serious view of any failure to comply with requirements.
6. Under section 43 of the Act, the Board has the power to make the following orders in relation to any participant who fails to satisfy the requirements of a recertification programme:
 - a. that the chiropractors' scope of practice be altered –
 - b. by changing any health services that the chiropractor is permitted to perform; or
 - c. by including any condition or conditions that the authority considers appropriate:
 - d. that the chiropractor's registration be suspended.
7. Failure to satisfy the requirements of this recertification programme include, but are not limited to:
 - failure to successfully complete the required courses within the specified timeframe;
 - failure to provide evidence of having successfully completed the required courses within the specified timeframe.
8. Where it appears a chiropractor failed to satisfy the requirements of the recertification programme, the chiropractors will be invited to provide comments, and the matter will be referred to the Board for consideration of whether to exercise its powers under section 43 of the Act. The Board will consider each referral on a case-by-case basis, considering any relevant considerations regarding the individual chiropractor's circumstances and reasons for failing to meet requirements.

3. EXEMPTIONS

1. Section 41(5) of the Act allows the Board to exempt any chiropractor from all or any of the requirements of this recertification programme. The Board exempts all chiropractors who already hold registration on the date this recertification programme comes into force, and all chiropractors who obtained their primary chiropractic qualification in a New Zealand training institution.
2. The Board may consider an application for an extension, or exemption from some or all requirements of the recertification programme where the applicant can provide evidence of extenuating circumstances limiting the applicant's ability to meet requirements. Exemptions are likely to be granted only in exceptional circumstances and are highly unlikely to be granted retrospectively. The Board strongly recommends that any application for exemption is made as

soon as the individual becomes aware, they may have difficulty meeting requirements. The Board is generally unlikely to exempt chiropractors who register in preparation for practice in New Zealand but delay applying for a practising certificate beyond the three-month timeframe allowed by this recertification programme.

4. FURTHER RESOURCES:

RECOMMENDED READING:

- Waitangi Tribunal Te Rōpū Whakamana i te Tiriti o Waitangi:
 - [Meaning of the treaty.](#)
 - [Principles of the treaty.](#)
- Manatū Hauora [Māori health publications](#)
- International Journal for Equity in Health: [Why cultural safety rather than cultural competency is required to achieve health equity: a literature review and recommended definition](#)
- Te Taurapa Tūhono | NZ Trade and Enterprise: [Te Kete Māori](#)
- Te Tāhū Hauora | Health Quality & Safety Commission: [Ngā hononga hauora rite tahi Health equity links](#)

USEFUL WEBSITES AND RESOURCES:

- [Treaty Resource Centre – He Puna Mātauranga o Te Tiriti](#)
- [Aki Hauora app](#): An app for health professionals to learn useful te reo
- Te Tāhū Hauora | Health Quality & Safety Commission video: [Māori cultural practices](#)
- TEDx Ruakura Video: [Indigenous knowledge has value](#)
- LeVa: [NZs national Pasifika cultural competency training courses](#)

5. REVIEW OF POLICY

The Board will review this policy periodically. Minor amendments for administrative purposes may be made without consultation, however, where the Board considers that a proposed amendment(s) amounts to a substantive change in recertification requirements, the Board will consult with stakeholders before deciding whether to implement the proposed amendment(s).