

**Health Professions Council
Education and Training Committee – 15 December 2005**

QUALIFICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION

Executive Summary and Recommendations

Introduction

The HPC has received a number of applications from individuals who have completed what the Education Department believe to be a CPSM/Board approved programmes. The programmes in question are no longer offered and in many cases, the provider no longer exists. However, due to a lack of definitive information about the history of these programmes, particularly in relation to dates, we are unable to process these applications through the UK route.

Earlier this year, Education Department staff went to the Privy Council, to access their records for all HPC registered professions, in order to compile a list of programmes that had been previously approved by the CPSM. We have also accessed the CPSM website and spoken to professional bodies in an attempt to resolve these cases.

In all the cases we have seen to date, we have been able to obtain information from a number of sources which, when combined, indicates that the programmes were indeed recognised at the time in question. This information is in the form of letters from the professional body, JVC handover documentation stating that each of the programmes were recognised by the professional body at the time in question.

As this situation is likely to be limited to a relatively small number of individuals, the Education Department proposes that the mechanism for registering these individuals lies not in the retrospective approval of all such programmes for HPC regulated professions, but rather, in obtaining sufficiently robust information and letters of support from appropriate bodies, to the extent that the executive is satisfied that the individual has completed a recognised programme and thus meets the HPC's Standards of Proficiency.

Sufficiently robust information for the admission of such individuals to the register must consist of:

- A letter from the professional body confirming that the programme was recognised by the board at the time in question and that any individual who holds the qualification and has been in practice since that time will continue to meet the SoPs;
- and
- Some reference to the programme and institution on the old CPSM web pages;
- or
- Some reference to the programme and institution in the JVC handover files;
- or
- A record of the programme and institution in the Privy Council approval papers
- or
- A letter and supporting approval documentation from the institution confirming the 'approved' status of the programme at the time in question.

Decision

The Committee is asked to agree that :

Individuals who have completed a UK programme which is not currently listed on the HPC website, but for which the executive is able to obtain sufficient information that it is satisfied that the programme was originally approved by the CPSM as leading to registration, will be admitted to the HPC register on an individual basis.

Background information

None

Resource implications

None.

Financial implications

None.

Background papers

None

Appendices

None

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