



Te Kaunihera
Rata o
Aotearoa

**Medical
Council of
New Zealand**

Policy on restoration to the Register

This policy is about the right some doctors have under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 (HPCAA) to apply to be restored to the Register rather than be required to complete a full registration application. The policy states who is eligible to apply to be restored to the Register and provides information on how to make a restoration application.

Who is eligible to be restored to the register?

A doctor who has had their registration cancelled under the HPCAA is eligible to be restored to the register if their cancellation was because:

- Council believed that the doctor had died ([s143\(3\)](#)),
- The Registrar had sent the doctor a letter asking if they wanted to be cancelled and they agreed in writing ([s144\(3\)](#)), or
- The Registrar had notified the doctor that registration may be cancelled if no response was received, and no response had been received ([s144\(5\)](#)).

What are the exceptions to this right?

Council is not required to restore a doctor's restoration, if they:

- are not fit for registration under [s16](#) of the HPCAA,
- have pending disciplinary proceedings under the HPCAA,
- were cancelled because of an order from the Health Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal (HPDT) ([s101\(1\)\(a\)](#)).

In these cases, the doctor must make a full registration application (and meet the requirements of a new application).

There is no obligation on Council to restore a doctor to the register who asked to be removed from the register ([s142](#)) or agreed to be removed from the register after the end of their registration period (temporary registration).

How to make an application for restoration

To make an application for restoration to the register the doctor must:

- 1) Submit a completed [REG6](#) form to Council.
- 2) Complete the disclosures section in the application form relating to fitness for registration matters or penalty orders from the HPDT ([s16](#) or [s101](#)). The doctor must also provide any additional information that may be requested in relation to the disclosures.
- 3) Provide certificates of professional status (COPS) from each regulatory authority they have practised under in the last five years or since they last worked in New Zealand (whichever is shorter).

Verification of identity

The doctor's identity will need to be verified. The doctor may be required to attend a registration meeting with a member of Council staff or a Council agent.

An application for restoration will be considered if the doctor meets the above eligibility requirements. If the doctor cannot meet these requirements, then they must submit a new application for registration.

Applying for a practising certificate

A restoration application is separate to an application for a practising certificate (PC) which allows a doctor to start practising medicine in New Zealand. Additional information and documentation will need to be provided for a doctor to receive a PC.

Other Council policies will apply when considering applications for a PC from doctors who have not practised medicine, or who have not practised in New Zealand, for three years or more.

Related policy

- [Practising certificate applications for doctors who have not held a New Zealand practising certificate or lawfully practised medicine within the previous 3 years.](#)

Version management

Date	Actions
May 2021	Approved by Registrar
Previous Version February 2003	DM#2901955 Approved by Council
November 2024	Scheduled for review
DM# 9424450	Policy - Restoration to the Register – May 2021