



**Social Workers  
Registration Board**  

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**Kāhui Whakamana Tauwhiro**

**ENTITLEMENT TO REGISTRATION**  

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**CRITERIA FOR SECTION 10 REGISTRATION**

**POLICY STATEMENT**

Approved: November 2009  
For review: May 2011

## 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 10 states that provisional registration is available as follows:

- (1) A person registered provisionally—
  - (a) must always be registered subject to conditions appropriate to his or her circumstances; and
  - (b) may also be registered subject to restrictions.
- (2) The duration of any period of provisional registration of a person to whom section 14(2) applies (or of any period for which the provisional registration of such a person is renewed) must be such that, when it is added to the duration of any previous period or periods of provisional registration of the person, the total is no more than 8 years.
- (3) The duration of any period of provisional registration of a person to whom section 14(2) does not apply (or of any period for which the provisional registration of such a person is renewed)—
  - (a) must be no more than 2 years; 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 8 years.

Section 14 states the following criteria for provisional registration:

- (1) The Board must decide that the applicant should be registered provisionally if, and only if, satisfied—
  - (a) that the applicant's competence to practise social work has been found satisfactory under Part 3 and
  - (b) that he or she is a fit and proper person to practise social work, meets some of the other criteria in section 6 or section 7,
  - (c) is in the process of working towards meeting the rest of them;

## 2. SWRB interpretation of the Criteria for Provisional Registration

Section 14 (1) (a) and (b) outline the criteria an applicant must meet in order to be eligible for provisional registration. This section requires:

- (a) that the applicant's competence to practise social work has been found satisfactory under Part 3; and
- (b) that he or she is a fit and proper person to practise social work, meets some of the other criteria in section 6 or section 7.

The Board has determined that for applicants to be eligible for provisional registration they must demonstrate, in addition to the competence and fit and proper criteria, that they meet the criteria for Section 6 (c)

- (a) that (whether because of the inclusion of an appropriate component in that qualification, or as a result of his or her satisfactory completion of a separate course or courses of training) he or she—
  - (i) is competent to practise social work with Māori; and
  - (ii) is competent to practise social work with different ethnic and cultural groups in New Zealand;

Further Section 14 (1) (b) (i) requires that in addition to meeting the criteria outlined above that an applicant must demonstrate that they are in the process of meeting the rest of the criteria in Section 6 or Section 7.

The Board has determined that the additional criteria that applicants must demonstrate they are in the process of meeting will be the additional Section 6 criteria. These are that the applicant has a recognised New Zealand qualification and Section 6 (d) that he or she has enough practical experience in practising social work.

Requirements for registration under Section 7 are addressed in a separate policy Entitlement to Registration: Criteria for Section 7 registration.