



HEALTH PROFESSIONS LICENSING AUTHORITY	
TITLE: Entitlement to Registration Policy – Aboriginal Health Workers	
EFFECTIVE DATE: May 2004	REVIEWED: May 2005 May 2006 November 2006 May 2008
BOARD: ABORIGINAL HEALTH WORKERS BOARD OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY	

Purpose

This policy has been developed to provide clear direction to staff of the Health Professions Licensing Authority, members of the Aboriginal Health Workers Board of the Northern Territory and intending registrants, regarding the entitlement to register as an Aboriginal Health Worker in the Northern Territory.

Supporting policies

This policy should be considered in conjunction with the Health Professions Licensing Authority 'Registration Policy'.

Certification of documents

All documents provided with the application form must be originals, or, a photocopy certified to be a true copy by any of the following: Justice of the Peace; Commissioner for Oaths; Police Officer; Solicitor; Pharmacist, Bank Manager; Postal Manager; Australian Defence Force Commissioned Officer, NCO & Warrant Officer; or an authorised Health Professions Licensing Authority staff member. In very exceptional circumstances, where none of the persons mentioned above are available, the Board will accept documents certified by a recognised health centre manager or senior health professional within the Community.

Who is entitled to register as an Aboriginal Health Worker in the Northern Territory?

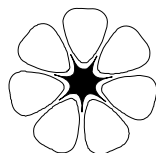
The Board will grant registration as Aboriginal Health Worker, to applicants who are able to provide evidence with their application as follows:

Section 20 Application for registration or enrolment

A person may only apply to be registered or enrolled in a category of registration or enrolment if the person –

- (a) has successfully completed an accredited course in the category of registration or enrolment in the Territory;
- (b) has successfully completed a course in the category of registration or enrolment outside the Territory that the Board considers is at least substantially equivalent to an accredited course in the category of registration or enrolment; or
- (c) has experience and training in the category of registration or enrolment that the Board considers is at least substantially equivalent to the successful completion of an accredited course in the category of registration or enrolment.

The Board only recognises applicants who have completed a recognised qualification who are of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent. (*refer page 3 of this policy*)



Section 22(a) Are eligible to apply

1. Certificate IV Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Primary Health Care (Practice); or
2. Certificate 111 Aboriginal Health Work (Clinical) studies awarded in the Northern Territory prior to 30 June 2008; or
3. Evidence of a qualification that is, in the opinion of the Board, equivalent to the qualification referred to in 1 (*above*);
4. The Board, on their individual merit, will assess applicants, who have previously been registered in the Northern Territory and have allowed their registration to lapse;
5. 65 points of identification, or a Statutory Declaration attesting to the applicants identity or other form of recognised identification; (*refer page 3 of this policy*)
6. A recent passport size photo with the applicant's signature on the back (*not required if photo provided with identification*);
7. Certified copy of proof of name change (*if applicable*), and
8. Declaration that they are of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent.

Section 22(b) and Section 22(c) Have sufficient competence and capacity to practise

1. A written reference attesting to the applicant's clinical competence, dated within the previous 6 months; (*not applicable for New Graduates*)
2. Evidence of clinical practice as an Aboriginal Health Worker within the last 3 years, (*not applicable to New graduates*), and
3. Declaration that they do not suffer any physical or mental illness that would prevent them from practising competently.

Section 22(d) Have an adequate command of the English language

Written evidence that they are English language literate which may include, but is not limited to:

1. A certified copy of the qualifications listed above or equivalent as determined by the Board.

Section 22(e) Have adequate professional indemnity arrangements in place

Applicants to make a declaration on their application form that if they intend to practise in the Northern Territory they will ensure that they have adequate professional indemnity arrangements in place.

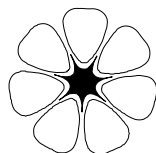
Section 22(f) Are of good character

All applicants to:

1. Declare that they have not had their name suspended or removed from a register or been refused registration for any reason relating to their professional conduct;
2. Declare that they have never been prohibited from or had any special condition imposed on their practice as a result of criminal, civil or disciplinary proceedings;
3. Declare that they have not been charged or convicted of any offence nor is any charge pending in any State/Territory/Country, and
4. Provide a written character reference dated within the last 6 months.

New graduates

In addition to the requirements above New Graduates must also provide a written reference from a lecturer from the education institution from which they have recently graduated, which refers to the applicant's competence, good character and successful completion of the qualification.



Identification Validation Standard

The applicant must provide 65 points of identification with their application for registration as an Aboriginal health worker in the Northern Territory. All documents must be an original or certified as a true copy of the original by a Board approved certifier. There are no exemptions to this standard. Applicants must provide at least one document that includes a photograph.

Category B document (70 points) Must provide only one from this category

- Front page of a current Australian passport; or
- Front page of any other passport; or
- Birth Certificate/Birth Card (*extract acceptable*); or
- Citizenship certificate; or
- A letter written by a recognised Aboriginal organisation confirming aboriginality.

Category C documents (40 points)

- License or permit issued under a law of Australia
- Identification card issued to a public service employee
- Identification card issued by a government department as evidence of a person's entitlement to a financial benefit
- Student card issued by an Australian tertiary education institution

Category D documents (25 points)

- International Drivers Licence
- Medicare card
- Public utilities account (*electricity bill, telephone bill*)
- Rates notice.
- Credit card (*maximum of two only*), cash card or passbook issued by a financial institution

Aboriginality

Only persons who are of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islanders descent are eligible for Aboriginal Health Worker registration in the Northern Territory. A person is of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent if considered Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander by their community and if they consider themselves Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. The Board may seek further evidence of the applicants claim to be Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

Further evidence may include, but is not limited to, a letter confirming Aboriginality is accepted by a recognised Aboriginal organisation. The letter must carry the organisations letterhead, hold the organisations official seal and be dated and signed by a person authorised by the organisation.