

Policy on Grand-parenting

Policy statement A grand-parenting pathway is a transitional pathway that allows certain practitioners to register with a regulator and continue to practise their profession before implementation of new rules & regulations take full effect. This is informed by Section 13(b) of the Act which states that in the prescribing of qualifications “the qualifications may not unnecessarily restrict the registration of persons as health practitioners.”

This policy outlines the ‘grand-parenting’ provisions for certain practitioners to be eligible to apply for registration in the ‘Chinese medicine practitioner (acupuncturist)’, and/or ‘Chinese herbal medicine practitioner’, and/or ‘Chinese massage (tuina) practitioner’ scopes of practice¹ based on qualifications prescribed by the Council. These provisions will apply until 30 June 2024.

All new registrants after 30 June 2024 will need to abide with the registration requirements in place at the time.

Process Any **current registered member** with AcNZ, NZASA, NZCMAS, or NZRTCMP² as of 01 July 2023 who can satisfy the criterion set out below is eligible for grand-parenting into the ‘Chinese medicine practitioner (acupuncturist)’, and/or ‘Chinese herbal medicine practitioner’, and/or ‘Chinese massage (tuina) practitioner’ scopes of practice.

Individuals who are **not** current registered members with AcNZ, NZASA, NZCMAS, or NZRTCMP as of 01 July 2023 may be eligible for grand-parenting into the ‘Chinese medicine practitioner (acupuncturist)’ and/or ‘Chinese herbal medicine practitioner’, and/or ‘Chinese massage (tuina) practitioner’ scopes of practice if they can satisfy the criterion set out below.

The Council will consider each application on a case-by-case basis and there may be rare circumstances when its decision is at variance with this policy.

Criterion An individual who applies to have their name added to the Council’s Register in accordance with this policy prior to 30 June 2024, will be accepted if the individual:

¹ Applicants can apply for the Specialist scope of practice at the same time as their initial registration application for one of the main, general scopes of practice listed here. Their registration in the main, general scope/s of practice will be processed first and then their application for the Specialist scope of practice as eligibility for the Specialist scope of practice requires that an applicant is first registered in one of the main, general scopes of practice.

² AcNZ: New Zealand Register of Acupuncturists (Acupuncture NZ) Incorporated; NZASA: New Zealand Acupuncture Standards Authority Incorporated; NZCMAS: New Zealand Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture Society; NZRTCMP: New Zealand Register of Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Incorporated.

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1. has practised in the CM profession in New Zealand and can supply evidence of membership with AcNZ, NZASA, NZCMAS, or NZRTCMP for a minimum of three years cumulatively within the last five years prior to application³ relevant to the scope/s applied for;

OR

has practised in the CM profession in New Zealand and can supply evidence of practise for a minimum of three years cumulatively within the last five years prior to application relevant to the scope/s applied for;

AND

2. can satisfy the 'Fitness for registration' requirements under section 16 of the HPCA Act;

AND

3. submits a duly completed and signed registration application form, including payment of the required application fee.

Registration documentation

Applicants applying via this policy who wish to have some of their registration application documentation provided by their current voluntary registering body are recommended to contact them directly to support them in the collation of this documentation. The majority of documentation will need to be supplied directly by the applicant at the point of application.

This will include (where applicable):

- Proof of identity (certified copy of personal details page of passport or birth certificate)
- Proof of change of name (certified copy of name change document, i.e. marriage certificate)
- Details of membership, including APCs held (certified copy of membership certificate and confirmation of APCs held/certified APCs, or letter of confirmation from voluntary registration body)
- Details of any disciplinary proceedings or competence reviews/assessments undertaken, past or pending⁴

³ Three years cumulative practise within the last five years prior to application – those who are unable to meet this requirement due to parental leave, illness, or covid-related hardships, or who have registered with AcNZ, NZASA, NZCMAS, or NZRTCMP within the last three years, may still apply via this pathway. An explanatory note should be included with their application which will be referred to the Council's Registration Committee for consideration. The Council's Registrar will advise the applicant whether their explanation is satisfactory for the purposes of qualifying via this pathway.

⁴ The Council's expectation is that all previous and pending complaints or competence reviews/assessments undertaken be disclosed so that the Council can make an informed decision as to whether an applicant is suitable to be registered. All applications for registration are considered on a case-by-case basis. Anyone with something to disclose on their application

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- Certified copy of any English language test results⁵
 - Certified copy of criminal history record/s⁶
 - Certified copies of any Council gazetted CM qualification/s held that an applicant would like to have recognised on the Register in addition to being registered in accordance with this policy.

Applicants who are **not** current registered members with AcNZ, NZASA, NZCMAS, or NZRTCMP will also need to provide all the required documentation for their application, AND evidence of cumulative work as specified under criterion 1 above relevant to the scope/s applied for. This will require that you submit two separate pieces of evidence for each claimed year of practice. Evidence could include:

- Copies of taxation records
- Copies of professional indemnity insurance cover confirmation/invoices
- Copies of attendance confirmation from continuing professional development events specific to Chinese medicine
- Declaration from employer confirming period of employment and capacity.

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should provide as much information as possible with their application. The Council will engage with the applicant and seek any further information it may need to inform its consideration of the application.

⁵ The Council has agreed that applicants via the Grandparenting pathway to registration who have previously sat and passed English language proficiency tests at or above the standard set by the Council for registration with their respective voluntary registration bodies, and who have been practising in New Zealand since, may provide a copy of these results with their application for registration with the Council.

⁶ This record must be dated within six months when received by the Council and must include your full name (including middle name/s and any previous name/s or names you are known as). The Council may accept a report that is older than six months on receipt, if you can satisfactorily demonstrate that you have not lived in the country or countries since the issue of the report/s. Further information on these requirements is available on the Council's website located at www.chinesemedicinecouncil.org.nz.