

## Surrender of registration

This fact sheet explains section 172AAC of the *Building Act 1993* (the Act) that commenced on 1 September 2016.

Registered building practitioners (practitioners) can now surrender their registration with the consent of the Victorian Building Authority (VBA).

Previously, practitioners who wished to leave the industry voluntarily had to have their registration cancelled or suspended.

### WHAT THE CHANGE MEANS

A practitioner may choose to surrender their registration for a range of reasons including:

- retirement
- ill health
- change in profession
- insolvency

#### How do I surrender my registration?

A practitioner who wishes to surrender their registration must complete and submit to the VBA a Surrender of Registration application form (available on the VBA website) and provide the required documents and information referred to in the form, including:

- a) proof of identity
- b) reason(s) for seeking surrender of registration
- c) details of the current state of their practice and plans for handing over any outstanding matters (for example, ongoing building work)
- d) details of any outstanding directions or orders issued under the Act or the *Domestic Building Contracts Act 1995* to complete or fix building work.

#### Can the VBA withhold consent?

The VBA will routinely consent to a surrender

of registration request.

However, the surrender provision is not intended to provide a way for a practitioner to avoid meeting their legal obligations under the Act, or disciplinary action. In such circumstances, the VBA may withhold consent.

#### What if I change my mind?

A practitioner who has surrendered their registration may reapply for registration under the Act at any time. Any previous registration history will be taken into account by the VBA.

#### What's the difference between surrender, cancellation, expiry and suspension of registration?

A practitioner may voluntarily surrender their registration when they wish to leave the industry, for example, due to retirement.

The VBA may suspend a practitioner's registration for various reasons, for example, lack of required insurance or non-payment of registration fees. Upon payment or by providing proof of insurance the practitioner's registration will be reinstated.

Registrations are granted for a maximum of five years. If a practitioner does not apply to renew their registration, their registration will expire and they will no longer be a registered building practitioner.

A practitioner's registration may be cancelled as a result of disciplinary action.

#### Want to know more?

Please [submit an enquiry](#) or call us on 1300 815 127.

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