

## Communiqué

---

18 September 2012

### English language requirements for 2012 graduates: updated policy

The Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia has approved a new timeline for 2012 graduates to meet English language skills registration requirements.

The amended policy ensures that 2012 graduates are not disadvantaged by new policies introduced by the transition this year to the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme). It also ensures public protection standards are being maintained by explicitly making English language competence an element of their supervised provisional practice.

The Board's mandatory *English language skills registration standard* came into effect on 1 July 2012. It requires all applicants for initial registration to demonstrate English language skills at International English Language Testing System (IELTS) academic level 7 or the equivalent. An internationally qualified applicant or an applicant who did not complete their secondary education in English must demonstrate that they have the necessary English language skills for registration purposes.

Under the Board's amended policy for those applicants who do not meet English language requirements:

- New graduates (of three-year courses) applying for Provisional registration will have the following conditions imposed on their registration:
  - a) The registrant will meet the Board's *English language skills registration standard* within 12 months of being granted registration (and prior to applying for General registration) and will inform the Board when they have successfully completed the English language test.
  - b) The registrant will advise their employer of the conditions imposed on their registration.
  - c) The registrant will authorise their employer to notify AHPRA if the employer has any concerns about their competence in English language.
- New graduates (of four-year courses) applying for General registration will have supervised practice conditions placed on their registration. The conditions are the same as those currently being used for practitioners transitioning to the National Scheme who have practised for less than five years, and include nomination of an English language supervisor and progression in English language examinations.

These arrangements came into effect September 2012 and will remain in place for 2012 and mid-year 2013 graduates only. Subsequent cohorts of graduates will have had early notification of the registration standard and will be expected to meet the requirements when they apply for registration at the time of graduation.

Information about the English language skills and other mandatory registration standards – which set out requirements in relation to continuing professional development, criminal history, professional indemnity insurance, and recency of practice – is available from Registration Standards section of the Board's website [www.medicalradiationpractice.gov.au](http://www.medicalradiationpractice.gov.au).