

**Consultation: Continuing Professional
Development (CPD) Recertification Policy -
additional requirements for Podiatric Surgeons**

Issued: 7 Nov 25

Submission closing date: 15 Dec 25



1. Executive Summary

The Podiatrists Board of New Zealand | Te Poari Tiaki Waewae o Aotearoa (**the Board**) is seeking your feedback on our review of the **Continuing Profession Development (CPD) Recertification Policy – additional requirements for Podiatric Surgeons.**

The Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 (**the Act**) provides a framework for the regulation of health care providers. Among other responsibilities set out in section 118 of the Act, it is the Boards role to recognise, accredit and set programmes to ensure the ongoing competence of health practitioners. In order to meet this obligation, the Board has set a recertification programme under section 41(3)(f) of the Act, requiring all podiatrists who hold a practising certificate to actively engage in CPD in accordance with the requirements set out in the [Boards Continuing Professional Development \(CPD\) Recertification Policy](#).

As podiatric surgeon is an **additional** scope of practice, all podiatric surgeons will hold a current practising certificate in the podiatrist scope of practice. Therefore, they will continue to maintain their competence by completing the Board's CPD Recertification Policy requirements for the podiatrist scope of practice. The core requirements of that programme require all podiatrists who hold a practising certificate to engage in a minimum of 40 hours of CPD in every two-year recertification cycle and includes the following core requirements:

1	COMPULSORY ACTIVITIES 8 of the 40 hours' (minimum) CPD engagement must be Compulsory Activities 8 hours comprised of: Infection Control 3 hrs, Wound Management 2 hrs, Cultural Safety 3 hrs (see Appendix 1 for full explanation of activities)
2	PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES 16 of the 40 hours' (minimum) CPD engagement must be Professional Communication Activities (see Appendix 1 for full explanation of activities)
3	PROFESSIONAL LEARNING ACTIVITIES 16 of the 40 hours' (minimum) CPD engagement must be Professional Learning Activities (see Appendix 1 for full explanation of activities)

In addition to the requirements set out in the Board's CPD Recertification Policy for podiatrists, all podiatric surgeons will be required to complete **additional Core Requirements and CPD relating directly to their advanced scope of practice**, which is outlined in the **Continuing Profession Development (CPD) Recertification Policy – additional requirements for Podiatric Surgeons**, in sections A-E. These **additional requirements** are considered by the Board to be fundamental to support ongoing competency and to ensure the health and safety of all people/patients.

The first CPD recertification 2-yearly cycle under the reviewed policy will begin on 1 January 2026, ending on 31 December 2027, with the first CPD audit of the additional requirements for the podiatric surgeon scope of practice due in January 2028.

2. Context

Podiatric surgery can be practised in Australia, Aotearoa New Zealand, United Kingdom and the United States of America. In these countries podiatric surgeons are accredited and recognised as specialists.

Podiatric Surgeons are not medical doctors, but independent autonomous specialists who consult, diagnose, and surgically manage the foot and associated structures.

Currently, in Aotearoa New Zealand there are no postgraduate training courses in podiatric surgery. Therefore, the Australasian College of Podiatric Surgeons (ACPS) or the University of Western Australia (UWA) assess all podiatric surgery qualifications, skills and recency of surgery and outcomes, and provide recommendations for any registration applications in this additional scope for the Board.

The Board then set programmes to ensure the ongoing competence of podiatric surgeons in accordance with their responsibilities outlined in the Act.

3. Proposed Amendments

- A. The current additional CPD requirements for podiatric surgeons can be read here on our website.
<https://podiatristsboard.org.nz/practitioners/cpd-requirements/>
- B. The proposed new additional CPD requirements for podiatric surgeons are outlined in the Board's **Continuing Profession Development (CPD) Recertification Policy – additional requirements for Podiatric Surgeons**, which can be accessed on our website [here](#).
- ✓ Language has been streamlined where possible, and repetition removed.
 - ✓ Core Activities, including compulsory and ongoing requirements are clear and are considered by the Board to be fundamental to ensure the health and safety of all people/patients.
 - ✓ Activities support ongoing self-reflection and quality improvement.
 - ✓ The reviewed policy provides some freedom for each participant to self-direct their learning, however this is balanced against a need for evidence that meaningful and relevant learning is taking place in support of the Board's primary role of public protection.

Your feedback is important to us

This consultation is open from **7 November to 5pm on 15 December 2025**

All submissions should be sent directly to registrar@podiatristsboard.org.nz

Where possible please also give reasons for your feedback. As this is a public consultation, submissions received will be summarised on our website and we will record the submitter's name and organisation or profession (for registered podiatrists). All other contact details will be removed.

If you have any further questions about this consultation, please don't hesitate to contact us at registrar@podiatristsboard.org.nz