

Registration standard: Area of practice endorsements

Effective from: 1 December 2019

Summary

This registration standard sets out the Psychology Board of Australia's (the Board) requirements for endorsement of general registration for an approved area of practice. An area of practice endorsement is a notation on the public Register of Practitioners that indicates that the individual has completed an approved postgraduate qualification and a registrar program in an approved area of practice.¹

Areas of practice for endorsement are approved by the Ministerial Council under section 15 of the National Law. The approved areas of practice are:

- clinical neuropsychology
- clinical psychology
- community psychology
- counselling psychology
- educational and developmental psychology
- forensic psychology
- health psychology
- organisational psychology, and
- sport and exercise psychology.

Who does this standard apply to?

Area of practice endorsement is only available to psychologists who hold general registration.² This standard applies to psychologists who wish to apply for endorsement of general registration for an approved area of practice.

Qualification requirements

The minimum qualification necessary to be qualified to apply for endorsement of registration is an approved postgraduate qualification in that area of practice or another qualification that, in the Board's opinion, is substantially equivalent.³

Eligibility requirements

In addition to the minimum qualification, applicants must have completed a Board-approved registrar program including 3,000 hours of supervised practice with a Board-approved supervisor, or another period of supervised practice that, in the Board's opinion, is substantially equivalent to the registrar program.

¹ Or equivalent for overseas-qualified psychologists or psychologists granted endorsement under transition provisions at the commencement of the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (1 July 2010–30 June 2013). Further information on non-standard pathways is available on the Board's [website](#).

² The Board's [General registration standard](#) sets out the requirements for general registration as a psychologist.

³ Overseas-qualified applicants should refer to the Board's [website](#) for further information.

Some individuals may be eligible for a reduction in the number of hours of supervised practice required in the registrar program, depending on the program of study they completed or any existing area of practice endorsement.⁴

Other eligibility

Psychologists who previously held endorsement in an approved area of practice under the National Law may be considered eligible for that endorsement when returning to practice, provided they meet the requirements for general registration.

Definitions

Approved area of practice means that the Ministerial Council has, on the recommendation of the National Board, approved the area of practice in the profession as being an area of practice for which the registration of a practitioner in the profession may be endorsed.

Approved qualification for endorsement of registration means a qualification obtained by completing an approved program of study relevant to the endorsement which appears on the list of approved programs of study on the Board's website.

Board means the Psychology Board of Australia established under section 31 of the National Law.

General registration means general registration as a psychologist granted by the Board.

National Law means the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law as in force in each state and territory of Australia.

Psychologist means a person who holds general registration as a psychologist under the National Law.

Registrar program is a program of post-masters or post-doctoral supervised practice (in the same area of practice as the approved qualification) comprising psychological practice in an approved work role, supervision with a Board-approved supervisor, and active continuing professional development undertaken in accordance with the requirements set out in the *Guidelines on area of practice endorsements*.

Authority

This registration standard was approved by the Ministerial Council on 19 September 2019 with approval taking effect from 1 December 2019.

Registration standards are developed under section 38 of the National Law and are subject to wide-ranging consultation.

Review

This standard will be reviewed from time to time as required. This will generally be at least every five years.

Last reviewed: June 2019

This standard replaces the previously published registration standard dated 9 March 2011.

⁴ Refer to the [Guidelines on area of practice endorsements](#) for details.