

Certified Practising Speech Pathologists (CPSP) requirements: Information sheet for Overseas trained speech pathologists

Overseas trained speech pathologists must successfully complete the assessment process before they can be classified as a Certified Practising Speech Pathologist and be able to use the CPSP post nominals.

Due to the requirements of the assessment process applicants have up to two years from initial submission to complete the process. The two-year time frame is provided as an acknowledgement that it may take some time for applicants to undertake the required research to prepare evidence that meets the competency standards to practice in the Australian context.

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that they fulfil the employment requirements of any speech pathology position they accept. If the position requires the applicant to be CPSP, or eligible to be CPSP, the applicant would NOT meet this employment criteria and therefore should not apply.

CPSP requirements for rebates and funded programs

Several funding programs require speech pathologists to be CPSP in order for clients to be able to receive rebatable services. Only CPSP are eligible to obtain a Medicare Provider number, as they are [practising members](#) and therefore can see clients under any Medicare funded programs, or private health insurance.

Additionally, it is a requirement of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) that registered providers and their staff are members of their regulatory body. As speech pathology is a self-regulated profession, speech pathologists wanting to register to be NDIS providers, or work for registered providers are required to be CPSP. This is a requirement of the NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Commission, and applies to all registered providers and their staff, including contractors, employees and casual staff.

CPSP and professional indemnity insurance

The Association recommends that all speech pathologists, in both public and private practice have their own professional indemnity insurance. Please note that having professional indemnity insurance is now a requirement in the Code of Conduct for all NDIS providers, both registered and unregistered. It is also a requirement in the states where the National Code of Conduct for Unregistered Health Professions is in place.

Further information about professional indemnity insurance is available on the [SPA website](#). Additional resources about the NDIS, and practice issues on the [Professional Resources](#) section, and information about Medicare on the [Rebates and Funded Programs](#) page.

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Original: March 2020

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