



**Occupational Therapy
Board of New Zealand**

TE POARI WHAKAORA NGANGAHAU O AOTEAROA

FOSTERING FAITH AND CONFIDENCE IN THE PROFESSION

**POLICY FOR REGISTRATION IN NEW ZEALAND
UNDER THE TRANS TASMAN MUTUAL
RECOGNITION ACT 1997**

See also Registration Information for Practitioners Applying Under the Trans
Tasman Mutual Recognition Act 1997

Refer Part 2 of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 &
The Trans Tasman Mutual Recognition Act 1997

REQUIREMENTS FOR REGISTRATION UNDER THE TRANS TASMAN MUTUAL RECOGNITION ACT 1997 (TTMRA)

Purpose

This policy explains the principle of the TTMRA and the Occupational Therapy Board of New Zealand's (OTBNZ's) policy and process requirements for registration under the TTMRA.

Background

Principle of the Trans Tasman Mutual Recognition Act 1997 (TTMRA)

The principle of the TTMRA is that an individual registered and entitled to practise their profession/occupation in a participating Australian jurisdiction, is entitled to be registered in New Zealand for the equivalent profession/occupation.

Registration under the TTMRA is a streamlined and quicker option for Australian registered practitioners.

Registration in Australia

In 2008 the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) established a single National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (National Scheme) for registered health practitioners. In July 2012, the profession of 'occupational therapists' joined the National Scheme

The National Scheme is established under the Health Practitioners Regulation National Law (the National Law) in force in each Australian state and territory.

Therefore under the TTMRA, Australian practitioners who are registered and entitled to practise occupational therapy in any Australian State or Territory may be entitled to equivalent registration in New Zealand.

Policy for registration under the TTMRA

Individuals applying for registration under the TTMRA:

- are required to be registered and hold a current practising certificate to practise occupational therapy in Australia; and
- are required to pay an application fee which is equivalent to the fee for New Zealand qualified applicants, (i.e. less than the fee for other overseas qualified applicants) and apply and pay for a New Zealand practising certificate; and
- will be granted deemed registration from the date their complete application is accepted by the OTBNZ, and may practise the equivalent occupation pending a decision regarding substantive registration; and
- will be entitled to a decision from the OTBNZ about substantive registration within one month of being granted deemed registration

Date approved: November 2015

Due for review: November 2018