

CMBA regulatory examinations policy

March 2025

Multiple-choice question examinations

Purpose

This document sets out Chinese Medicine Board of Australia's (CMBA) policy related to the multiple-choice question (MCQ) examinations.

Scope

The CMBA regulatory examinations includes a multiple-choice question (MCQ) examination and an objective structured clinical examination (OSCE). A candidate must pass the MCQ examination to be eligible to undertake the OSCE.

This document contains the CMBA's policy related to the following activities which apply to all candidates of the MCQ examinations:

- Registering for MCQ examination,
- Cancelling an MCQ examination registration,
- MCQ examination fee, and
- Releasing MCQ examination results to candidates.

Policy

Registering for MCQ examination

Candidates are responsible for registering to sit the examination and attending the relevant MCQ examination centre on the correct day and time.

To sit the MCQ examination, eligible candidates must create an account on the examination portal hosted by Kryterion Global Testing Solutions (Kryterion). In order to be eligible, candidates must have a letter from Ahpra that requires them to sit the MCQ examination. Kryterion will verify with Ahpra that each candidate who creates an account is eligible to sit the MCQ examination. Once Ahpra has verified a candidate is eligible, the account will be activated, and the candidate can register to sit the MCQ examination through the Examination Portal.

To create an account and register for the MCQ examination, candidates will need to:

1. Create an account on the [examination portal](#). Once Ahpra has verified a candidate is eligible, the account will be activated.
2. The activated account will enable eligible candidates to register for the MCQ examination through the Examination Portal and pay the MCQ examination fee.
3. Candidates who register and pay will receive a confirmation email with the details of the MCQ examination date, examination centre and requirements (including authentication code) for the examination day.

- Candidates will be required to present the 'authentication code' in the conformation email when they arrive at the MCQ examination centre.

Candidates must advise Ahpra of any change in contact details, immediately by writing to cmbaregulatoryexam@ahpra.gov.au

Cancelling an MCQ examination registration

Candidates who wish to cancel their registration for the MCQ examination must login to the Examination Portal and cancel at least 72 hours before the scheduled start time of the MCQ examination.

Kryterion may deduct a late fee from any refund if a candidate cancels within 72 hours of the scheduled start time of the MCQ examination.

Ahpra may require a candidate who cancels their registration for a scheduled MCQ examination to submit a new application for registration as a Chinese medicine practitioner and to re-register for the MCQ examination as a new applicant.

If a candidate cancels their scheduled MCQ examination less than 72 hours before the scheduled start time for the MCQ examination due to medical or compassionate reasons, the candidate must advise Ahpra of the reasons for not sitting the examination, before the scheduled start time of the examination.

Evidence supporting the candidate's reason for not attending the scheduled examination, such as a medical certificate or proof of compassionate circumstances, must be provided to Ahpra within 10 business days of the scheduled examination.

Medical and compassionate circumstances are approved at the discretion of Ahpra and if approved, the candidate will receive a full credit of the examination fee less an administrative fee.

If a candidate does not notify Ahpra that they are unable to attend their scheduled examination, or if a candidate does not complete the examination on the day, they will be considered to have failed that examination, unless special consideration is requested and granted under the *requests for special consideration policy*.

MCQ examination fee

Candidates who Ahpra has assessed as eligible to sit the MCQ examination, must register and pay the MCQ examination fee online prior to the application closing date.

More MCQ examination fee information: [CMBA website](#)

Releasing results to candidates

The MCQ examination result is pass/fail. One mark is awarded for each right answer, and there is no negative marking.

MCQ examination results will be finalised approximately six weeks after the date of the MCQ examination. Ahpra will advise candidates via email whether they have passed or failed the MCQ examination.

The MCQ examination centre staff do not have access to the examination results, and therefore no results are released at the MCQ examination centres.

Candidates who pass the MCQ examination will be provided with information and access to the next step of the regulatory examination (the OSCE). Candidates who fail the MCQ examination will be provided with a report identifying the area(s) where they selected incorrect answers.

MCQ examination results are valid for five (5) years from the date of the MCQ examination.

Candidates must ensure that the email address provided to Ahpra is reliable and checked regularly. Any change in contact details must be notified to Ahpra immediately cmbaregulatoryexam@ahpra.gov.au

Monitoring, evaluation and review

This policy will be reviewed from time to time as required. This will generally be at least every three years.

Definitions and abbreviations

Candidate refers to those who have been approved to sit the CMBA regulatory examinations.

Regulatory examinations may be used by the Board to:

- i. assess an overseas-qualified Chinese herbal medicine practitioner's or acupuncturist's suitability to qualify for registration in Australia, in circumstances where they are assessed as holding a qualification that is relevant but not substantially equivalent or based on similar competencies to an Australian Board-approved qualification,
- ii. assess a practitioner's competence to practice, in circumstances where they don't meet recency of practice or performance concerns have arisen.

Associated documents

[CMBA regulatory examinations candidate handbook – multiple-choice question examination](#)

Effective date

March 2025