



New Zealand
**Medical Radiation
Technologists Board**
Te Poari Ringa Hangarua Iraruke

CONSULTATION: PRACTITIONER FEES REVIEW

THIS DOCUMENT SETS OUT PROPOSED
CHANGES TO THE FEES PAYABLE BY
PRACTITIONERS TO THE MEDICAL
RADIATION TECHNOLOGIST BOARD

NOVEMBER 11, 2019

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SUBMISSIONS DUE FRIDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2019

Email submissions to: mrt@medsci.co.nz

PURPOSE OF THIS CONSULTATION

This consultation set out the Medical Radiation Technologist Board's proposal to apply a general increase of 2% to all existing categories of practitioner fees, effective from 1 February 2020.

PRACTITIONER FEES IN CONTEXT

The Board operates within the health regulation framework under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 (the Act). As a not-for-profit body, the Board derives its operational revenue from fees (such as registrations and annual practising certificates), and fees are set in alignment with the Board's annual budgets. There is no general taxpayer contribution to any of its operations. The Medical Radiation Technologist Board sets practitioners' fees under the provisions of sections 130 and 131 of the Act.

The Board continually reviews its operations to ensure it provides best-value-for money and does this within the good practice guidelines of both the Office of the Auditor-General and the Treasury. A conscious effort is made to minimise costs without compromising the Board's responsibilities in performing its functions under the Act. It is critical for the Board to be fiscally reliable so it can continue to meet its legislative responsibilities into the future.

PROPOSED FEES CHANGES

The Board undertook a major review of practitioner fees in 2017 with a subsequent increase to all categories of fees commencing in February 2018. A central and recurrent theme of consultation feedback was a call for the Board to undertake more regular reviews of the fees schedule and to base any future changes on smaller incremental increases rather than sporadic reviews resulting in larger increases. The Board has taken heed of this feedback and has instituted an annual review of its practitioner fees schedule.

For the 2020-2021 financial year, the Board is proposing to increase fees by 2%. The increase is below that signalled in the Fees Consultation Outcomes published in August 2017. However, the Board does need to increase fees by 2% to cover increases to information technology costs relating to upgrading the Board's website and server, and cybersecurity costs. Also, the Board faces additional costs relating to implementing the changes to the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 passed by the Government in April 2019.

The Board is proposing to change the timing of a reduced annual practising certificate (APC) fee for new graduates and introduce a reduced annual practising fee for practitioners returning to work. Currently the reduced fee for the initial APC applies from 1 December to 31 March of the practising year. However, many new graduates commence working prior to 1 December and the Board has decided to bring forward the date the reduced fee takes effect to 1 October. The reduced fee will also apply to practitioners returning to work on or after 1 October.

The tables below show the impact of a 2% increase on existing practitioner fees and the change in timing of the reduced fee:

MEDICAL IMAGING AND RADIATION THERAPY PRACTITIONERS FEES

FEE CATEGORY	Current Fee 15% GST	Current Fee % GST	Proposed Fee 15% GST)	Proposed Fee 0% GST
	NZ Resident or activity carried out in NZ (i.e. REA or NZ online exam centre)	Overseas Resident or activity carried out outside NZ (online exam centre)	NZ Resident or activity carried out in NZ (i.e. REA or NZ online exam centre	Overseas Resident or activity carried out outside NZ (online exam centre)
REGISTRATIONS				
Registration Fee (NZ graduate)	\$357.00	\$310.43	\$364.00	\$316.52
Registration Fee (TTMRA)	\$357.00	\$310.43	\$364.00	\$316.52
Registration Fee (Overseas graduate)	\$816.00	\$709.57	\$832.00	\$723.48
Additional Scope	\$194.00	\$168.70	\$198.00	\$172.17
ANNUAL PRACTISING CERTIFICATE (APC)				
Renewal of an APC received by 31 March	\$450.00	\$391.30	\$460.00	\$400.00
Renewal of an APC received after 7 April	\$630.00	\$547.83	\$643.00	\$559.13
Application for an initial or Return to Work APC received between 1 October to 31 January*	n/a	n/a	\$230.00	\$200.00
Application for initial APC received between 1 December and 31 March*	\$150.00	\$130.43	n/a	n/a
Application for an initial or Return to Work APC received between 1 February to 31 March*	n/a	n/a	\$0.00	\$0.00
SUPPLY OF DOCUMENTS				
Registration certification/Re- issue of reg cert	\$61.00	\$53.04	\$62.00	\$53.91
Letter of good standing	\$143.00	\$124.35	\$146.00	\$126.96
Restoration to the register	\$51.00	\$44.35	\$52.00	\$45.22
REA	\$2,672.00	n/a	\$2725.00	
Online Exam Fee	\$2,400.00	\$2,086.96	\$2448.00	\$2128.70

*An initial APC or RTW APC will be issued up until 31 March.