

CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Proposed Review Management Fee and Request Lodgement Fee

*Fee for reconsideration of a Council decision, and
Fees for consideration after an assessment event*

Released: Thursday, 24 March 2016
Submissions due: Friday, 15 April 2016

1. Who we are

The Pharmacy Council of New Zealand (the Council) is established under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 (HPCAA) and has a duty to protect the public and promote good pharmacist practice. The Council is responsible for the registration of pharmacists, the setting of standards for pharmacists' education, scopes of practice and conduct. The Council's vision is to promote enhanced wellbeing through excellence in pharmacy practice.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this consultations to seek pharmacists' and stakeholders' views on two proposed fees: the Review Management Fee and the Request Lodgement Fee. Responses will be considered by Council before a final decision is made.

3. Background

Council is committed to fair and transparent processes. Some of the decisions it makes are prescribed in the Act and processes for reviews or appeals of those decisions are outlined in the Act. For other decisions made by Council, policies and processes will be introduced in 2016 for requesting and undertaking reconsideration of decisions.

Council has also approved a process whereby candidates who undertake Council assessments may request consideration of their circumstances in the event they experienced an adverse event outside their control during an assessment. The process and associated policy will replace the existing Examination and Assessment Centre Appeals policy and the proposed fees will replace the existing \$500 appeal fee.

The new policies and processes have been approved by Council and will come into effect after Council has determined the associated fees.

4. Proposal and rationale

Fees are proposed to assist in recovery of expenses Council incurs in considering a request. They include costs of administration and up to three non-staff advisors assessing information provided and meeting to make a decision.

To reconsider Council decisions that are not described in the Act, Council proposes a Review Management Fee of \$500 (GST inclusive).

To request consideration of an assessment candidate's circumstances after an adverse event during an assessment, Council proposes that an initial, non-refundable, Request Lodgement Fee of \$100 (GST inclusive) is paid for lodging a request made in the period between undertaking the assessment and results being notified. If, after results' notification, an applicant wishes to progress with the request, Council proposes the Review Management Fee of \$500 (GST inclusive) is applied to undertake the consideration.

5. Summary

Council wishes to ensure that fair and transparent processes are in place for applicants to request reconsideration of its decisions or to request consideration of a candidate's situation in the event of an adverse event during an assessment. To this end it has approved policies and processes to take effect after associated fees are decided.

The proposed fees make a contribution to the costs Council incurs in considering these requests.

6. How to submit a response

Responses can be sent:

by mail

Consultation, Reconsideration Fee
Pharmacy Council of New Zealand
PO Box 25137
Wellington 6011

by fax

Fax: 04 495 0331

by email

consultations@pharmacycouncil.org.nz

Please include details in your response including your name and which organisation or health sector you represent.

This consultation closes at 5pm, 15 April 2016.

Kind regards

Claire Paget-Hay
Acting Chief Executive/Registrar