



# Policy on the New Zealand Registration Examination (NZREX Clinical) pass and fail criteria

## Policy Statement

This policy outlines the pass and fail criteria for international medical graduates intending to gain registration with the Medical Council of New Zealand (Council) via the provisional general (examinations) pathway to registration.

## Rationale

The purpose of the NZREX Clinical is to ensure candidates are competent to enter a period of registration within the provisional general scope of practice in New Zealand, during which time candidates will be further assessed, and that the process used to assess them is valid, fair, reliable and consistent.

NZREX Clinical is a test of overall clinical competence. It does not consist of “stand alone” examinations in each of the five disciplines. There are no partial passes.

## Procedures

The pass mark will be based on criteria referenced standards and internationally recognised methods will be used in its calculation.

To pass NZREX Clinical a candidate must:

- achieve an overall mark greater than the cut score; and
- receive seven or more overall pass or borderline results in the 12 dynamic stations (with an actor and simulated patient present); and
- have no more than three serious concerns ‘cautions’ raised by examiners (see related policy).

A candidate may also fail the NZREX Clinical if a critical incident occurs (see related policy).

## Related policies

*Council’s Policy on critical incidents during NZREX Clinical.*  
*Council’s Policy examiners raising serious concerns about candidate performance during NZREX Clinical.*

Recommended by Examinations Committee: 13 February 2001  
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