

**BOARD NOTICE 147 OF 2015****THE ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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**20 July 2015**

**POLICY: CRITERIA FOR REGISTRATION OF PERSONS WITH QUALIFICATIONS  
OBTAINED OUTSIDE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA: CHINESE MEDICINE  
AND ACUPUNCTURE, ACUPUNCTURE AND UNANI-TIBB**

The Allied Health Professions Council of South Africa, after due consideration and in consultation with the Professional Board: Ayurveda, Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture and Unani-Tibb, has resolved that the criteria for the registration of persons with qualifications obtained outside of the Republic of South Africa in the professions of Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture, Acupuncture and Unani-Tibb, shall be as Addendum A of this notice.

**DR LOUIS MULLINDER**

**REGISTRAR: ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA**



**POLICY – CRITERIA FOR REGISTRATION  
OF PERSONS WITH QUALIFICATIONS  
OBTAINED OUTSIDE OF SOUTH AFRICA –  
CHINESE MEDICINE AND  
ACUPUNCTURE, ACUPUNCTURE AND  
UNANI-TIBB**

## Purpose of policy

To ensure the continued consistent and objective review of applications received for registration under the registers for Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture or Acupuncture or Unani-Tibb, where the qualification was obtained outside of South Africa and to provide criteria for the holding of an AHPCSA board examination for persons holding such qualifications to determine competency to enter said professions.

### 1. General requirements for all applications

- i. Completed official application form, together with the applicable application fee and all supporting documentation as required by the application form not specifically mentioned below as additional requirements;
- ii. Copy of South African identity document, or copy of valid foreign passport together with a valid work permit that entitles the person to practice any of the said professions in South Africa either under the terms and conditions of employment or in private practice<sup>1</sup>;
- iii. All documents must be certified and Council holds the right to call for all original documents in terms of Section 15 of the Act<sup>2</sup>;
- iv. Any documents submitted in any language other than English must include a sworn translation of the content of the document in English;
- v. All applications must be submitted to the office of the AHPCSA Registrar.

### 2. Additional Documentation required

- i. Copy of qualification/s in Traditional Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture or Acupuncture or Unani-Tibb from an accredited institution of education and training;
- ii. Copy of complete academic record for the full duration of studies;
- iii. SAQA Certificate of Evaluation recognising the legal status of the institution of education and training and evaluation of the qualification/s as equivalent to: in the case of Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture, an NQF level equal to or above the BSc in Complementary Health Science and a Bachelor of Complementary Medicine (Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture); and, in the case of Unani-Tibb an NQF level equal to or above the BSc in Complementary Health Science and a Bachelor of Complementary Medicine (Unani-Tibb); and, in the case of Acupuncture an NQF level equal to or above a 360-credit diploma in Acupuncture;
- iv. Proof of registration with the relevant foreign statutory body;
- v. Original letter of good standing from relevant registering statutory body, which letter must state that the applicant does not have any pending disciplinary proceedings against them or been sanctioned in terms of any disciplinary proceedings. The letter of good standing shall not be older than 3 months;
- vi. Police Clearance Certificate from the relevant foreign country of origin of the applicant;
- vii. If the qualification is older than 5 years the applicant must provide a brief curriculum vitae, in order to establish whether the applicant has been practicing any of the said professions and thereby has kept up to date with the practice and the profession.

<sup>1</sup> In the event of a person not being able to obtain a work permit prior to registration, the Council will provide a letter for such purpose should the applicant meet all the requirements for registration.

<sup>2</sup> The Allied Health Professions Act 63 of 1982 as amended

### **3. Application Procedure**

- i. Only applications which provide all the details as contained above shall be submitted to the Professional Board for review;
- ii. The AHPCSA Administration will conduct the relevant confirmatory check in respect of work permits with the Department of Home Affairs;
- iii. Applications will be circulated to the Professional Board in .pdf format by way of email to determine suitability for the AHPCSA board examination;
- iv. A combined decision of the Professional Board will be forwarded to the Administration;
- v. If approved, the applicant will be required to successfully complete an AHPCSA board examination, consisting of a clinical competency examination and a written theoretical examination, which will be conducted by the University of the Western Cape for either Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture or Acupuncture or Unani-Tibb;
- vi. Such referral shall be in terms of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Council and the said institution of education and training. The costs of the assessment shall be for the account of the applicant.
- vii. On successful completion of the AHPCSA board examination the applicant will receive registration, after completing the AHPCSA's Jurisprudence Assessment, which assessment will be managed by the AHPCSA Administration and the production of a valid First Aid certificate from a service provider accredited with the South African Department of Labour.

### **4. Applicants who are unable to meet or fail to meet any criteria as stated in paragraphs 2 and 3 above**

In the event of:

- i. The evaluation of the institution of education and training by the SAQA is such that the institution is deemed to lack legal standing in the country of origin; or
- ii. The SAQA Certificate of Evaluation is not evaluated equivalent to or higher than the relevant NQF level; or
- iii. There is failure to meet any other requirement as indicated above,

then the application shall be rejected.