

Alternative Pathway Protocol - Practicum Certificate

Under AMDRAS cl 34(b)

19th June 2025

1. The Board acknowledges that Recognised Providers (RPs) may be asked to recognise prior learning of applicants for the Practicum Certificate required for accreditation as an Advanced Mediator.
2. Under the AMDRAS model (cl 35(a)), RPs are entitled to certify that an applicant has satisfied the requirements for a Practicum Certificate by an alternative pathway.
3. The Board considers it reasonable for an RP to certify a Practicum Certificate according to an alternative pathway if the applicant has completed a course, workshop or supervised reflective practice ('Course') substantially equivalent to the Practicum Certificate course provided under AMDRAS. The Board expects that an RP will satisfy itself that the time spent by the applicant, the nature of the work undertaken by the applicant, and the qualifications of the Course trainer or leader will have been substantially equivalent to the relevant requirements described in Part 4, Division 7, and Appendix 1 of AMDRAS.
4. The Board considers it is essential that a practitioner be experienced in mediation practice before undertaking a Practicum Certificate course (or equivalent). No RP may accept an alternative pathway application unless the applicant had nationally accredited for at least 4 years (2 renewal cycles) and has evidence of completing at least 150 practice hours of mediation before undertaking that Course.
5. The Board considers that self-reporting of unsupervised, unstructured or peer reflective practice is not sufficient to be recognised as an alternative to a Practicum Certificate course. No RP may accept such evidence as an alternative pathway.
6. If an applicant is seeking a Practicum Certificate through an alternative pathway, and their evidence of prior learning was from more than 12 months prior to the application date, or if the program did not meet other essential elements of the AMDRAS recognised training, the RP may reasonably require the applicant to complete reasonable further training or assessment regarding the AMDRAS Standards and Professional Attributes before granting a Practicum Certificate according to an alternative pathway. These measures ensure the applicant's knowledge and competence are current and

meet the standards required for certification by an alternative pathway.

7. An RP may charge a fee to facilitate any additional training assessment requirements.
8. Any Certificate of Training granted according to an alternative pathway must state on the certificate that the certification has been given by an alternative pathway and include relevant information. The Board has provided a templated Alternative Pathway Practicum Certificate which contains the information to be provided.
9. A person who has been listed on the National Register for at least the previous 4 years (two complete renewal cycles) and has 150 practice hours may apply for accreditation as an Advanced Mediator under AMDRAS if they have received a Practicum Certificate from a training program or according to an alternative pathway.
10. Any Recognised Accreditation Provider (RAP) must comply with Part 4 Division 9 of AMDRAS regarding applications for accreditation. Any RAP subsequently asked to grant accreditation based on a certificate by an alternative pathway may require a copy of the evidence of the alternative pathway provided by the applicant to obtain the certificate.
11. When considering applications for alternative pathways the board reminds recognised providers of the boards auditing and complaint handling powers under clauses 80 and 81 of AMDRAS respectively.