

NOTICE 35 OF 2002**HEALTH PROFESSIONS COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA****RULES RELATING TO CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN OCCUPATIONAL
THERAPY AND MEDICAL ORTHOTICS/ PROSTHETICS**

The Health Professions Council of South Africa has, in terms of section 26 read with section 15B of the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act No. 56 of 1974), made the rules set out in the Schedule.

SCHEDULE**DEFINITIONS**

1. In these rules **"the Act"** means the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act No. 56 of 1974), and, unless inconsistent with the context-

"board" means the Professional Board for Occupational Therapy and Medical Orthotics/Prosthetics established by Government Notice No. R. 75 of 16 January 1998;

"continuing professional development" means the continuing education and training referred to in section 26 of the Act and prescribed in terms of these rules;

"practitioner" means an occupational therapist, occupational therapy assistant, occupational therapy technician, supplementary occupational therapist, arts therapist, medical orthotist/prosthetist, supplementary medical orthotist/prosthetist, assistant medical orthotist/prosthetist, orthopaedic footwear technician or orthopaedic technical assistant registered in terms of the Act.

REQUIREMENTS

2. Any practitioner whose name on 1 April 2002 appears on the register kept in terms of section 18 of the Act, shall be required to comply with the conditions of continuing professional development laid down in these rules as a prerequisite for such practitioner to retain his or her registration in terms of the Act.
3. Any practitioner who after 1 April 2002 registers for the first time in terms of the Act in any category of independent practice or public service, shall be required to comply with the conditions of continuing professional development laid down in these rules from the following year, which shall be a prerequisite for such practitioner to retain his or her registration in terms of the Act.
4. Any practitioner whose name had been erased from the register shall be subject to compliance with any condition(s) which the board may specify prior to the restoration of the name of such practitioner to the relevant register.
5. For the purpose of continuing professional development, every practitioner shall be required to accumulate at least 50 points within any one year, provided that any points accumulated in excess of 50 points during one year may be forwarded to the subsequent year only.

Provided that, if such practitioner does not accumulate the prescribed minimum in any one year, he or she shall be permitted to obtain the required points in the subsequent year.

6. The 50 points prescribed in rule 5 and 6 shall be accumulated by way of different educational or developmental activities accredited by the board in any of the following categories of activities:
 - (1) Organisational activities;
 - (2) Small-group activities;
 - (3) Individual activities;
 - (4) Any other activities or category of activities which the board may accredit from time to time.
7. During any one year, no practitioner may accumulate more than eighty (80) percent of his or her points from activities in any one of the categories specified in rule 6.
8. During any one year, at least 2 points shall have to be obtained by every practitioner in professional ethics.
9. During any one year a maximum of 5 points may be obtained in non-clinical and other health related activities.
10. Deferment of compliance with the requirements of Continuing Professional Development will be granted by the board on application to individual practitioners on submission of adequate reasons and subject to such requirements as the board may determine, in the case of-
 - (a) a practitioner who is not practising his or her profession;
 - (b) a practitioner who is outside South Africa for a period of time which will exceed twelve months;
11. In the event of a practitioner not complying with the conditions specified in these rules within the prescribed period of time, the board may impose any one or more of the following conditions, namely-
 - (a) grant the practitioner deferment;
 - (b) require the practitioner to follow a remedial programme of continuing education and training as specified by the board;
 - (c) require the practitioner to write an examination as determined by the board;
 - (d) register the practitioner in a category of registration which will provide for supervision regarded as appropriate by the board;
 - (e) erase the name of the practitioner from the relevant register.