



## **MEDICAL RADIATION TECHNOLOGISTS BOARD of QUEENSLAND** **REGISTRATION POLICY**

This document describes the registration policy of the Board in relation to issuing of various categories of registration.

The policy should be read in conjunction with the relevant legislation listed below:

*Medical Radiation Technologists Registration Act 2001*(the Act)

*Medical Radiation Technologists Registration Regulation 2002* (the Regulation)

*Mutual Recognition (Queensland) Act 1992*(MR Act)

*Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition (Queensland) Act 2003*(TTMR Act)

The legislation is available for download from [www.legislation.qld.gov.au](http://www.legislation.qld.gov.au).

### **BACKGROUND**

The Board has determined that a standard policy be developed that addresses attainment of a recognised qualification and fitness to practice principles as outlined in sections 43 (1); 43 (2); 44 (1); 44(2); 44(3); and 59(2) a) of the Act.

### **POLICY**

1. **Definitions**
2. **Qualifications**
3. **Statement of Accreditation**
4. **Fitness to Practice (nature, extent and period of practice since qualification date)**
5. **Conditions applied to registration**
  - a. **Supervised Practice Program**
  - b. **Supervisory conditions**

#### **1. DEFINITIONS OF MEDICAL RADIATION TECHNOLOGIST**

##### **Definition of Medical Imaging Technologist**

The practice of the profession for a medical imaging technologist is an activity carried out by a registrant involving the production of images using ionising radiation and other medical imaging modalities to help in the diagnosis and management of disease or injury in humans. Activity is further defined as clinical and/or administration, research and education.

##### **Definition of Nuclear Medicine Technologist**

The practice of the profession for a nuclear medicine technologist is an activity carried out by a registrant involving the use of unsealed radioactive compounds and other modalities in the development and delivery of the following procedures:

- I. Imaging and measurement of physiological processes to help in the diagnosis of disease and injury in humans;
- II. Palliation or treatment of disease in humans.

Activity is further defined as clinical and/or administration, research and education.

## **Definition of Radiation Therapist**

The practice of the profession for a radiation therapist is an activity carried out by a registrant involving the development, implementation and verification of radiation therapy treatment plans to contain, cure or relieve disease in humans. Activity is further defined as clinical, and/or administration, research and education.

## **2. QUALIFICATIONS**

### **Australian Qualifications**

#### Either

Prescribed degree qualification listed in Schedule I of the Regulation.

#### or

A qualification in the profession that is substantially equivalent to, or based on similar competencies to that required for, a current Australian or New Zealand qualification.

### **New Zealand Qualifications**

Applicants in possession of New Zealand Qualifications may apply under TTMR.

Graduates from New Zealand applying under TTMR who have less than 12 months post qualification clinical experience will be required to meet equivalence of occupation as per section 19(5) of the TTMR Act. A period of supervision to meet required competencies will be set by the Board.

### **Overseas Qualifications**

Applicants with overseas qualifications will have those qualifications assessed by the Board pursuant to section 44(1)(b) of the Act "...a qualification in the profession that is substantially equivalent to, or is based on similar competencies to that required for, a current Australian or New Zealand qualification".

Further details for applicants can be found on the Information Sheet on the Board's website

[www.mrtboard.qld.gov.au/applicationforms](http://www.mrtboard.qld.gov.au/applicationforms) or [www.mrtboard.qld.gov.au/registration](http://www.mrtboard.qld.gov.au/registration)

## **3. STATEMENT OF ACCREDITATION**

It is important to note that a Statement of Accreditation from the Australian Institute of Radiography (AIR) or Certificate of Accreditation from the Australian and New Zealand Society of Nuclear Medicine (ANZSNM) is not a prescribed requirement for application for registration. However if a Statement of Accreditation from either of these two professional associations has been issued it will be reviewed by the Board as part of an application for registration.

## **4. FITNESS TO PRACTICE**

When considering an application for registration the Board will consider the candidates fitness to practice in such areas as:

- Mental and physical health;
- Command of the English language;
- Criminal history; and
- Conditions to practice applied in other jurisdictions including the *Radiation Safety Act 1999*.

Details can be obtained in the Guidelines for Registration which are downloadable from the Board's website or from the Act.

## **5. CONDITIONS APPLIED TO REGISTRATION**

### **i) Supervised Practice Program**

Pursuant to section 57 of the Act, registrants who have not completed the supervised practice program for the profession to the Board's satisfaction will be granted General Registration with Probationary Conditions. These registrants will be required to fulfill the supervision program as defined in section 61 of the Act and Part 3 of the Regulation.

The Supervised Practice Program Policy can be downloaded from the Board's website

[www.mrtboards.qld.gov.au/publications/SupervisedPracticeProgram](http://www.mrtboards.qld.gov.au/publications/SupervisedPracticeProgram).

## ii) Other Conditions applied to registration

The Board, under section 45(1)(f) of the Act may, when determining an application, have regard to the relevant qualification being conferred or awarded more than three years before the date of application for general registration. In these circumstances the Board may take into account ***‘the nature, extent and period of any practice of the profession by the applicant since their qualification date’***. If the Board does not consider that the applicant’s practice of the profession fulfils its requirements, applicants may be granted registration with conditions under section 58 and/or 59 of the Act.

The conditions across the three professions are as listed below. The column headings relate specifically to an applicant’s practice

### MEDICAL IMAGING TECHNOLOGY

<b>1 year practice in last 5 years</b> in a role as per the definition of a medical imaging technologist.	<b>Less than 12 months practice in last 5 years.</b>	<b>Limited or no practice in past 5- 10 years.</b>	<b>Limited or no practice in past 10 years or more.</b>
No conditions imposed.	<p>Must complete a period of supervision that, when added to the practice they have undertaken in the past 5 years, equates to one year (FTE). The supervision ratio is always at least one to one.</p> <p><b>Board to set a review period of 18 months.</b></p>	<p>Must complete a period of supervision of 1824 hours FTE, within a practice that offers a level of supervision that is always at least one to one. No sole practice is allowed. The registrant can work on call or shift work in 2<sup>nd</sup> half of supervision period after a successful interim report as per the Board’s Policy.</p> <p>This does not need to be in an accredited practice for the SPP.</p> <p><b>Board to set a review period of 2 years.</b></p>	<p>Must complete a full Supervised Practice Program as per that undertaken by a recent graduate.</p> <p>The supervision ratio will be 2:1 and the program must be completed in an SPP accredited practice within a two year time frame from point of registration. The registrant can work on call or shift work in 2<sup>nd</sup> half of supervision period after a successful interim report as per the Board’s policy.</p> <p><b>Board to set a review period of 2 years.</b></p>

### RADIATION THERAPIST

<b>1 year practice in last 5 years</b> in a role as per the definition of a radiation therapist.	<b>Less than 12 months practice in last 5 years.</b>	<b>Limited or no practice in past 5 to 10 years.</b>	<b>Limited or no practice in past 10 years or more.</b>
No conditions imposed.	<p>Must complete a period of supervision, that when added to the practice they have undertaken in the past 5 years, equates to one year (FTE). The ratio is always at least two to one 2:1.</p> <p><b>Board to set a review period of 18 months.</b></p>	<p>Must complete a period of supervision of 1824 hours FTE within a practice that offers a level of supervision that is always at least three to one.</p> <p>The registrant can work on call or shift work in 2<sup>nd</sup> half of supervision period after a successful interim report as per the Board’s policy.</p>	<p>The applicant for registration must upgrade their qualification to bachelor degree level if their current qualification is at diploma level. The applicant must then successfully complete the full Supervised Practice Program.</p> <p>Where qualification is at Bachelor level, the applicant should complete a Board approved refresher program.</p>

		<b>Board to set a review period of 2 years.</b>	<p>The supervision program can be undertaken concurrently with the academic upgrade.</p> <p>The supervision ratio will be 3:1 and the program must be completed in an SPP accredited practice within a two year time frame from point of registration. The registrant can work on call or shift work in 2<sup>nd</sup> half of supervision period after a successful interim report as per the Board's policy.</p> <p><b>Board to set a review period of 2 years.</b></p>
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### NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGIST

<b>1 year practice in last 5 years</b> in a role as per the definition of a nuclear medicine technologist.	<b>Limited practice in past 5 years.</b>	<b>Limited or no practice in past 5 to 10 years.</b>	<b>Limited or no practice in past 10 years or more.</b>
No conditions imposed.	<p>Must complete a period of supervision, that when added to the practice they have undertaken in the past 5 years, equates to one year (FTE). The ratio is always at least one to one.</p> <p><b>Board to set a review period of 18 months.</b></p>	<p>Must complete a period of supervision of 1824 hours FTE within a practice that offers a level of supervision that is always at least one to one. No sole practice allowed. The registrant can work on call or shift work in 2<sup>nd</sup> half of supervision period after a successful interim report as per the Board's policy.</p> <p><b>Board to set a review period of 2 years.</b></p>	<p>Must pass the ANZSNM OQA exam or equivalent, followed by a full Supervised Practice Program as per that undertaken by a recent graduate. The supervision ratio will be 2:1 and the program must be completed in an SPP accredited practice within a two year time frame from point of registration.</p> <p>The registrant can work on call or shift work in 2<sup>nd</sup> half of supervision period after a successful interim report as per the Board's policy.</p> <p><b>Board to set a review period of 2 years.</b></p>

#### Process for granting registration and monitoring registration with conditions (other than Supervised Practice Program conditions) and review period:

- The application will be reviewed by the registration committee.
- A recommendation will be made from the registration committee to the Board for a decision.
- The Board will determine that general registration with the necessary conditions be granted.
- Every applicant, and their proposed supervisor, must supply a supervision plan to the Professional Advisor to the Board for consideration. Guidelines for the supervision plan can be obtained from the Professional Advisor.
- Practice cannot commence until the plan has been approved. If the Professional Advisor is unavailable, the registrations committee will approve the plan.
- The review period will be monitored by the Professional Advisor and Principal Coordinator.

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