

## **Consultation on standards for occupational therapists involved in driving assessments and vehicle modifications**

### **Preamble and context**

The standards have been developed in response to the Board receiving a high number of complaints from the public related to driving assessments over the last 10 years.

The Occupational Therapy Board of New Zealand (the Board) is exercising its powers under section 118(i) to set standards of clinical competence. By setting standards the Board is making clear to practitioners and the public its expectations. The standards should be seen to support practice and allow for practitioners to address education and training needs.

Standards are additional to the Competencies for Registration and Continuing Practice and hold the same legal status. The standards will be a benchmark of the minimum standard of practice and competence for driving and vehicle modification assessors.

Following the period of consultation the Board will publish the standards. This means the standards can be used by the Board, or committees of the Board when concerns are raised.

We understand there has been previous work on practice guidelines developed by Occupational Therapy New Zealand – Whakaora Ngangahau Aotearoa. These guidelines are separate to the standards and are not legally enforceable by the Board.

### **Note**

#### **Standard**

A standard is a measure or must do statements to aim for.

#### **Policy**

Is a description of practice in achieving/implementing the standard.

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