



**Board of Surveying
& Spatial Information**

Registration in NSW via Mutual Recognition

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Registration in NSW via Mutual Recognition

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346 Panorama Avenue
Bathurst NSW 2795

T: (02) 6332 8238

www.bossi.nsw.gov.au

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1. Mutual Recognition

Surveyors registered in the other states and territories of Australia can apply for registration in NSW via the *Mutual Recognition Act 1992* dependent upon any conditions placed on their registration by the reciprocating authority and the equivalence of registration in NSW.

Surveyors registered in New Zealand can apply for registration in NSW via the *Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act 1997* dependent 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 types of 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.

2. 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 online application process via the BOSSI OneGov portal, accessible through the Board's website www.bossi.nsw.gov.au.

For the application to be acceptable to the Board, the application must 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,
- a digital copy of a passport style photograph for the purpose of issuing an identification card, and

- payment online via credit /debit card or BPAY of the mutual recognition fee and annual registration fee for the current financial year.

2.1. Australian Capital Territory

Land surveyors registered in the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) are acceptable for registration as a land surveyor in NSW. Surveyors must approach the ACT Office of the Surveyor-General and Land Information for a Letter of Accreditation before applying for registration in NSW.

The ACT does not currently register mining surveyors so mining surveyors from the ACT will need to enrol 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.

2.2. Northern Territory

Land surveyors licensed in the Northern Territory are acceptable for registration as a land surveyor in NSW. Surveyors must approach the Surveyors Board of the Northern Territory for a Letter of Accreditation before applying for registration in NSW.

The Surveyors Board of the Northern Territory does not currently license mining surveyors. Mining surveyors from the Northern Territory will need to enrol as a candidate and complete the NSW Board's assessments to gain registration as a mining surveyor.

2.3. New Zealand

Land surveyors licensed in New Zealand are acceptable for registration as a land surveyor in NSW. Surveyors must approach the Cadastral Surveyors Licensing 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 enrol as a candidate and complete the NSW Board's assessments to gain registration as a mining surveyor.

2.4. Queensland

Registered surveyors with a cadastral endorsement from Queensland are acceptable for registration as a land surveyor in NSW. Surveyors must approach the Surveyors Board of Queensland for a Letter of Accreditation before applying for registration in NSW.

Registered surveyors with a mining endorsement from Queensland are acceptable for registration as a mining surveyor in NSW dependent upon any conditions which the registration has been issued with. Surveyors must approach the Surveyors Board of Queensland for a Letter of Accreditation before applying for registration in NSW.

Other types of registration available in Queensland are currently not accepted in NSW as there is no equivalent registration in NSW.

2.5. South Australia

Land surveyors licensed in South Australia are acceptable for registration as a land surveyor in NSW. Surveyors must approach the Surveyors Board of South Australia for a Letter of Accreditation before applying for registration in NSW.

The South Australia Surveyors Board does not currently license mining surveyors. Mining surveyors from South Australia will need to enrol as a candidate and complete the NSW Board's assessments to gain registration as a mining surveyor.

2.6. Tasmania

Land surveyors registered in Tasmania are acceptable for registration as a land surveyor in NSW. Surveyors must approach the Tasmanian Surveyor General (via the Office of the 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 enrol as a candidate and complete the NSW Board's assessments to gain registration as a mining surveyor.

2.7. Victoria

Land surveyors licensed in Victoria are acceptable for registration as a land surveyor in NSW. Surveyors must 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 enrol as a candidate and complete the NSW Board's assessments to gain registration as a mining surveyor.

2.8. Western Australia

Land surveyors licensed in Western Australia are acceptable for registration as a land surveyor in NSW. Surveyors must approach the Land Surveyors Licensing Board of Western Australia for a Letter of Accreditation before applying for registration 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 must approach the WA Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety for a Letter of Accreditation before applying for registration in NSW.

3. 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 the relevant 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 a meeting (see section 4 below) with a nominated Board member/representative.

Depending upon time limits as stated in the *Mutual Recognition Act 1992* or the *Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act 1997*, 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/representative who will conduct the interview
- certificate of registration and
- identification card

The applicant should make contact with the nominated Board member/representative soon after receiving notice from the Secretariat.

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.

4. Meeting

The meeting 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/representative will also provide contact details for principal contacts that the applicant will require for undertaking land and mining surveys in NSW.

The meeting will also involve discussion with the nominated Board member/representative to ensure that the applicant is competent and of good character. It will include topics such as educational background, experience in surveying, current employment, and knowledge of processes in NSW.

5. Audit and CPD Requirements

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 Determination 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.