

TASMANIAN PHARMACY AUTHORITY

ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATE EXPIRY POLICY

ABN 34 562 572 269

Background

Section 61B(7) of the Pharmacy Control Act 2001 makes provision for the lapsing date of eligibility certificates (EC); and section 71G(1) and (2) provide for the period of registration. These sections state:

61B. Applying to hold an interest in a pharmacy business

(7) An eligibility certificate remains in force until the earlier of –

- (a) the lapsing date; or
- (b) the end of the period of 14 days commencing on the day a change occurs in the matters relied upon in support of the application for the certificate.

lapsing date means –

- (a) 30 June; or
- (b) such other date as is prescribed.

The Issue

When the annual renewal cycle is in progress, invoices are issued during May, and payments can be made at any time after that up until 30 June when payments are due. Eligibility Certificates are issued at the time of payment and are valid from 1 July (replacing the existing one which had an expiry date of 30 June) to the next 30 June. When applications for an initial EC approval and registration are approved during the year, they would expire on the 30th June of that year and then be due for renewal.

If the initial EC issue date is on or after 1 May, the Authority has determined that the expiry date of Eligibility Certificates would be 30 June of the following year. To effect this, the Authority is technically:

- i. issuing two Certificates – one which expires on 30 June of the issuing year; and one which expires twelve months later; and
- ii. waiving one annual renewal fee which would have been due by 30 June as provided for in section 61E(4).

Similarly, there are occasions when new owners occur in early July, which would normally require an EC renewal to be paid for and an EC issued, to the outgoing EC holders; a similar principle is to apply. Should the change of ownership occur on or after 31 July, the outgoing owners MUST pay for and renew their ECs.

Decision

When an initial EC application is received on or after 1 May, two eligibility certificates (ie: not renewed ECs) to be issued, one for May/June and the second for the following twelve (12) months. Only one fee will be payable.

The Authority will issue an EC to the **outgoing** (selling) owners (providing they will not need to hold an EC for any other pharmacy business in Tasmania) for the maximum period 1 July – 31 July (or earlier as relevant) without charge.