



Key Findings: Revalidation Survey 2015

In November and December 2015 NZOIA surveyed members to gauge levels of satisfaction with current revalidation requirements, and determine what alternatives people might favour over existing conditions.

NZOIA revalidation is comprised of two parts – the Annual Registration form and the three-yearly revalidation cycle.

As part of the survey, respondents were asked a series of questions via an online form. For each question, they were given the options of responding to or skipping the question.

Well over half (64%) of the 75 members who responded to the survey felt that revalidating every three years was appropriate, while more than three-quarters of respondents (78%) agreed the current five year timeframe for people to put their qualifications on hold since obtaining or last revalidating them was appropriate.

The vast majority (90%) felt that NZOIA members who were long-term or permanently based overseas should have alternative means of revalidating their qualifications outside New Zealand.

Asked about the benefits of revalidation, respondents commonly cited aspects such as networking, professional development and peer recognition.

Key findings by question

Is revalidating every three years appropriate?

Respondents=75

A majority (64%) felt revalidating every three years was appropriate.

If no, what timeframe would you suggest?

Respondents=33

Twelve respondents suggested every five years might be appropriate, and six suggested every four years. None of the respondents picked 'every two years' as an option.

Fifteen of the 33 respondents to this question selected the 'Other' option. More than half of this group said timeframes should vary according to specific circumstances, such as particular disciplines and frequency of activity.

Why did you select the timeframe you chose?

A majority of respondents said that three years seemed like a good middle ground and an appropriate timeframe to revalidate qualifications.

You can shelve (put on hold) your qualifications for five years since obtaining or last revalidating them. Is this time frame appropriate?

Respondents=74

More than three-quarters (78%) of respondents felt the timeframe was appropriate.

If no, what would you suggest?

Respondents=24

Four people felt that three years would be more appropriate than five; six people felt that the period should be longer. Fourteen people selected the 'Other' category, with several commenting that factors such as starting a family, going overseas or dealing with a serious injury should warrant a longer shelving period.

Does this provide you with enough options for revalidation?

Respondents=74

Almost three quarters (73%) said that putting their qualifications on hold for five years since obtaining or last revalidating them, or otherwise changing timeframes to factor in events such as starting a family or going overseas would provide enough options for revalidation.

What other options would you suggest?

Common suggestions included other training opportunities, peer and instructor assessment, as well as refresher and up-skilling workshops.

Do you think it is appropriate for multiple qualification holders to revalidate their qualifications every three years?

Respondents=73

Just over half of the respondents (52%) felt it was appropriate for multiple qualification holders to revalidate their qualifications every three years.

If yes, why is it not appropriate to make exceptions for these people?

The vast majority of respondents felt it was important for people's skills and knowledge to remain relevant, regardless of whether they held multiple qualifications or not.

If no, how do you suggest we manage these people's qualifications?

A common response was that timeframes should be extended to four or five years, instead of the current three-yearly requirement.

NZOIA has members who are long-term or permanently overseas and are wanting to keep their qualifications valid. Should NZOIA develop an alternative means of them revalidating their qualifications while they are overseas?

Respondents=73

The vast majority (90%) of respondents said NZOIA should consider developing alternative means for them to revalidate their qualifications

If yes, what do you suggest?

Respondents=65

Common suggestions included logbooks, where qualification holders could keep records of their work experience, and appropriate training or assessment that could be obtained overseas.

If no, why not?

Respondents=7

The majority of respondents felt that the relevancy of an NZOIA qualification to someone who has relocated overseas long-term or permanently may be more limited, and that after that length of time, they should be looking at qualifications in the country they were primarily operating in.

Are there any other challenges you have found with the revalidation system? If so, please provide specifics:

Respondents=53

The most common challenges cited were cost and time.

Are there any specific benefits you have seen from the revalidation system? If so, please provide details:

Respondents=62

The most common benefits cited included networking opportunities, sharing ideas with others and staying relevant.