

## Request for tender – Development of an Objective Structured Clinical Exam (OSCE) for internationally qualified nurses

## 24 July 2017

This document has been prepared to provide answers to questions made by interested parties in relation to the tender for the development of an OSCE for internationally qualified nurses.

Question  Is it possible to tender for the development of the registered nurse (RN) and enrolled nurse (EN) OSCE separately?  Our assumption is that you will require a bank of OSCE's for both RN and EN i.e. two examination sets. Is that correct?	Answer  The objective of the procurement is to develop examination content for two OSCEs. It is expected that interested parties provide a submission which covers the development of two OSCEs (one for RN and one for ENs)
What about the development of an OSCE for midwives?  Are midwives excluded from the examination set?	The Outcomes-based assessment (OBA) of Internationally Qualified Nurses and Midwives (IQNM) competence to practice project commissioned by the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) involves the development of an OBA for the professions of nursing and midwifery. The RFT – Development of an OSCE for nurses, is one component of a very large and complex project. The NMBA is working concurrently and separately to develop the OBA for Midwives.  Further information will be continued to be released via the NMBA website and newsletter.
What is the level of competency the OSCE is testing?	The OSCE is to be developed against the knowledge, skills and attributes required of a graduate entry-level RN and EN in Australia.
Is there a requirement to develop the MCQ knowledge tests in addition to the OSCEs?	As detailed above, the OBA of IQNM competence to practice project commissioned by the NMBA involves the development of an OBA for the professions of nursing and midwifery. The RFT – Development of an OSCE for nurses, is one component of a very large and complex project. The NMBA is working concurrently and separately on the MCQ component of the project.  Further information will be continued to be released via the NMBA website and newsletter.

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What constraints are there with regard to the methods of delivery? For example do you anticipate face to face delivery in each capital city or some other approach? Would an integrated approach of virtual web based simulation OSCEs be of benefit – in combination with face to face approaches?	It is expected that the OSCE will be delivered face to face. At this time, an integrated approach of virtual web based simulation OSCE is not considered to be suitable.  The delivery of the examination including the facility, are out of scope of this procurement. However, it is expected that the successful vendor will develop an OSCE which is appropriate for multi jurisdictional and varied delivery settings.
Will there be alignment with the current bridging program process?	The OBA of IQNM competence to practice project is a new outcomes based assessment model to be established by the NMBA and is separate to the current bridging programs. As a part of this project the NMBA will review the assessment pathways under the National Law.
What is your annual estimate for the number of internationally qualified nurses who would meet the criteria for OSCE testing?	At this time, the NMBA is unable to provide an estimate. As a part of the project the NMBA will review the assessment pathways under the National Law. As outlined in the request for tender, the OBA process is 'stepped' so that the candidate must pass the cognitive assessment before attempting the behavioural assessment (OSCE).