

# DRAFT Notice under the Legislation Act 2019 of prescribed qualifications for Scope of Practice for General Dental Practice

## Under the Legislation Act 2019

Under the Legislation Act 2019, notice is given of the making of the following secondary legislation:

| <i>Title</i>                                       | <i>Empowering provision(s)</i> | <i>Administering agency</i> | <i>Date made</i> |
|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 | Section 12                     | Dental Council              | X                |

This secondary legislation can be accessed at: <https://dcnz.org.nz/resources-and-publications/resources/gazette-notices/>.

The following replaces the prescribed qualifications for the Scope of Practice for General Dental Practice as published in the *New Zealand Gazette*, 28 July 2023, Notice No. 2023-sl3384. The scope of practice and competencies for general dental practice published in the *New Zealand Gazette*, 12 November 2021, Notice No. 2021-sl4804 remain unchanged.

## Prescribed qualifications for the scope of practice for general dental practice

### New Zealand accredited programmes

- Bachelor of Dental Surgery, University of Otago.
- Bachelor of Dental Surgery with Honours, University of Otago.

### Competent Authority- Qualification

#### Australia

- an Australian Dental Council accredited programme<sup>1</sup>.
- ~~an Australian educational institution dental degree approved by the Dental Board of Australia approved programme of study providing a qualification~~ for the purposes of general dentistry registration in Australia<sup>2</sup>
- a ~~five-year undergraduate~~ dental degree and a pass in the Australian Dental Council licensing examinations.

#### United Kingdom

- ~~a GDC accredited undergraduate dental degree from a GDC accredited dental school in the UK, or Commonwealth, as listed below:~~
- an approved UK educational institution dental degree accredited by the General Dental Council

<sup>1</sup> Before 30 June 2010, and before 17 October 2010 for Western Australia

<sup>2</sup> From 1 July 2010 onwards, and 18 October 2010 onwards for Western Australia

- ~~a GDC accredited undergraduate dental degree from a GDC accredited dental school in the UK, or Commonwealth, as listed below:~~
- an approved Commonwealth educational institution dental degree accredited by the General Dental Council, as listed below:

| Dental School                      | Dates of recognition – student must have completed and satisfied all programme requirements before the end-date listed below |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Western Cape                       | Before 1 January 1998                                                                                                        |
| Hong Kong                          | Before 1 January 2001                                                                                                        |
| Singapore                          | Before 1 January 2001                                                                                                        |
| Witwatersrand                      | Before 1 January 2001                                                                                                        |
| Pretoria                           | Before 1 January 2001                                                                                                        |
| Stellenbosch                       | Before 1 January 2001                                                                                                        |
| Medical University of South Africa | 1 January 1997 - 31 December 2000                                                                                            |
| Malaysia                           | 1 January 1997 - 31 December 2000                                                                                            |

#### Ireland

- ~~a Republic of Ireland educational institution undergraduate~~ dental degree accredited by the Dental Council of Ireland<sup>3</sup>.

#### Canada

- ~~a Canadian undergraduate educational institution~~ dental degree accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada
- a ~~five-year undergraduate~~ dental degree and a pass in the National Dental Examining Board of Canada Equivalency Examination Process<sup>4</sup>.

#### USA

- ~~a USA undergraduate educational institution~~ dental degree accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation
- a ~~five-year undergraduate~~ dental degree and a pass in the USA licensing examinations<sup>5</sup>.

<sup>3</sup> Graduate cohorts from 2022 onwards

<sup>4</sup> A pass in ~~any~~ all of the National Dental Examining Board of Canada Equivalency Examinations after 3 March 2014

<sup>5</sup> USA licensing examinations must include a theory assessment and a psychomotor clinical assessment

## Competent Authority - Registration<sup>6</sup>

- current full/unrestricted/unconditional registration in general dental practice with one or more competent authority(s) recognised by the Council<sup>7</sup>; and
- clinical practice<sup>8</sup> in general dentistry in one or more competent authority(s) for at least 33 months (working 20 hours or more per week) during the 48 months immediately prior to application.

## Comparable Health System<sup>9</sup>

- current full/unrestricted/unconditional registration in general dental practice in one or more comparable health system(s) recognised by the Council<sup>10</sup>; and
- clinical practice<sup>11</sup> in general dentistry in one or more of the recognised comparable health system(s) for at least 33 months (working 20 hours or more per week) during the 48 months immediately prior to the application<sup>12</sup>.

## New Zealand Examination

- A ~~five-year undergraduate~~ dentist qualification and a pass in the New Zealand Dental Registration Examination<sup>13</sup>.

Dated this x day of x 2025.

Marie MacKay, Chief Executive, Dental Council

---

<sup>6</sup> Upon commencement of practice in New Zealand, practitioners registered under the competent authority -registration pathway will practise under the oversight of a Council-approved practitioner for a period of at least six months under the terms of the oversight protocol

<sup>7</sup> United Kingdom (General Dental Council), Republic of Ireland (Dental Council of Ireland), Canada (Provincial dental regulators), USA (State dental boards), Australia (Australian health practitioner regulation agency) for the purposes of general dental practice

<sup>8</sup> Clinical practice means the maintenance of health through the assessment, diagnosis, management, treatment, and prevention of any disease, disorder or condition of the orofacial complex and associated structures

<sup>9</sup> Upon commencement of practice in New Zealand, practitioners registered under the comparable health system pathway will practise under the direct (onsite) supervision of a Council approved practitioner for at least 12 months under the terms of the supervision protocol

<sup>10</sup> Austria, Belgium, Hong Kong, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the Netherlands for the purposes of general dental practice

<sup>11</sup> Clinical practice means the maintenance of health through the assessment, diagnosis, management, treatment, and prevention of any disease, disorder or condition of the orofacial complex and associated structures

<sup>12</sup> Comparable health system practice experience within the required timeframe may be combined with competent authority practice experience where that experience is not sufficient for the Competent Authority – Registration pathway

<sup>13</sup> Administered by the National Dental Examining Board of Canada on behalf of the Dental Council since August 2015