



## Mutual recognition of Australian occupations

The *Mutual Recognition (WA) Act 2001* (the Act) adopts the *Mutual Recognition Act 1992* of the Commonwealth, and was proclaimed on 1 March 2001. Some New Zealand occupations may also be recognised under the *Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition (Western Australia) Act 2007*.

### Principal purpose

The principal purpose of the Act is to provide the means for promoting the freedom of movement of persons in registered occupations between Australian states and territories.

The Act enables a person who is registered in connection with an occupation in one state to carry on an equivalent occupation in another state, subject to specified requirements.

### Equivalent occupations

An occupation in one state is defined as being equivalent in another state if the activities authorised under each registration are substantially the same.

### General information

A written notice (application form) is required for mutual recognition of a registration from another state.

The notice must include:

- the occupation for which registration is sought;
- a statement that the applicant is registered for the occupation in the first state or states;
- a list of all the states in which the applicant has substantive registration for equivalent occupations;
- a statement that there are no disciplinary proceedings, cancellations or suspensions of the registrations in other states;
- any special conditions that the applicant is subject to in carrying on the occupation in other states;
- a statement that the applicant is not personally prohibited, or subject to special conditions resulting from criminal, civil or disciplinary proceedings, from carrying on the occupation in other states;
- consent for the making of enquiries and exchange of information with the authorities in other states regarding matters relevant to the application; and
- a statutory declaration that the statements and accompanying registration documents are true and correct.

The above requirements are outlined on the application form.

Registration of the occupation must be granted within one month after the application is lodged, unless the application is postponed or refused.

If registration is not granted within the one-month period, or if notification is not made of refusal or postponement, then the registration is immediately granted by default.

A person is deemed to be registered in an equivalent occupation from the time the application is received, until the application is refused, postponed, or accepted for registration, within the one-month period.

Routine applications will be approved, postponed, or refused by Resources Safety after a review process. If approved, an equivalent Western Australian certificate or licence is issued.

## **Fees**

The costs of issuing mutually recognised certificates and licences are similar to those for issuing a certificate or licence in Western Australia, and hence the fees are the same. Refer to Schedule of Fees and Charges available from Resources Safety at [www.dmp.wa.gov.au/ResourcesSafety](http://www.dmp.wa.gov.au/ResourcesSafety).

## **Applications**

The completed application form, together with certified copies of the registration documents and the relevant fee payable to the Department of Mines and Petroleum, should be mailed to Client Services, Resources Safety, Mineral House, 100 Plain Street, East Perth WA 6004 or handed in person at 303 Sevenoaks Street, Cannington WA 6107. Application forms must be signed by the candidate and witnessed by an authorised witness for statutory declarations listed in the *Oaths, Affidavits and Statutory Declarations Act 2005*.

## **Other information**

For any enquiries, please contact Client Services (ph. 08 9358 8001; fax 08 9358 8000; email [rsdclientServices@dmp.wa.gov.au](mailto:rsdclientServices@dmp.wa.gov.au)).