



**Te Poari Kaimātai  
Hinengaro o Aotearoa**  
NEW ZEALAND PSYCHOLOGISTS BOARD

PO Box 9644  
Marion Square  
Wellington 6141  
Phone 0800 471 4580

## **One Off Practice in NZ Information Sheet**

This information sheet covers important information you need to know if you are a practitioner registered in another jurisdiction contemplating practising in Aotearoa|New Zealand for brief or a one-off piece of work.

### **BACKGROUND**

1. New Zealand has statute law that authorises Responsible Authorities to register and regulate practitioners providing health services to the public of New Zealand.
2. The Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 (the Act) allows the Responsible Authority, Te Poari Kaimātai Hinengaro o Aotearoa | The New Zealand Psychologists Board (the Board) to register applicants if they:
  - Are fit for registration
  - Have the prescribed qualifications, and
  - Are competent to practise within their scope of practice
3. The Act also allows the Board to treat any overseas qualification as a prescribed qualification if that qualification is assessed as equivalent to, or as satisfactory as, a prescribed qualification.
4. The Board recognises that some overseas practitioners wishing to do brief or one off pieces of work as a psychologist in New Zealand may not wish to apply for and hold registration with the Board on an ongoing basis, due to the ongoing regulatory requirements of registration.

### **THE BOARD'S POSITION**

5. The Board considers that practitioners registered in overseas jurisdictions do not need to apply for registration in New Zealand in the following circumstances:

- The overseas practitioner intends on providing ongoing telehealth therapy to one existing client who is visiting New Zealand temporarily (less than six months)

OR

- The overseas practitioner's one existing client has moved to New Zealand and wants time-limited contact up to 12 months to allow for termination of therapy or handover to a New Zealand registered practitioner.
6. If the overseas practitioner seeks new clients in New Zealand they must register with the Board following the usual processes outlined on the Board's website. If the overseas practitioner has more than one client who is visiting/moving to New Zealand then they must also apply for registration.
  7. The Board does not have any jurisdiction over overseas practitioners who are providing brief or one-off pieces of work in New Zealand, unless they decide to register with the Board.

#### **FURTHER ADVICE**

8. If a complaint is made about your practice of psychological services in New Zealand while you are not registered, the complainant will be directed to make that complaint to the practitioner's home jurisdiction regulator.
9. Any complaint made about your practice of psychological services in New Zealand can also be referred to the New Zealand Health and Disability Services Commissioner.
10. If you are providing brief or a one-off psychological service to a member of the New Zealand public, we advise that you inform yourself about the New Zealand health system and how your client might access additional supports, should they require them. This website provides a broad base of information which may be useful <https://www.healthpoint.co.nz/> Having an alternative local contact person for you would be an important consideration to discuss with your client, for example if you had concerns and could not get hold of them.