



Special Purpose Policy – Section 138 to practise in general practice

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this policy is to detail eligibility requirements for International Medical Graduates (IMGs) who hold Fellowship of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners or the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine.

2 SCOPE

- 2.1 Special purpose registration enables IMGs who do not hold recognized qualifications for general or specialist registration to practice in Queensland in limited circumstances. Registration under section 138 enables a medical practitioner to undertake the same scope of activities as that permitted for general registrants.

3 LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

- 3.1 *The Medical Practitioners Registration Act 2001* (the Act) provides for applicants who have qualifications in the general practice of medicine conferred by the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners or another body prescribed under a regulation to be eligible for special purpose registration (Section 138).
- 3.2 The Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine has been prescribed under the *Medical Practitioners Registration Regulation 2002*.
- 3.3 Section 140 of the Act empowers the Board to register a special purpose registrant for a period not more than 12 months at any one time.
- 3.4 If an applicant does not comply with the stated application requirement(s), the Board will consider the application has been withdrawn, pursuant to Section 46(5)(a) of the Act.
- 3.5 The Board may also decide to impose conditions on an applicant's registration as considered necessary pursuant to Section 141(1) of the Act.

4 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- 4.1 Before an application for registration can be lodged with the Board, an applicant **must** have the following:
- been awarded Fellowship of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (FRACGP) or alternatively, Fellowship of the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (FACRRM), having followed a training pathway accredited by the Australian Medical Council (AMC);
 - for FACRRM holders, confirmation from the College confirming the training pathway undertaken by the applicant leading to award of the Fellowship ie:-
 - Vocational Preparation Pathway;
 - Independent Pathway; or
 - Remote Vocational Training Scheme Pathway;
 - evidence of English language proficiency as determined by the English Language Policy
 - commenced verification of their primary medical qualifications through the AMC; and

- requested ORIGINAL Certificates of Registration Status (CORS) from each licensing authority in each location (country, state or locality) where they have practised medicine, to be sent direct to the Board.

4.2 In determining an application for Special Purpose registration the Board will consider the applicant's:

- fitness to practise
- qualifications
- knowledge
- skills
- experience

4.3 If the Board is not satisfied the applicant has been awarded Fellowship having followed a training pathway accredited by the AMC, the Board will refuse the application.

4.4 When deciding an application for Special Purpose Registration the Board may also decide that special conditions are required to ensure safe and competent practice.

5 CONDITIONS OF REGISTRATION

5.1 Pursuant to section 141 of the Act, the Board may impose conditions it considers necessary or desirable for the applicant to competently and safely practice the profession.

