

## Five year registration period

This fact sheet explains the revised section 171 of the *Building Act 1993* (the Act) that commences on 1 September 2016.

### THE CHANGE

From 1 September 2016, the registration of building practitioners will be subject to a five year registration period.

This means a practitioner will be required to re-apply for registration every five years.

Previously, practitioners were registered until their registration was either cancelled or suspended.

### WHAT THE CHANGE MEANS

#### Building practitioners, including building surveyors

##### For new practitioners (registered on or after 1 September 2016)

Practitioners who are registered after 1 September 2016 will be registered for a five year period.

They will be required to:

- keep their registration current on an annual basis – by paying an annual fee and providing proof of the required insurance
- re-apply for registration at the end of the five year registration period.

##### For existing practitioners (already registered on 1 September 2016)

All existing practitioners will be required to transition to the new five year registration period.

In the meantime they will need to keep their registration current each year by paying an annual fee and providing proof of the required insurance.

#### Transitioning to five year registrations

The transition will occur over a number of years, depending on when the practitioner was first registered, as detailed in the table below.

| Year of first registration  | Financial year of re-registration |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Practitioners first registered in a year ending in <b>zero or 5</b> | 1 July 2017                       |
| Practitioners first registered in a year ending in <b>1 or 6</b>    | 1 July 2018                       |
| Practitioners first registered in a year ending in <b>2 or 7</b>    | 1 July 2019                       |
| Practitioners first registered in a year ending in <b>3 or 8</b>    | 1 July 2020                       |
| Practitioners first registered in a year ending in <b>4 or 9</b>    | 1 July 2021                       |

A practitioner's registration will expire on their anniversary date in the relevant financial year.

On expiry, practitioners will be required to re-apply for registration for a five year period if they wish to continue to practice.

The Victorian Building Authority (VBA) understands that practitioners may not know the year of their first registration. The VBA will directly contact practitioners whose registration is due to expire, to advise them of the re-application requirements and process.

Practitioners will be contacted well in advance of their registration expiry.

#### Renewing registration

All practitioners will be required to re-apply for registration when their current registration expires and/or at the conclusion of each five year registration period.

Upon receipt of an application for re-registration, the VBA will:

- accept the applicant's status of prior registration as proof of their qualifications and experience
- require the applicant to consent to a police record check (as per current registration requirements)
- assess whether the applicant is a fit and proper person for registration (see the **Fit and proper person for registration fact sheet**).

Additionally, the VBA may consider whether the applicant has complied with any:

- prescribed continuing professional development requirements (see the **Continuing professional development fact sheet**)
- other prescribed criteria or conditions on their previous registration.

### Keeping registration current

On each anniversary of their registration, all practitioners will continue to be required to:

- pay an annual fee
- provide proof that the practitioner is covered by the required insurance.

## Read the revised section 171

- (1) *Registration under this Part lasts for a period of up to 5 years as determined by the Authority.*
- (2) *Subsection (1) does not take away from any provision about the suspension or cancellation of registration.*

### Want to know more?

Please **submit an enquiry** or call us on 1300 815 127.

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