



Board of Surveying and Spatial Information

Registration in NSW via Mutual Recognition

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Surveyors registered in the other states and territories of Australia and New Zealand are able to apply for registration in NSW via the *Mutual Recognition Act 1992* depended upon any conditions placed on their registration by the reciprocating authority and the equivalence of registration in NSW.

In NSW surveyors can be registered as land or mining surveyors. Registered mining surveyors may also have conditions placed on their registration which include restricting registration only to open cut mines, open cut mines and underground metalliferous mines, and unrestricted.

Under the *Mutual Recognition Act 1992*, within one (1) month of lodgement of an application for registration via mutual recognition, the Board must grant registration in NSW or provide notice that the application is to be postponed or refused. Under the *Mutual Recognition Act 1992*, the Board may postpone an application for registration in NSW for no longer than six (6) months. The *Mutual Recognition Act 1992* specifies that the Board may postpone an application under the following circumstances:

- a) any of the statements or information in the application are materially false or misleading
- b) any document or information providing evidence of registration in another State or Territory has not been provided or is materially false or misleading
- c) the circumstances of the person lodging the notice have materially changed since the date of the notice or the date it was lodged
- d) the authority decides that the occupation in which registration is sought is not an equivalent occupation.

The grounds of refusal of an application as stated in the *Mutual Recognition Act 1992* include if:

- a) any of the statements or information in the application are materially false or misleading
- b) any document or information providing evidence of registration in another State or Territory has not been provided or is materially false or misleading
- c) the Board decides that the registration held in another State and Territory is not the equivalent of registration in NSW and equivalence cannot be achieved by the imposition of conditions.

Application for Registration in NSW via Mutual Recognition

An application for registration in NSW via Mutual Recognition needs to be made using the Board's Application for registration as a surveyor in NSW via a Letter of Accreditation and Application under mutual recognition forms which are available from the Board's website, www.bossi.nsw.gov.au.

For the application to be acceptable to the Board, the application should also be accompanied by a Statutory Declaration verifying that the information on the forms is true and correct, a Letter of Accreditation issued by the Interstate or New Zealand Surveying Board which issued your current registration dated within the last 12 months, two passport sized photographs for the purpose of issuing an identification card, and payment via cheque or money order of the application for registration fee and annual registration fee for the current financial year. Electronic payment facilities via credit card or electronic transfer are not available for the payment of the above mentioned fees.

1.1 Australian Capital Territory

Land surveyors registered in the Australian Capital Territory are acceptable for registration as a land surveyor in NSW. Surveyors should approach the Office of the Surveyor-General for a Letter of Accreditation before applying for registration in NSW. The Australian Capital Territory does not currently register mining surveyors so mining surveyors from the Australian Capital Territory will need to enroll as a candidate and complete the NSW Board's assessments to gain registration as a mining surveyor.

Note: The ACT no longer has a Surveyors board. Through a memorandum of understanding, BOSSI administers the training of ACT-based candidates and encourages them to apply for dual registration. If NSW registered surveyors wish to become registered in the ACT, besides paying the appropriate fee to BOSSI, they MUST also formally notify the Registrar for the ACT Surveyor-General.

1.2 Northern Territory

Land surveyors licensed in the Northern Territory are acceptable for registration as a land surveyor in NSW. Surveyors should approach their Surveyors Board for a Letter of Accreditation before applying for registration in NSW. The Northern Territory Surveyors Board does not currently license mining surveyors so mining surveyors from the Northern Territory will need to enroll as a candidate and complete the NSW Board's assessments to gain registration as a mining surveyor.

1.3 New Zealand

Land surveyors licensed in New Zealand are acceptable for registration as a land surveyor in NSW. Surveyors should approach their Surveyors Board for a Letter of Accreditation before applying for registration in NSW. The New Zealand Surveyors Board does not currently register mining surveyors so mining surveyors from New Zealand will need to enroll as a candidate and complete the NSW Board's assessments to gain registration as a mining surveyor.

1.4 Queensland

Registered surveyors with a cadastral endorsement from Queensland are acceptable for registration as a land surveyor in NSW. Registered surveyors with a mining endorsement from Queensland are acceptable for registration as a mining surveyor in NSW depended upon any conditions which the registration has been issued with. Other types of registration available in Queensland are currently not accepted in NSW as there is no equivalent registration in NSW. Surveyors should approach their Surveyors Board for a Letter of Accreditation before applying for registration in NSW.

1.5 South Australia

Land surveyors licensed in South Australia are acceptable for registration as a land surveyor in NSW. Surveyors should approach their Surveyors Board for a Letter of Accreditation before applying for registration in NSW. The South Australia Surveyors Board does not currently license mining surveyors so mining surveyors from South Australia will need to enroll as a candidate and complete the NSW Board's assessments to gain registration as a mining surveyor.

1.6 Tasmania

Land surveyors registered in Tasmania are acceptable for registration as a land surveyor in NSW. Surveyors should approach the Tasmania Surveyor General for a Letter of Accreditation before applying for registration in NSW. The Tasmania Surveyor General does not currently register mining surveyors so mining surveyors from Tasmania will need to enroll as a candidate and complete the NSW Board's assessments to gain registration as a mining surveyor.

1.7 Victoria

Land surveyors licensed in Victoria are acceptable for registration as a land surveyor in NSW. Surveyors should approach the Surveyors Registration Board of Victoria for a Letter of Accreditation before applying for registration in NSW. The Victoria Surveyors Board does not currently license mining surveyors so mining surveyors from Victoria will need to enroll as a candidate and complete the NSW Board's assessments to gain registration as a mining surveyor.

1.8 Western Australia

Land surveyors licensed in Western Australia are acceptable for registration as a land surveyor in NSW. Grade 1 Authorised Mine Surveyors in Western Australia are acceptable for registration as a mining surveyor in NSW with a restriction of open cut mines and underground metalliferous mines. Grade 2 Authorised Mine Surveyors in Western Australia are acceptable for registration as a mining surveyor in NSW with a restriction of open cut mines. Surveyors should approach their Surveyors Board for a Letter of Accreditation before applying for registration in NSW.

Processing of application

On receipt of the application, the application will be checked to ensure it is complete and valid by the BOSSI Secretariat. This will include checking that all documentation has been provided, payment has been made, and stated qualifications are correct. This may include making enquiries with interstate or New Zealand Surveyors Board to verify details stated in the application.

Upon checking, the application is then forwarded to the Board for approval at its next Board meeting. If the Board grants approval, as a condition of approval the applicant will be required to attend an interview with a nominated Board member.

Depending upon time limits as stated in the *Mutual Recognition Act 1992*, applications may be forwarded to the President of the Board for approval in between Board meetings.

Upon review by the Board and/or President of the Board, the Secretariat will inform the applicant of the result of their application.

If the application is approved the Secretariat will provide the contact details for the Board member who will conduct the interview and will also forward a certificate of registration and identification card. The applicant should make contact with the nominated Board member soon after receiving notice from the Secretariat. Granting of registration will also be gazetted in the NSW Government Gazette.

If the application is postponed or refused, the Secretariat will provide notice on what grounds the application has been postponed or refused and if postponed the period of postponement will be stated.

Interview

The interview is a chance for the applicant to get to know the particular specific legislation and procedures that apply in NSW for the conduct of land and mining surveys depending upon which registration has been applied for. The nominated Board member will also provide contact details for principal contacts that the applicant will require for undertaking land and mining surveys in NSW.

The interview will also involve questions from the nominated Board member to ensure that the applicant is competent and of good character. Questions may include topics such as educational background, experience in surveying, current employment, and knowledge of processes in NSW.

Disciplinary appeals

Following approval and registration in NSW, the first three (3) to five (5) land or mining survey plans submitted by the surveyor may be audited by the appropriate government department to ensure compliance with legislative and procedural requirements in NSW. These audits may include field checks to ensure the accuracy of measurements and marking of surveys. Following this initial period, the normal random audit process of surveys will apply.

The surveyor will also be required to provide evidence at the next available Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Audit that they have fulfilled the requirements of the Board's CPD requirements for registration. Further information on the Board's requirements for CPD can be found in the Board's Continuing Professional Development Determination which is available on the Board's website, www.bossi.nsw.gov.au.