

Welcome to the Raka Māui Competence programme

A guide for newly registered overseas-trained psychologists

Congratulations on your Registration as a Psychologist in Aotearoa New Zealand!

The New Zealand Psychologists Board welcomes you to the profession and recognises the valuable knowledge, skills and experience you bring from your previous training and practice.

Practising as a psychologist in Aotearoa New Zealand also involves understanding the unique cultural, legislative and professional context in which psychology services are delivered. Central to this is providing culturally safe, equitable care, recognising tangata whenua, and understanding the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and their relevance to psychological practice.

To support your transition into practice, the Board has established the Raka Māui Competence programme. This programme is designed to assist newly registered overseas-trained psychologists to develop knowledge and confidence in practising safely and effectively within the New Zealand context. It is intended to be a supportive learning programme that complements your existing professional expertise.

Your responsibilities

As a newly registered overseas-trained psychologist, you are required to complete the Raka Māui Competence Programme in accordance with the conditions on your registration. The programme must be completed within two years of your registration, although the Board recommends completing it within 18 months to allow sufficient time for review and feedback.

Throughout the programme you will;

- Complete a series of learning and reflection activities
- Work with your Board-approved supervisor to develop your understanding of psychology practice in Aotearoa New Zealand
- Submit evidence of completion to the Board once all programme requirements have been satisfactorily completed

A partnership in learning

Raka Māui is not intended to assess your existing professional capability. Rather, it supports your ongoing development as a psychologist practising within the cultural, ethical and professional expectations of Aotearoa New Zealand.

The board encourages you to view the programme as the beginning of an ongoing journey of cultural humility, lifelong learning and reflective practice.

We wish you every success in your professional career in Aotearoa New Zealand and look forward to supporting you through the programme.

Vanessa Simpson
Chief Executive/Registrar



Te Poari Kaimātai Hinengaro o Aotearoa
NEW ZEALAND PSYCHOLOGISTS BOARD