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**Sent:** Saturday, 27 November 2010 3:23 PM  
**To:** Kathleen Almond  
**Subject:** Comments on consultation draft on English Language Skills Registration Standard

Hi Kathleen Almond,

The need of an IELTS score of 7 to prove the English language requirements to practice safely in Australia can be justified. But if such a requirement is made mandatory, it should be applicable to all the candidates applying for the registration, irrespective of which country they are from. It can be proved that a lot of candidates that have done schooling in the countries exempted from the test will not make a score of 7 in all 4 categories. So, to be fair on others if the standards are amended, it should cover all the candidates.

Another view is that the candidates that graduate from Australian universities with a degree will definitely have the standard to communicate effectively and practice safely using English as their primary language. During their study, they are assessed by qualified professionals in the university as per Australian nursing curriculum standards and if they have had a communication problem, they would not have qualified from the university. So, IELTS test to prove the communication skills in English is not needed for students who graduate from Australian universities. The cost of IELTS test is substantially high for a new graduate to afford.

If any change in requirements for registration are made, sufficient time should be given before the amendment comes into effect. Those who have already applied for the registration meeting the current requirement of English standards for registration (which came into effect from 1st of July 2010) should be given a fair go by processing their application under the current rules at the time which the application was accepted.

Thank you,  
RAJ