

HEALTH PROFESSIONS LICENSING AUTHORITY	
TITLE: Entitlement to Registration Policy	
EFFECTIVE DATE: May 2004	REVIEWED: June 2006, September 2007, February 2009
SCHEDULED NEXT REVIEW: July 2010	
BOARD: Dental 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 Dental Board of the Northern Territory and intending registrants regarding the entitlement to register a dental practitioner in the Northern Territory.

The following practitioners are covered by this policy:

1. Dentists
2. Dental Specialists
3. Dental Hygienists
4. Dental Prosthetists
5. Dental Therapists

Support Documentation:

The following should be considered in conjunction with

- Registration as a Dental Specialist Policy
- Health Practitioners Act 2004

Who is entitled to register as a dental practitioner in the Northern Territory?

The Board recognises the Australian Dental Council ("ADC") as the authority that assesses the standards of, and accredits Australian dental qualifications.

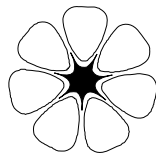
Under Health Practitioners Act Section 22(a) Are eligible to apply:

1. DENTISTS

- a) Completed an undergraduate degree in dentistry granted by a university in Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom or the Republic of Ireland and accredited by the Australian Dental Council (ADC), **OR**
- b) Has passed and been issued a certificate by the Australian Dental Examining Committee of the ADC; **or**
- c) Any qualifications recognised by the Board as being of equivalent standard (*the Board may require that the qualifications are assessed by ADC*).

Applicants must supply:

- Certified copy of qualifications from an Australian/New Zealand/United Kingdom/Republic of Ireland University School of Dentistry or Institute of Vocational education. Qualifications granted by the Australian Defence Force are not recognised, **or**
- If trained overseas, Evidence that the applicant has passed the Australian Dental Council Final Examination;
- Meet the Board's Identification validation requirements; and
- Certified copy of proof of name change (if applicable).



2. Dentists applying for registration as a Dental Specialist – the Dental Specialist program was completed in Australia

In addition to the requirements listed under Dentists (point 1):

- a) Certified copy of specialist qualification;
- b) Documentary evidence that they hold a higher qualification approved by the Board related to the specialty applied for. The qualifications acceptable to the Board are those awarded by University Schools of Dentistry for MDS or MDS_c by course work or an equivalent three years specialist training course approved by the Board;
- c) Documentary evidence that the course is at least three academic years in duration and if the course was completed part time, documentary evidence that the course has been completed in no more than six academic years;

3. Dentists applying for registration as a Dental Specialist – the Dental Specialist program was completed overseas

- a) Is a registered Dentist in Australia;
- b) Evidence that the specialist qualification has been assessed by the Australian Dental Council as the equivalent to an Australian specialist qualification;
- c) Documentary evidence that they have completed a period of not less than two years full time or an equivalent part time, in the general practise of dentistry after having obtained their primary dental qualification;
- d) Meet the Board's Identification validation requirements; and
- e) Certified copy of proof of name change (if applicable.)

4. Dental Hygienists educated in Australia

- a) Certified copy of qualifications from an Australian University School of Dentistry or Institute of Vocational education. Qualifications granted by the Australian Defence Force are not recognised.
- b) Meet the Board's Identification validation requirements; and
- c) Certified copy of proof of name change (if applicable.)

5. Dental Hygienists educated overseas

- a) Documentary evidence that they have successfully completed and Australian Dental Council accredited program or a qualifying dental examination conducted, by a School of Dental Studies, for example, the Faculty of Para Dental Studies, Gilles Plains, South Australia;
- b) Meet the Board's Identification validation requirements; and
- c) Certified copy of proof of name change (if applicable.)

6. Dental Prosthetists educated in Australia

- a) Certified copy of qualifications from an Australian University School of Dentistry or Institute of Vocational Education.
- b) Meet the Board's Identification validation requirements; and
- c) Certified copy of proof of name change (if applicable.)

7. Dental Prosthetists educated overseas

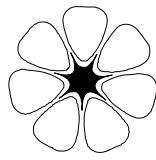
- a) Documentary evidence that their qualification has been assessed as meeting the competencies as set out in the Advanced Diploma in Dental Prosthetics accredited under the Health Training Package, by the Australian National Training Authority;
- b) Meet the Board's Identification validation requirements; and
- c) Certified copy of proof of name change (if applicable.)

8. Dental Therapist educated in Australia

- a) Certified copy of qualifications from an Australian University School of Dentistry or Institute of Vocational education;
- b) Meet the Board's Identification validation requirements; and
- c) Certified copy of proof of name change (if applicable.)

9. Dental Therapist educated overseas

- a) Documentary evidence that they have successfully completed and Australian Dental Council accredited program or a qualifying dental examination conducted, by a School of Dental Studies.



- b) Meet the Board's Identification validation requirements; and
- c) Certified copy of proof of name change (if applicable.)

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

Applicant to:

1. Declare that they have practised within the preceding 5 years, (not applicable New Graduates);
2. Declare that they are competent practitioners;
3. Declare that they are participating in continuing professional development activities;
4. Declare that they do not suffer any physical or mental illness that would prevent them from practising competently; and
5. Provide a written reference from their current or most recent employer dated within the previous 6 months, (not applicable New Graduates or self-employed practitioners.).

New Graduates

Provide a letter from a lecturer from the University where the course was completed attesting to the applicant's competence.

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

1. Dental practitioners educated in Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland.

The Board has discretionary power to require an applicant to provide proof of English language competence at any time.

2. All other overseas educated dental practitioners

Documentary evidence that they meet the Australian Dental Council English language requirements in a specific English language test for Health Professionals.

In exceptional circumstances the Board will waive the English language test.

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

All applicants are 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 practise as a result of criminal, civil or disciplinary proceedings;
3. Declare that they have not been charged or convicted of any offence;
4. Declare that they do not know of any outstanding matter relating to their registration in any state/territory/country
5. Provide a written character reference dated within the last 6 months; and
6. Provide a certificate of good standing from a dental registration Board that they currently hold registration with or most recently held registration with. (not applicable New Graduates)

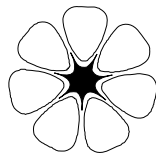
New Graduates

New graduates are also required to provide a letter from their University/Institute of Vocational Education attesting to their good character.

Identification Validation Requirements

All applicants must provide 100 points of identification with their application for registration as a dental practitioner in the Northern Territory. All documents must be an original or certified as a true copy of the original by a Board approved certifier.

All applicants must provide at least one document that includes a photograph.



No exemptions to the Identification Validation requirements will be accepted.

Category A document (70 points)

- Copy of current registration with an Australian Dental Board

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 with copy of current visa; or
- Birth Certificate/Birth Card (extract acceptable); or
- Citizenship certificate

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
- International English Language Testing System Test Report Form (IELTS-TRF) (with photograph only)

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
- Certificate of Good Standing/Verification of Registration Status. The document must be from the immediate previous regulatory authority. The document must be received directly from that regulatory authority, not from the applicant.
- Evidence of current dental registration with an overseas dental regulatory authority

**All forms and any other updated information can be found on the Dental Board of the Northern Territory's website www.nt.gov.au/health/registrationboards

***Further information regarding the Australian Dental Council's assessment of qualifications can be found on website www.adc.org.au