

4 March 2025

[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Official Information Act Request

Thank you for your request of 10 February 2025, under the Official Information Act 1982, for the following information:

1. *Recognition of Overseas Psychology Qualifications*

- *A list of all psychology-related qualifications that have been assessed and recognized by NZQA from 2015 to 2024.*
- *The country of origin and recognition outcome for each qualification.*

2. *Interaction with Registration Authorities*

- *Does NZQA coordinate with the Medical Council of New Zealand (for psychiatrists) or the New Zealand Psychologists Board (for psychologists) when assessing overseas qualifications?*
- *If so, please provide any documentation outlining how NZQA's assessment influences the registration process for psychiatrists and psychologists.*

3. *Systemic Barriers and Discussions*

- *Any reports, reviews, or internal discussions regarding the gap between qualification recognition and professional registration for psychiatrists and psychologists in New Zealand.*
- *Any discussions with government agencies or medical bodies about challenges in recognizing overseas psychiatry and psychology qualifications.*

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982.

I include the following information to each of your questions:

1. Recognition of Overseas Psychology Qualifications

- **A list of all psychology-related qualifications that have been assessed and recognized by NZQA from 2015 to 2024.**
- **The country of origin and recognition outcome for each qualification.**

The information collated is from February 2020. We are unable to extract data prior to this because the information management system prior to February 2020 has been decommissioned. The request for data from 2015 to 2019 is refused under section 18(e) of the Official Information Act 1982.

There were 1104 overseas psychology-related qualifications across 61 countries evaluated by NZQA between 10 February 2020 and 31 December 2024.

The attached spreadsheet contains the list of evaluated qualifications that have the word 'psychology' in the title, along with the country of origin and recognition outcome.

Each qualification was evaluated individually, and the recognition outcome is based on the information that was available at the time of evaluation. An evaluation outcome may change over time as programmes are updated, and approvals and accreditation may change. This list shows an evaluation outcome at a point in time.

2. Interaction with Registration Authorities

- **Does NZQA coordinate with the Medical Council of New Zealand (for psychiatrists) or the New Zealand Psychologists Board (for psychologists) when assessing overseas qualifications?**

No. These qualifications are only assessed for comparability to a Level and qualification type on the New Zealand Qualifications and Credentials Framework (NZQCF). The Medical Council of New Zealand and the New Zealand Psychologists Board are responsible for assessing an individual's competency for professional registration.

- **If so, please provide any documentation outlining how NZQA's assessment influences the registration process for psychiatrists and psychologists.**

Please refer to the response above.

3. Systemic Barriers and Discussions

- **Any reports, reviews, or internal discussions regarding the gap between qualification recognition and professional registration for psychiatrists and psychologists in New Zealand.**
- **Any discussions with government agencies or medical bodies about challenges in recognizing overseas psychiatry and psychology qualifications.**

We have no reports, reviews, or internal discussions regarding the gap between qualification recognition and professional registration for psychiatrists and psychologists in New Zealand.

NZQA has not had discussions with government agencies or medical bodies about challenges in recognizing overseas psychiatry and psychology qualifications.

We evaluate a qualification that has been awarded for comparison to a Level and qualification type on the NZQCF. The evaluation outcome may be used by stakeholders to make informed decisions.

Our response to your request may be published on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed before publication.

If you require further assistance or believe we have misinterpreted your request, please contact Elizabeth Templeton in the Office of the Chief Executive, email elizabeth.templeton@nzqa.govt.nz or telephone (04) 463 3339.

You have the right to seek an investigation or review by the Ombudsman of this decision under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act 1982. Details of how to make a complaint can be found at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz. You can also telephone 0800 802 502 or write to the Ombudsman at PO Box 10152, Wellington, 6143.

Nāku nā



Dr Grant Klinkum
Pouwhakahaere/Chief Executive