



**Social Workers
Registration Board**

Kāhui Whakamana Tauwhiro

ENTITLEMENT TO REGISTRATION

CRITERIA FOR SECTION 11 REGISTRATION

POLICY STATEMENT

Approved: May 2009
For review: May 2010

1. Introduction

The Social Workers Registration Act (2003) requires the Social Workers Registration Board (SWRB) to establish clear criteria for the registration of social workers. Section 11 of the Act permits the following conditions for temporary registration of social workers:

- (1) A person registered temporarily -
 - (a) must always be registered subject to restrictions relating to the institution or place where he or she intends to practise social work; and
 - (b) may also be registered subject to conditions, other restrictions, or both.

- (2) The duration of any period of temporary registration of a person (or of any period for which a person's temporary registration is renewed) .
 - (a) must be no more than 6 months; and
 - (b) must be such that, when it is added to the duration of any previous period or periods of limited registration of the person, the total is no more than 3 years.

Section 15 of the Act lists the criteria for temporary registration:

The Board must decide that the applicant should be registered temporarily if, and only if, satisfied that he or she -

- (a). is a fit and proper person to practise social work; and
- (b). can speak and write English reasonably effectively, and understand spoken and written English reasonably well; and
- (c). is or will be visiting New Zealand temporarily, and wishes to practise social work at a particular institution or place in New Zealand; and
- (d). has enough knowledge and practical experience of social work to practise social work at the institution or place.

2. Board Requirements

Fit and proper person to practise social work

Section 15 (a) of the Act states that an applicant must be a fit and proper person to practise social work.

The Board's policy on Entitlement to Registration . Fit and Proper Person will apply.

English Language Competence

Under Section 15 (b) of the Act an applicant for temporary registration must satisfy the Board that he or she can speak and write English reasonably effectively, and understand spoken and written English reasonably well

The Board's policy on Entitlement to Registration . English Language Competence and English Language Testing will apply.

Duration of Visit

Section 15 (c) requires the Board to be satisfied that the applicant is or will be visiting New Zealand temporarily, and wishes to practise social work at a particular institution or place in New Zealand

The Board will assess each applicant on a case by case basis. Evidence will include nature of visa, letters of appointment by employing agency and contractual agreements with institutions.

Knowledge and practical experience

Section 15 (d) of the Act requires the Board to be satisfied that the applicant has enough knowledge and practical experience of social work to practise social work at the institution or place

The board will assess each applicant on a case by case basis.

Evidence will include, but not necessarily be limited to:

- Purpose of visit
- Nature of institution or place where the applicant intends practising social work
- Whether he or she is registered or licensed as a social worker, or as the practitioner of a profession equivalent to that of a social worker, in a state other than New Zealand
- Level and content of qualification
- Attestation of competence