



**POLICY NO: #14**

**TITLE:** **Qualifications for General Registration under Sections 44(1)(b) and (c) of the *Dental Practitioners Registration Act 2001*.**

**BACKGROUND:** The Dental Board of Queensland (“the Board”) is responsible under the *Dental Practitioners Registration Act 2001* (“the Act”) to ensure that only safe and competent dental practitioners are registered to provide dental services.

**REFERENCES:** *Dental Practitioners Registration Act 2001*  
Section 44(1) prescribes that “An applicant for general registration is qualified for general registration if-...  
(b) the applicant has a qualification that is substantially equivalent to, or based on similar competencies to that required for, a current Australian or New Zealand qualification; or  
(c) the applicant has passed a qualifying examination in the profession set by or for or recognised by, the Board.

Section 44(2) prescribes that “In deciding whether subsection (1)(b) is satisfied, the Board may have regard to the following:  
(a) the advice and recommendation of:  
(i) an entity recognised by the Board as competent to assess qualifications in the profession; or  
(ii) an entity responsible for accrediting courses, or accrediting institutions to educate persons for the profession;  
(b) the attributes of the course leading to the applicant’s qualification”.....



**POLICY:** These sections of the Act and policy are applicable to persons applying for general registration as dentists when those persons have qualifications other than Australian and New Zealand qualifications.

The Act requires that such persons seeking registration must have qualifications substantially equivalent to current Australian and New Zealand qualifications. The Board recognises the Australian Dental Council (“ADC”) as the authority that assesses the standards of, and accredits Australian dental qualifications and the Dental Council of New Zealand (“DCNZ”) as the authority that assesses the standards of, and accredits New Zealand dental qualifications.

1. Consequently, the Board will only accept qualifications under section 44(1)(b) if the ADC or the DCNZ has advised that to its knowledge the applicant’s qualification is substantially equivalent to current Australian or New Zealand qualifications.

2. As a transitional arrangement, the Board will, until 30 June 2010, continue to recognise for the purposes of section 44(1)(b), qualifications that were prescribed in Schedule 1 below to the *Dental By-law 1988* as at 31 December 2001.

- B.D.S. (University of New Zealand);
- B.D.S. (University of Belfast);
- B.D.S. (University of Birmingham);
- B.D.S. (University of Bristol);
- B.D.S. (University of Dundee);
- B.D.S. (University of Durham);
- B.D.S. (University of Edinburgh);
- B.D.S. (University of Glasgow);
- B.D.S. (National University of Ireland);
- B.D.S. (University of Liverpool);
- B.D.S. (University of London);
- B.D.S. (University of Manchester);
- B.D.S. (University of Newcastle upon Tyne);
- B.D.S. (University of St. Andrews);
- B.D.S. (University of Sheffield);
- B.D.S. (University of Wales);
- B. Dent.Sc. (University of Dublin);
- B.Ch.D. (University of Leeds).

3. For dentists who are applying for registration under section 44(1)(c), the qualifying examination recognised by the Board is the Australian Dental Council examination.

**APPROVAL DATE:** 4 December 2001  
**AMENDED DATES:** 5 October 2004, 1 February 2005, 2 October 2007 and 11 November 2008  
**NEXT REVIEW DATE:** March 2010