

# Anaesthetic Technician Accreditation standards - consultation document

25 February 2026

## Executive summary

1. Te Kaunihera Pūtaiao Hauora O Aotearoa | The Medical Sciences Council (the Council) is responsible for protecting the health and safety of New Zealanders by ensuring practitioners registered in the profession of anaesthetic technology are competent and fit to practise.
2. The Council prescribes the qualifications for registration as an anaesthetic technician. The accreditation standards provide the Council with assurance that the programme of education, leading to the prescribed qualification, produces graduates that are fit and competent to practise as anaesthetic technicians.
3. The accreditation standards are set by the Council to ensure that the programmes of education leading to a qualification for registration are fit for purpose.
4. The current version of the standards was released in June 2020 and is available from the Provider Standards tab on the Council's website.
5. The Council has reviewed the standards and is inviting practitioners, education providers, and other interested stakeholders to provide feedback on the draft standards.

## Consultation period

6. The consultation period runs from 25 February to 20 April 2026.

## Purpose of the standards

7. The Council's functions are listed in section 118 of the Health Practitioner's Competence Assurance Act 2003 (the Act) which (among other things) requires the Council to:

*“prescribe the qualifications required for scopes of practice within the profession, and, for that purpose, to accredit and monitor educational institutions and degrees, courses of studies, or programmes”<sup>1</sup>*

8. The accreditation standards provide the framework for ensuring that programmes of education are producing graduates who can meet the required standard of competence and ethical practice.
9. Graduates with an accredited qualification are recognised by the Council as being qualified and competent for registration without further review by the Council.
10. The Council uses the standards to review applications for accreditation of a programme of education. The standards are also used to monitor accredited programmes to ensure that they continue to be met over time.

## Accreditation standards guide

11. The Council has also developed a draft guide for the standards to support education providers and other users to demonstrate how they are meeting the standards. The guide provides examples of evidence that may be provided to support demonstrating how each of the standards are being met.
12. The Council is also reviewing the templates provided to education providers to ensure these are fit for purpose and only relevant information is sought from the education provider.

## Next steps

13. The Council will review and consider all feedback received before making any changes to the standards. Once approved, the standards will be published on the Council's website.

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<sup>1</sup> Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act (2003) Section 118(1)(a)

# Consultation questions

1. Name
2. Are you are registered anaesthetic technician? Yes or no?
3. Are you completing this survey as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?
4. Do you agree with Standard 1: Academic governance and quality assurance?  
Agree/disagree/neither agree nor disagree.
5. Are there any changes you would suggest to Standard 1?
6. Do you agree with Standard 2. Public safety? Agree/disagree/neither agree nor disagree.
7. Are there any changes you would suggest to Standard 2?
8. Do you agree with Standard 3. Programme of study? Agree/disagree/neither agree nor disagree.
9. Are there any changes you would suggest to Standard 3?
10. Do you agree with Standard 4. Learning environment? Agree/disagree/neither agree nor disagree.
11. Are there any changes you would suggest to Standard 4? Agree/disagree/neither agree nor disagree.
12. Do you agree with Standard 5. Assessment? Agree/disagree/neither agree nor disagree.
13. Are there any changes you would suggest to Standard 5?
14. Do you agree with Standard 6. The Learner Experience? Agree/disagree/neither agree nor disagree.
15. Are there any changes you would suggest to Standard 6?
16. Do you support the Guide to the Accreditation standards? Yes or no?
17. Are there any additions or changes you think should be made to the Guide?
18. Do you have any further feedback on the proposed accreditation standards?