



**Social Workers
Registration Board**
Kāhui Whakamana Tauwhiro

CRITERIA FOR SECTION 13 REGISTRATION

ENOUGH PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE

WITHOUT A RECOGNISED SOCIAL WORK QUALIFICATION

POLICY STATEMENT

Approved:	May 2010
Last Reviewed:	May 2015
For Review:	May 2018

CRITERIA FOR SECTION 13 REGISTRATION

This policy statement is based on the Social Workers Registration Act 2003 (the Act)

1. Introduction

The Social Workers Registration Act (2003) requires the Social Workers Registration Board to establish clear criteria for the registration of social workers.

Section 13 of the Act states that

The Board may recognise practical experience in certain cases

- (1) The Board may decide that the applicant should be registered fully if:
 - (a) he or she has neither a recognised New Zealand qualification nor an overseas qualification equivalent to a recognised New Zealand qualification; but
 - (b) the Board is satisfied that:
 - (i) his or her practical experience in practising social work in New Zealand is enough to compensate for the lack of such a qualification; and
 - (ii) his or her competence to practise social work has been found satisfactory under Part 3; and
 - (iii) he or she is a fit and proper person to practise social work; and
 - (iv) that (whether as a result of his or her satisfactory completion of a course or courses of training, or because his or her practical experience in practising social work in New Zealand is enough to compensate for not having completed such a course) he or she
 - a) is competent to practise social work with Māori; and
 - b) is competent to practise social work with different cultural ethnic and cultural groups in New Zealand.

Registration under this section is discretionary. If the Board considers that registration under section 13 is not appropriate the Board may consider registration under other sections of this Act.

2. Rationale

The Board believes it is in the interests of the public and the social work profession for registration to be accorded to those unqualified social workers with extensive experience in the profession in New Zealand who have demonstrated their competence in terms of practice, supervision, professional development and other contributions to the profession.

This recognises the experience and contribution of these social workers and helps protect the public by including these workers under the provisions of the Act.

CRITERIA FOR SECTION 13 REGISTRATION

The Board has determined that practising social work does not only involve direct interaction with clients but includes managing and/or supervising other social workers, teaching social work practice or theory and generally roles that utilise an individual's social work knowledge, skills, values and ethics. Persons whose profession is social work but whose job title may or may not be social worker, may be eligible for Section 13 registration. They will be required to demonstrate the application of skills, knowledge and practice in a manner that is consistent with the International Federation of Social Work (IFSW) definition of Social Work and the Code of Ethics of the profession.

3. Enough practical experience to compensate for the lack of a NZ qualification or equivalent overseas qualification

Applications will be considered by the Board on a case-by-case basis.

3.1 The Board will take into account the range, length, quality and nature of the Social Work practical experience in making a decision based on the following criteria:

- The extent to which the applicant practised social work before the introduction of the Act
- The extent to which the applicant has practised social work in New Zealand.
- The extent to which the applicant has practised social work internationally
- The extent to which an applicant can demonstrate ongoing professional identity as a social worker
- The extent to which the applicant is able to demonstrate that their practical experience compensates for the lack of a social work qualification.
- The extent to which an applicant can demonstrate that their practice is based on social work theoretical knowledge
- The extent to which the applicant has participated in regular training and professional development relevant to social work in the course of their practice and that this training and professional development has developed their social work practice.

All evidence should be documented in the Section 13 Social Work Practice Framework (See Appendix One).

- 3.2 The Board notes that some applicants may have completed a postgraduate qualification in social work which is not listed on the SWRB schedule of recognised current and historic qualifications because the qualification does not include social work placement experience and other requirements of formally recognised social work qualifications.

SECTION 13

SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE FRAMEWORK

Under section 13 of the Social Workers Registration Act 2003 (the Act), the Board can decide if a person's social work experience in New Zealand is enough to compensate for the lack of a Board-recognised qualification.

The Board believes it is in the interests of the public and the social work profession for registration to be accorded to social workers who have extensive New Zealand experience, particularly experience gained before the introduction of social work registration, but who do not have a Board-recognised qualification. The Board also considers overseas experience.

Section 13 recognises the experience and contribution of these social workers and helps protect the public by including these workers under the provisions of the Act.

The Social Work Practice Framework below helps social workers evidence how their extensive social work experience compensates for the lack of a recognised qualification. The framework is divided into the following six sections:

SECTION 1:

Extent of social work practice in New Zealand and internationally

SECTION 2:

Knowledge of sociology, psychology and human development

SECTION 3:

Knowledge of the Treaty of Waitangi and the multi-cultural nature of New Zealand society

SECTION 4:

Knowledge of social work theories and fields of practice

SECTION 5:

Knowledge of a specialist area of social work

SECTION 6:

Extent of professional development

**PLEASE TAKE AS MUCH SPACE AS YOU NEED, OR ATTACH
ADDITIONAL PAGES, TO COMPLETE THE FRAMEWORK.**

SECTION 13

SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE FRAMEWORK

Name:

Date of Birth:

Application #:

Office use only

I declare the information in this document to be true and correct.

Sign:

Date:

SECTION 1: EXTENT OF SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE IN NEW ZEALAND AND INTERNATIONALLY

Section 1 is for you to detail your extensive experience as a social worker.

List below your social work roles, years working in that role and what your tasks and responsibilities were in that role. This is similar to your curriculum vitae but with more details on what you actually did in your social work roles (e.g tasks and responsibilities).

Include both paid and voluntary positions that you have held.

Social work experience (position title)	Years in role (give dates)	Tasks and responsibilities of role

SECTION 2: KNOWLEDGE OF SOCIOLOGY, PSYCHOLOGY AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Section 2 provides you with the opportunity to evidence how your knowledge of sociology, psychology and human development inform your practice.

UNDER EACH INDICATOR, PROVIDE EVIDENCE AND PRACTICE EXAMPLES SHOWING HOW YOU USE THIS KNOWLEDGE WORKING WITH INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES OR GROUPS.

Indicator:

Knowledge of introductory psychology and its application in social work.

Evidence of knowledge:

Practice example:

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Indicator:

Knowledge of the theories of lifespan development and their application in social work.

Evidence of knowledge:

Practice example:

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Indicator: Identification of the key issues affecting human development and their relevance and application in social work.	
Evidence of knowledge:	Practice example:
Indicator: Knowledge of the traditions of sociological analysis and their application in social work.	
Evidence of knowledge:	Practice example:
Indicator: Identification of the key ideas and debates within sociology, and their relevance to social work.	
Evidence of knowledge:	Practice example:

SECTION 3: KNOWLEDGE OF THE TREATY OF WAITANGI AND THE MULTI-CULTURAL NATURE OF NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY

Section 3 is to show how your knowledge of the Treaty of Waitangi and the multi-cultural nature of New Zealand society is incorporated within your social work practice.

UNDER EACH INDICATOR, PROVIDE EVIDENCE AND PRACTICE EXAMPLES SHOWING HOW YOU USE THIS KNOWLEDGE WORKING WITH INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES OR GROUPS.

Indicator:

Knowledge of the Treaty of Waitangi and its significance in regard to historical events, trends and theories of social, economic and political change in New Zealand society and how this knowledge shapes your practice.

Evidence of knowledge:**Practice example:**

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Indicator:

Identification of the personal and professional impact of the Treaty of Waitangi on your social work practice and your obligations to bi-cultural practice.

Evidence of knowledge:**Practice example:**

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Indicator: Knowledge of the different dimensions (e.g. cultural, structural, emotional, and social) of individuals, families and communities within New Zealand and how you work with this diversity in your social work practice.	
Evidence of knowledge:	Practice example:

Indicator: Knowledge and identification of different ethnic or cultural organisations working with their own people/groups (e.g. Pasifika organisations working with Pasifika communities in New Zealand) and how you work with these organisations.	
Evidence of knowledge:	Practice example:

Indicator:

Knowledge of the traditional and contemporary requirements for practising social work with a particular ethnic and/or cultural group.

Evidence of knowledge:**Practice example:**

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Indicator:

Knowledge of Māori kawa (protocol), tikanga (custom) and ture (justice) and Identify how you incorporate these within your workplace and your social work practice.

Evidence of knowledge:**Practice example:**

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Indicator:

Knowledge of preparation necessary when working with individuals, families and groups of a different ethnic and/or cultural background.

Evidence of knowledge:**Practice example:**

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SECTION 4: KNOWLEDGE OF SOCIAL WORK THEORIES AND FIELDS OF PRACTICE

Section 4 is to show how your knowledge of social work theories and the variety of social work fields of practice is incorporated within your social work practice.

UNDER EACH INDICATOR, PROVIDE EVIDENCE AND PRACTICE EXAMPLES SHOWING HOW YOU USE THIS KNOWLEDGE WORKING WITH INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES OR GROUPS.

Indicator:

Knowledge of the impact of the wider policy environment on the profession of social work and your social work practice.

Evidence of knowledge:

Practice example:

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Indicator:

Knowledge of a range of theories and models of practice in social work and their application in your social work practice.

Evidence of knowledge:

Practice example:

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Indicator:

Knowledge and application of the following key social work skills in your practice:

- 1) Engagement
- 2) Assessment
- 3) Intervention
- 4) Referral
- 5) Evaluation

Evidence of knowledge:**Practice example:**

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Indicator:

Knowledge of effective personal and professional communication in the social work setting.

Evidence of knowledge:**Practice example:**

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Indicator:

Knowledge of personal and professional values, relevant codes of ethics, the SWRB Code of Conduct and professional supervision and utilisation of these in practice.

Evidence of knowledge:**Practice example:****Indicator:**

Knowledge of the dynamics of social work practice with mental health service users.

Evidence of knowledge:**Practice example:****Indicator:**

Knowledge and understanding of child abuse and neglect and identification of the strategies for safe professional practice in child protection.

Evidence of knowledge:**Practice example:****Indicator:**

Knowledge of the legal framework that impacts on social workers' mandate to practise in New Zealand.

Evidence of knowledge:**Practice example:**

Indicator: Knowledge of how a major social trend has impacted on social work in general and your practice in particular.	
Evidence of knowledge:	Practice example:

SECTION 5: KNOWLEDGE OF A SPECIALIST AREA OF SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE

Section 5 is to show your knowledge of your specialist area of social work practice.

Explain your current role and area of practice.

Describe the model of social work practice you use and provide an example of its use in your practice.

Provide an example of your exploration of relevant social work research literature and how you used this to either:

- Formulate a research or service evaluation proposal; or
- Design and implement a research strategy; or
- Utilise a research outcome in your workplace.

Describe how the key strategies, structure and funding in your specialist area impact on your social work practice.

Outline the law that relates your specific area of social work and its application in your social work practice.

SECTION 6: EXTENT OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Section 6 is for you to list the professional development you have undertaken.

Professional development is the maintenance and enhancement of your knowledge, expertise and competence in social work undertaken throughout your career.

This can include education, training courses, conferences, workshops, seminars, professional reading, research and supervision or mentoring.

