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## Competency Assessment and Registration Policy

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## **POLICY ON COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT AND REGISTRATION**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The *Surveyors Act 2003* stipulates that the Board may register a person if the person

- (a) has been assessed as having the competency relevant to the particular registration or endorsement; and
- (b) is a suitable person.

The basis for assessment of competency is the relevant competency framework approved by the Board and published on the Board's web site.

The competency framework specifies the required qualifications, skills, knowledge and experience for a registration or endorsement.

This policy deals with matters related to registration in three categories:

- registration as a surveyor, including endorsements on that registration;
- registration as a surveying graduate; and
- registration as a surveying associate.

### **POLICY**

1. A person's competency can be assessed by the Board, or by an entity accredited by the Board.
2. Where a person seeks to have their competency assessed by the Board, the following requirements apply:
  - (a) The applicant must provide evidence that they satisfy the units and elements of the relevant competency framework.
  - (b) It is not mandatory for an applicant to undertake a Competency Training Agreement (CTA).
  - (c) An applicant for registration as a surveyor or for a registration endorsement must complete a Professional Assessment Project (PAP) that is relevant to the registration or endorsement being sought. As a general rule, persons seeking multiple endorsements will need to undertake a separate PAP relevant to each endorsement.
  - (d) An applicant can commence a PAP if they substantially meet the requirements of the relevant competency framework. On receipt of a PAP application, the Board will arrange for an interview to be conducted between the applicant, the proposed supervising surveyor for the PAP and either a board member or an examiner, to ascertain whether the applicant substantially meets the requirements of the relevant competency framework.
  - (e) Following completion of the PAP and assessment of evidence against the competency framework, the applicant will be interviewed to confirm elements of the competency assessment and to assist the Board in assessing whether the applicant is a "suitable person" for registration.
3. An applicant for registration or a registration endorsement who has been granted a certificate of competency by an accredited entity will be interviewed by the Board prior to the Board making a decision regarding the application for registration or endorsement.
4. The Board has mapped tertiary surveying courses from the University of Southern Queensland (USQ) and the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) against the competency frameworks, to assess the extent to which those qualifications provide evidence of competency. The detail of this mapping is available on the Board's web site. The following applies to this mapping:

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- (a) A person satisfies the competency framework for a Surveying Associate if they supply a certified copy of an academic record showing satisfactory completion of:
    - i) a USQ Associate Degree in Spatial Science; or
    - ii) two years (with a strong bias towards the core surveying subjects) of a degree mapped in December 2007 and published on the Board website as document SBQ-CF-0109\_Assoc Mapping (i.e. a USQ Bachelor of Spatial Science Technology; a USQ Bachelor of Spatial Science or a QUT Bachelor of Urban Development)
  - (b) A person satisfies the competency framework for a Surveying Graduate if they supply a certified copy of a testator for one of the following:
    - i) a USQ Bachelor of Spatial Science Technology three year degree; or
    - ii) a USQ Bachelor of Spatial Science or a QUT Bachelor of Urban Development four year degree.
  - (c) The mapping process has identified those elements of the competency framework for Surveyor for which current Queensland tertiary qualifications can be used as evidence of competency. A person may supply a certified copy of a testator for one of these qualifications as evidence of meeting those particular competency elements.
  - (d) Element 1.1 of the competency framework for a Surveyor is satisfied by a USQ Bachelor of Spatial Science or a QUT Bachelor of Urban Development four year degree, or a USQ Bachelor of Spatial Science Technology three year degree.
  - (e) Element 1.1 of the competency framework for a Cadastral Endorsement is satisfied by a USQ Bachelor of Spatial Science or a QUT Bachelor of Urban Development four year degree.
  - (f) Applicants for competency assessment will be able to use this mapping to cover older QUT and USQ degrees granted after 1997. The mapping may be used for degrees granted prior to 1997, at the discretion of the Board.
5. Where applicants for competency assessment hold tertiary qualifications other than those which have been mapped by the Board, the following applies:
- (a) A person satisfies the competency framework for a Surveying Graduate if they supply a certified copy of a testator for one of the following:
    - i) an Australian or New Zealand four year degree accredited by a Surveyors Board that is a member of the Council of Reciprocating Surveyors Boards of Australia and New Zealand (CRSBANZ); or
    - ii) an overseas qualification that has been assessed by the Bureau of Assessment of Overseas Qualifications as equivalent to an Australian or New Zealand four year degree.
  - (b) Applicants for competency assessment as a Surveyor who hold a degree granted after 1997 and accredited by a Surveyors Board that is a member of the CRSBANZ may use the same mapping that was prepared for a four year degree awarded by USQ or QUT. The mapping may be used for degrees granted prior to 1997, at the discretion of the Board.
  - (c) Applicants for competency assessment for a Cadastral Endorsement who hold a degree accredited by a Surveyors Board that is a member of the CRSBANZ may use the tertiary qualification as evidence of satisfying Element 1.1 of the competency framework.
6. Applicants for registration who hold an equivalent registration in another Australian jurisdiction or in New Zealand are entitled to registration in Queensland, without having to undertake a competency assessment in Queensland. This satisfies the long-standing reciprocal agreements reached through CRSBANZ, and the requirements of the *Mutual Recognition (Queensland) Act 1992*. If the applicant had originally been assessed for Competency in Queensland and no further assessments have been performed in other jurisdictions then the applicant is not entitled to be granted any endorsement that they did not hold previously.
7. A corporation is considered to satisfy the competency framework for a consulting endorsement if any director holds a current consulting endorsement competency.
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