Te Poari Kaimātai Hinengaro o Aotearoa
NEW ZEALAND PSYCHOLOGISTS BOARD

# CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED

# ANNUAL PRACTISING CERTIFICATE FEE
# DISCIPLINARY LEVY
# OTHER FEES

# FOR 2027/28

**Released: 05 November 2026**
**Closes: 03 December 2026**

# About the New Zealand Psychologists Board and how regulation is funded

## The Board's role and responsibilities

The New Zealand Psychologists Board (the Board) is the statutory authority responsible for regulating psychologists in Aotearoa New Zealand under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 (the HPCA Act).

The primary purpose of the HPCA Act is to protect the health and safety of the public by ensuring that health practitioners are competent and fit to practise.

The Board's role is therefore different from that of professional associations or organisations representing psychologists' professional interests. Its responsibility is to protect the public by establishing, monitoring and enforcing the standards that psychologists must meet to practise safely and competently.

To fulfil this responsibility, the Board undertakes a range of regulatory functions, including:

- **Registration and practising certificates:** Assessing applications for registration, maintaining the register of psychologists, and issuing annual practising certificates to practitioners who meet the relevant requirements.
- **Professional standards:** Establishing scopes of practice, prescribed qualifications, standards of competence, ethical conduct and cultural competence.
- **Education and accreditation:** Setting requirements for psychology training programmes and overseeing accreditation processes to ensure graduates meet the standards required for entry to the profession.
- **Continuing competence:** Establishing and administering recertification requirements and other processes intended to support ongoing safe and competent practice.
- **Competence and health:** Assessing concerns about practitioners' competence or fitness to practise and, where necessary, arranging assessments, monitoring, supervision or other appropriate regulatory interventions.
- **Complaints and professional conduct:** Responding to notifications and complaints, referring matters to Professional Conduct Committees (PCCs) where appropriate, and fulfilling the Board's responsibilities in proceedings before the Health Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal (HPDT).
- **Public protection and regulatory oversight:** Maintaining systems, policies, governance and regulatory processes necessary to fulfil the Board's statutory responsibilities.

All of these functions form part of the regulatory framework established by Parliament to protect the public and maintain confidence in the profession.

## How is the Board funded?

Unlike government departments which are funded primarily through taxation, the Board operates on a cost-recovery model. This means that the costs of regulating the psychology profession are principally funded through fees and levies collected from practitioners and applicants, rather than through general government funding.

The HPCA Act provides the legal framework for this arrangement.

- Under **section 130**, the Board may prescribe fees for specified regulatory activities, including applications for registration, the issue of annual practising certificates and other matters connected with its statutory functions in accordance with s118.

- Under **section 131**, the Board may impose a separate disciplinary levy to fund costs arising from Professional Conduct Committee investigations and Health Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal proceedings.

These are distinct funding mechanisms, each with a different statutory purpose. The Board must therefore ensure that the fees and levies it sets are appropriately justified by the activities they are intended to fund.

## What does the annual practising certificate fee pay for?

The annual practising certificate (APC) fee contributes to the ongoing costs of maintaining an effective regulatory system for psychologists.

These costs include:

- Board and committee governance, including meetings and decision-making required under the HPCA Act.
- Assessment and management of competence, health and fitness-to-practise concerns.
- Development, implementation and review of professional standards and regulatory policies.
- Education and accreditation responsibilities.
- Communication with practitioners, employers, government agencies and the public.
- Staff responsible for carrying out these activities and registration, professional standards, competence assurance, regulatory administration and other statutory functions.
- Information technology, practitioner registration systems, financial management, audit, legal advice and other essential organisational infrastructure.

Some of these activities are highly visible to practitioners, such as APC renewals and registration processes. Others occur largely behind the scenes but are equally necessary to maintain an effective and legally compliant regulatory system.

The APC fee is therefore not simply an administrative charge for producing a practising certificate. It supports the wider regulatory functions associated with ensuring psychologists are competent and fit to practise.

## How are fees calculated?

As a cost-recovery organisation, the Board is expected to set fees that reflect the reasonable costs of carrying out its regulatory functions. The annual budget provides the basis for determining the level of fees required. This involves estimating the regulatory activities that must be undertaken during the coming financial year, the resources needed to deliver them, and the anticipated income from other relevant fees. The Board must also consider the number of practitioners expected to contribute towards the costs of regulation.

The Board must identify the regulatory work required under the HPCA Act, determine how that work can be delivered efficiently, and establish an appropriate and sustainable funding arrangement.
This does not mean that expenditure is unlimited. The Board has a responsibility to demonstrate that its activities are necessary, its costs are reasonable, and its resources are managed efficiently.

## Why are disciplinary costs shared across the profession?

The disciplinary system is an important part of the public protection framework established under the HPCA Act. When concerns about a psychologist's professional conduct require formal investigation, the Board may appoint a Professional Conduct Committee. A PCC operates under statutory processes and may, following its investigation, decide to lay a disciplinary charge before the HPDT.

The HPDT is an independent body responsible for hearing and determining disciplinary proceedings against registered health practitioners. These processes can involve substantial expenditure, including legal representation, investigation, preparation of evidence, expert witnesses, Tribunal hearings and administration.

Under the HPCA Act, these costs are funded through the disciplinary levy imposed on the profession. This means that although disciplinary proceedings may concern the conduct of an individual practitioner, the costs of the regulatory process are shared across the profession.

The Board acknowledges that this may seem unfair to practitioners who have never been the subject of a complaint or disciplinary investigation. However, the collective funding arrangement reflects the statutory framework established for regulating health professions in New Zealand.

Where the Tribunal awards costs against an individual practitioner, the Board seeks to recover those amounts as appropriate. Nevertheless, such awards generally recover only a proportion of the costs incurred, and recovery is not always possible. The remaining costs must therefore be met through the profession's disciplinary funding arrangements.

### Why does the Board need financial reserves?

An effective regulatory authority must be able to meet its statutory obligations even when expenditure is higher than anticipated. Unlike many organisations, the Board cannot simply suspend certain statutory processes because its annual budget has been exhausted. For example, where serious concerns about a practitioner's conduct or competence arise, the Board must respond appropriately, regardless of whether those matters were anticipated when the budget was prepared.

Financial reserves provide a buffer against these uncertainties. They help the Board manage fluctuations in expenditure, maintain continuity of essential regulatory functions and avoid requiring unexpected additional payments from practitioners whenever unforeseen costs arise. Reserves are not profits. They are funds retained to support the Board's financial resilience and its ability to meet future regulatory obligations. Maintaining appropriate reserves is therefore an important component of responsible financial management, alongside containing expenditure and ensuring that fees reflect the reasonable costs of regulation.

## Proposed fees and disciplinary levy for 2027/28

The Board is consulting on the proposed annual practising certificate (APC) fee and disciplinary levy for the practising year 1 April 2027 to 31 March 2028, along with updates to other regulatory fees, and the introduction of a new fee for examinations required under section 19(5) of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 (HPCA Act).

The Board acknowledges that the proposed increase comes at a difficult time for many practitioners and some concern arising from the additional disciplinary levy imposed during 2026/27, particularly because this was an unexpected cost after practitioners had already renewed their APCs.

We understand that practitioners expect the Board to manage its resources responsibly, contain expenditure wherever possible, and explain clearly why additional funding is required. The Board shares these expectations, and it must also ensure that sufficient resources are available to fulfil its statutory responsibilities under the HPCA Act.

The calculation of the proposed APC fee and disciplinary levy are driven by three principal factors set out below. The separate cost-recovery review of other regulatory fees, including the proposed section 19(5) examination fee, is explained under 'Other fees and proposed section 19(5) examination fee'.

1. **Historical underfunding:** For several years, fees collected have been insufficient to meet actual costs of regulating the profession, because of instruction by auditors to run down the Board's reserves. This has resulted in recurring financial deficits to meet the auditors' requirements.
2. **Increased disciplinary expenditure:** The number and complexity of PCC investigations and HPDT proceedings have increased substantially, creating significant financial obligations that cannot always be predicted or controlled.
3. **The need to restore sustainable regulatory operations:** The 2026/27 budget involved exceptional expenditure reductions and the deferral of activities to prioritise urgent disciplinary costs. These measures cannot be maintained indefinitely without affecting the Board's ability to carry out its wider statutory functions.

The proposed 2027/28 budget seeks to address these pressures through more realistic forecasting, continued expenditure controls, and appropriate provision for the regulatory activities that must be undertaken.

Importantly, the proposed increase does not mean that the Board's ordinary operating costs have suddenly increased by the same proportion. Rather, it reflects the need to align future funding more closely with the actual and anticipated costs of regulation.

## 1. Understanding the Board's historical financial position

For the past three financial years, the Board has operated with average annual deficits of approximately $819,000. In practical terms, this means that in each of those years the Board faced a shortfall of around three quarters of a million dollars between the income it received and the actual cost of regulating the profession.

These shortfalls were covered by the Board's accumulated financial reserves, on the advice of its auditors to reduce the level of reserves. Relying on these reserves to cover shortfalls progressively reduced them, as planned. However, the lower level of reserves now limits the Board's ability to respond to unforeseen financial pressures.

Importantly, this means that **the fees charged in previous years did not reflect the full cost of regulation**; reserves made up the difference. Rather than a substantial increase in ordinary operating expenditure, the increased fees and levy proposed by the Board addresses a longstanding gap between the income collected and the cost of fulfilling its statutory functions.

The Board acknowledges that its previous approach to fee-setting was not sustainable. The proposed changes are intended to establish a more realistic and sustainable funding model, ensuring that future fees better reflect the anticipated costs of regulation without continued reliance on financial reserves. Addressing this requires the Board to ensure that future budgets are realistic, expenditure is appropriately controlled, and fees and levies are calculated in accordance with the statutory purposes for which they may be collected.

The proposed charges for 2027/28 are therefore based on anticipated regulatory and disciplinary expenditure for the coming year.

## 2. Increased disciplinary activity and expenditure

In addition to historical underfunding, the Board has experienced a substantial increase in disciplinary activity. Over the five years preceding 2025, the Board had an average of approximately 1.4 new cases before the HPDT each year. This has increased to:

- Eight new HPDT cases in the financial year ended 31 March 2025.
- Seven new HPDT cases in the financial year ended 31 March 2026.

This represents a significant departure from historical levels, with corresponding financial implications for the Board and the profession.

Disciplinary proceedings are costly, with the Board previously reporting an average expenditure of approximately $104,000 per HPDT case. However, costs can vary considerably depending on the complexity of the allegations, evidence required, legal representation, procedural requirements and number of hearing days. For example, two recent cases cost the Board approximately $360,000 combined. Spread across 3,589 practising psychologists, **this is equivalent to approximately $100.31 per practitioner for just these two cases alone.**

These costs are also difficult to predict and are not entirely within the Board's control. As a statutory regulator, the Board is required to respond appropriately to concerns about professional conduct and it cannot decline to investigate serious matters or discontinue necessary proceedings simply because the disciplinary budget has been exhausted.

While the Board continues to seek opportunities to manage disciplinary expenditure efficiently, it must do so without compromising its statutory responsibilities, procedural fairness or public protection.

## Current disciplinary workload

At the time of preparing the 2027/28 budget, the Board is managing:

- Eight active PCC investigations.
- Five matters before the HPDT (with 5 concluded in this financial year).

With approximately six months remaining in the 2026/27 financial year, further notifications and disciplinary matters may arise.

Some of the existing PCC investigations may result in charges being brought before the HPDT. Although not every PCC investigation proceeds to the Tribunal, the current workload indicates that disciplinary activity is unlikely to return to the previously low historical levels.

For the 2027/28 budget, the Board has therefore adopted a planning assumption of twelve PCC investigations and eleven HPDT cases. The PCC assumption is based on the eight investigations currently in progress, with six months remaining in the financial year. In relation to HPDT assumptions, this is not a prediction that eleven practitioners will be facing disciplinary charges before the HPDT. Rather, it is a prudent financial planning assumption informed by recent disciplinary activity, current cases and the potential for further matters to progress.

| Disciplinary Cases Forecast | | |
|---|---|---|
| PCC case numbers | | 12 |
| PCC cost per case | $ | 65,417.00 |
| **Total PCC costs** | $ | 795,000.00 |
| HPDT case numbers (following PCC investigation) | | 11 |
| HPDT cost per case | $ | 104,545.00 |
| **Total HPDT costs** | $ | 1,150,000.00 |
| **Total disciplinary costs** | $ | 1,945,000.00 |

The Board considers it necessary to budget realistically for these obligations rather than rely on historical averages that no longer reflect recent experience.

### Why disciplinary cases have such a significant financial impact

Disciplinary costs are incurred during PCC investigations and any subsequent disciplinary hearings. PCC investigations often require the review of records, locating and interviewing witnesses, and expert advice. Complex evidential and other issues can arise during an investigation, which will often require legal advice. PCCs have obligations under the HPCA Act to keep practitioners, complainants and the Board updated, and they prepare formal written reports at the end of their investigation. If a matter proceeds to the HPDT, preparation of the disciplinary charge, witness briefs (including expert evidence) and legal preparation for a hearing and the steps leading up to a hearing, all add costs, while adjournments and procedural issues can increase their duration and complexity.

The Tribunal may award costs, but awards typically cover only 30% to 50% of actual costs, as previously reported by the Board. Recovery may also be delayed or limited by a practitioner's financial circumstances. The remaining expenditure is met through the profession's disciplinary levy under the HPCA Act.

The Board recognises that practitioners who have not faced disciplinary proceedings may question this shared funding arrangement. However, disciplinary processes protect the public, and the Board must make reasonable provision for their costs when setting the levy.

### Cost-based budgeting and expenditure control

The Board's fees and levies are intended to recover the reasonable costs of its statutory functions, and do not generate profit. The proposed 2027/28 budget has been developed through a detailed review of the work required, the resources needed and anticipated expenditure. General regulatory costs and disciplinary costs are considered separately, so that each charge is justified by the activities it is intended to fund.

Expenditure control remains a priority, but savings must not compromise statutory responsibilities, procedural fairness or public protection. The following section explains why the constrained 2026/27 budget is not a sustainable baseline and why provision for necessary work must be restored.

## 3. Why the 2026/27 budget is not a sustainable benchmark

The Board's 2026/27 budget was cut substantially due to the exceptional financial circumstances. With substantial disciplinary expenditure and depleted reserves, the Board was required to implement significant cost reductions to prioritise its most immediate statutory obligations. This involved reducing expenditure, deferring planned activities and managing resources within unusually constrained financial limits.

These measures were necessary to address the immediate financial pressures facing the Board. However, the resulting budget does not represent the normal or sustainable cost of fulfilling the Board's statutory responsibilities.

The Board's obligations extend beyond responding to complaints and disciplinary proceedings. It must also maintain effective registration processes, establish and review professional standards, oversee competence assurance, fulfil education and accreditation responsibilities, and maintain the systems and governance arrangements necessary to support these functions.

While some activities can be deferred temporarily, they cannot be postponed indefinitely without consequences. Prolonged deferral may result in outdated regulatory processes, delays in essential reviews, reduced organisational capability and additional costs in subsequent years.

The 2026/27 budget was therefore primarily a short-term financial containment measure rather than a sustainable operating model.

For 2027/28, the Board considers it necessary to restore appropriate provision for regulatory activities that were reduced or deferred. The Board must now identify the work necessary to fulfil its statutory remit, determine how it can be delivered efficiently, and make appropriate financial provision for that work.

## Budget for 2027/28

The table below sets out the proposed budget for 2027/2028 which has been carefully developed to provide for:

1. The anticipated cost of the Board's ongoing regulatory functions.
2. Necessary activities that were reduced or deferred during 2026/27.
3. Known disciplinary proceedings and a prudent forecast of additional cases.
4. Continued cost-containment and efficiency measures.
5. Financial resilience and the reduction of risks associated with unexpected expenditure.

| Income | |
|---|---|
| **Interest Income** | $ 30,000.00 |
| **Education Income**<br>(Accreditation Fees) | $ 76,869.57 |
| **Registration Income**<br>(APC Fees, Other Fees) | $ 2,999,793 |
| **Disciplinary Income**<br>(Disciplinary Levy, HPDT Cost Recoveries) | $ 1,948,302 |
| **Total Income** | **$ 5,054,964** |
| | |
| **Expenditure** | |
| **Administration**<br>(Audit Fees, IT, Legal, Bank Fees, Insurance, Accountancy, Depreciation) | $ 609,172.00 |
| **Education and Standards**<br>(Accreditation & Monitoring) | $ 115,000.00 |
| **Registration** | $ 3,000.00 |
| **Conduct, Competence & Fitness + Professional Conduct Committees**<br>(Competence Reviews, Fitness Assessments, CCP Audits, Committee/Panel Fees and Costs) | $ 977,000.00 |
| **Health Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal**<br>(Hearings, Legal Fees, share of HPDT admin costs) | $ 1,195,000.00 |
| **Board Expenses**<br>(Board & Committee Fees, Travel, Meeting Expenses) | $ 427,773.00 |
| **Secretariat Expenses**<br>(Service Level Agreement with Nursing Council incl Lease/Utilities/Facilities/ Finance/Payroll, Salaries, Staff Development, Travel) | $ 1,527,590.59 |
| **Operational & Strategic Projects**<br>(s118 Functions) | $ 113,000.00 |
| **Total Expenditure** | **$ 4,967,535.59** |

# Proposed APC fee, disciplinary levy and other fees for 2027/28

The Board is proposing a combined APC fee and disciplinary levy of **$1,238.00 excluding GST ($1,423.70 including GST)** for the practising year commencing 1 April 2027, as set out in the table below.

The total comprises two distinct components:

1. **Annual practising certificate fee**

The APC fee funds the Board's general regulatory functions under sections 118 & is set in accordance with 130 of the HPCA Act.

These include, APC processes, professional standards, competence assurance, education and accreditation responsibilities, regulatory administration, governance and associated organisational costs.

2. **Disciplinary levy**

The disciplinary levy funds costs arising from PCC investigations and HPDT proceedings under section 131 of the HPCA Act.

These charges are calculated separately to reflect their different statutory purposes.

## How does this compare with 2026/27?

The Board recognises that practitioners will understandably compare the proposed fees and levy with the amount they were originally required to pay for their 2026/27 APC.

In 2026/27, practitioners paid an APC fee of $468.00, a Disciplinary Levy of $108.00 and one-off Disciplinary Levy of $80.00 (excluding GST). The Board subsequently imposed an additional disciplinary levy of $247.83 (excluding GST) to address an immediate funding shortfall for disciplinary activities. For practitioners required to pay both charges, the total cost for 2026/27 was therefore $903.83 excluding GST.

The proposed 2027/28 combined charge is $1,238.00 excluding GST ($1,423.70 including GST).

| | 2026/27 | Proposed 2027/28 |
|---|---|---|
| **APC Renewal**<br>General<br>Disciplinary | <br>$468.00<br>$108.00 | <br>$720.00<br>$518.00 |
| **One off Disciplinary Levies** | $80.00 + $247.83 | - |
| **Total excluding GST** | $903.83 | $1,238.00 |
| **GST** | $135.57 | $185.70 |
| **Total including GST** | **$1,039.40** | $1,423.70 |

The proposed total of $1,238 excluding GST represents an increase of **$334.17, or approximately 37%** and is intended to provide more realistic funding for the anticipated costs of the coming year. The proposed increase to the disciplinary levy reflects known and anticipated disciplinary costs and is intended to reduce the likelihood of practitioners facing another unexpected levy.

| Scenario | Keep APC price the same with current budget cost assumptions | Cost recovery budget based on budget cost assumptions |
|---|---|---|
| **Annual Practising Certificate Fee& Disciplinary Levy** | | |
| Practitioners (APC renewal) | 3,600 | 3,600 |
| APC + Levy (excl GST) per registrant | $ 576.00 | $ 1,238.00 |
| | | |
| **APC + Levy Income (excl GST)** | **$ 2,073,600** | **$ 4,456,800** |
| | | |
| **Other Income** (Interest, Accreditation & Other Fees charged on a user pays basis such as overseas registration apps) | $ 598,164 | $ 598,164 |
| | | |
| **Total Income** | **$ 2,671,764** | **$ 5,054,964** |
| | | |
| **Disciplinary Cases Forecast** | | |
| PCC case numbers | 12 | 12 |
| PCC cost per case | $ 65,417 | $ 65,417 |
| PCC Travel, Accommodation & Expenses | $ 10,000 | $ 10,000 |
| **Total PCC costs** | $ 795,000 | $ 795,000 |
| HPDT case numbers | 11 | 11 |
| HPDT cost per case | $ 104,545 | $ 104,545 |
| **Total HPDT costs** | $ 1,150,000 | $ 1,150,000 |
| **Total disciplinary costs** | $ 1,945,000 | $ 1,945,000 |
| | | |
| | | |
| **Operating costs** | $ 3,032,536 | $ 3,032,536 |
| | | |
| **Total costs** | **$ 4,977,536** | **$ 4,977,536** |
| **Net Surplus / (Deficit)** | **$ (2,305,772)** | **$ 77,428** |

A central consideration has been the need to avoid repeating the circumstances that led to the additional disciplinary levy in 2026/27. When the Board consulted on that levy, the financial forecasts indicated that the additional funding would be sufficient to meet anticipated expenditure for the remainder of the year. However, disciplinary costs remain uncertain, and forecasts must be regularly updated as cases progress.

The Board considers it preferable to adopt a prudent and transparent budget at the beginning of the practising year rather than set charges at a level that creates a substantial risk of requiring further contributions during the year.

The Board's financial reserves have been substantially depleted by historical operating deficits and increased disciplinary expenditure. Maintaining appropriate reserves provides a buffer against

fluctuations in expenditure and supports the continued delivery of statutory functions when actual costs exceed forecasts.

The proposed fees and levy are intended to fund anticipated regulatory and disciplinary expenditure while supporting the Board's longer-term financial sustainability. They are not expected to immediately restore reserves to their previous levels.

## Other fees and proposed section 19(5) examination fee

Consistent with the cost-recovery approach explained earlier, the Board has reviewed its other regulatory fees and is proposing updates to reflect the reasonable costs of delivering the activities they fund. The review considered staff time, expertise and external costs. These proposals aim to link each fee more closely to the relevant work and minimise the risk of cross-subsidisation from other fee income.

Please note that the application fee for all practising certificates and the associated disciplinary levies are set out separately in the table below for transparency purposes.

| Proposed Other Fees (excluding GST) | 2026/27 | Proposed 2027/28 |
|---|---|---|
| Application for registration by a practitioner trained in New Zealand | $ 196.00 | $ 348.28 |
| Application for registration under the Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act 1997 | $ 235.00 | $ 417.58 |
| Application for registration by a practitioner trained overseas in a prescribed country | $ 626.00 | $ 1,112.35 |
| Application for registration by a practitioner trained overseas in a non-prescribed country | $ 939.00 | $ 1,668.53 |
| Application for a vocational scope of practice by a practitioner trained in New Zealand or a prescribed country | $ 470.00 | $ 835.15 |
| Application for a vocational scope of practice by a practitioner trained in a non-prescribed country | $ 783.00 | $ 1,391.33 |
| Application to be restored to the Register of Psychologists | $ 78.00 | $ 138.60 |
| Application for a new practising certificate for a period of 12 months (or less) | $ 538.00 | $ 835.20 |
| Application by a new graduate for his or her first (12-month) practising certificate | $ 404.00 | $ 604.80 |
| Application for a new practising certificate valid for a period of 3 months (or less) by a practitioner who has not been practising at any other time during that financial year | $ 161.00 | $ 244.80 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Application for a practising certificate valid for a period of 1 month (or less) by a practitioner who has not been practising at any other time during that financial year | $ 81.00 | $ 115.20 |
| Application to renew a current practising certificate for the subsequent financial year | $ 468.00 | $ 720.00 |
| Disciplinary Levy for application to renew a current practising certificate for the subsequent financial year | $ 108.00 + 80.00 | $ 518.00 |
| Disciplinary Levy for a new graduate for his or her first (12-month) practising certificate | $ 199.00 | $ 435.12 |
| Disciplinary Levy for a new practising certificate for a period of 12 months (or less) | $ 235.00 | $ 600.88 |
| Disciplinary Levy for a new practising certificate valid for a period of 3 months (or less) by a practitioner who has not been practising at any other time during that financial year | $ 50.00 | $ 176.12 |
| Disciplinary Levy for a practising certificate valid for a period of 1 month (or less) by a practitioner who has not been practising at any other time during that financial year | $ 22.00 | $ 82.88 |
| Application to return to practice from a practitioner who has not held a practising certificate within the 3 years immediately preceding the date of the application | $ 209.00 | $ 371.38 |
| Annual maintenance of registration and communication for non-practising registrants | $ 48.00 | $ 85.29 |
| The supply of any documents (other than a certificate of registration) required for the purpose of seeking registration overseas | $ 157.00 | $ 278.98 |
| Inspection of the Register or other records (search fee) | $ 195.65 | $ No change |
| Copy of the Register of Psychologists | $ 117.00 | $ 207.90 |
| Application for the Board to review a delegate's decision | $ 548.00 | $ 973.75 |
| Fee for Accreditation of a degree, course of study, or programme leading to registration as a psychologist in New Zealand | $ 15,373.91 | No change |
| Section 19(5) Exam Fee (New) | $ - | $ 1,500.00 |

### New section 19(5) examination fee

As part of this review, the Board is proposing a new fee to cover the costs of arranging and conducting examinations required under section 19(5) of the HPCA Act. These examinations assist the Board in assessing an applicant's competence where this is required as part of the registration process, particularly in relation to overseas applications. The proposal would ensure that these examination costs are met through a specific fee rather than through other fee income. The Board recognises the additional cost to applicants required to undergo an examination and invites feedback on the proposal and its potential impact.

### Financial monitoring and future sustainability

The Board will continue to monitor actual expenditure against its forecasts and review its financial position throughout the year. This monitoring will inform future reviews of the APC fee, disciplinary levy and other regulatory fees, with each considered in light of the costs and statutory purposes of the activities it funds.

Where expenditure is lower than anticipated, any resulting surplus will be managed in accordance with the Board's financial policies and the statutory purposes of the relevant fees and levies. Reserve requirements and financial performance will also be considered as part of future budget and fee-setting decisions.

## Consultation and feedback

The Board invites feedback from psychologists and other interested parties on the proposed APC fee, disciplinary levy and other fees for 2027/28.

In particular, the Board welcomes views on:

1. The proposed APC fee, disciplinary levy and other fees, including the impact of the combined costs on practitioners.
2. Whether the financial and regulatory rationale for the proposed changes has been adequately explained.
3. The Board's proposed approach to forecasting disciplinary expenditure and managing financial uncertainty.

The Board will consider all submissions before making its final decisions on fees and levies for 2027/28.

**Consultation Released:** 5 November 2026

**Consultation Closes:** 3 December 2026

**Submissions on the above three questions can be emailed to consultation@nzpb.org.nz.**

The Board acknowledges the financial impact of the proposed charges and appreciates the profession's engagement in this consultation.

Our responsibility is to ensure that the psychology profession is regulated effectively, fairly and sustainably, in the interests of public protection.

We remain committed to fulfilling that responsibility while managing the resources entrusted to us prudently and transparently.

Nāku noa, nā

**New Zealand Psychologists Board**