

# The World at a Glance

## Australia

Australia runs a single registration system through Fitness Australia. Registration is via the relevant state body (e.g. Fitness New South Wales). Almost all major employers in Australia require registration. [www.fitnessaustralia.com.au](http://www.fitnessaustralia.com.au)

## England

England has one registration body, also called REPs (the term 'REPs UK' will be used in this brochure to avoid confusion). Most employers in England make registration a compulsory requirement of employment. [www.exerciseregister.org](http://www.exerciseregister.org)

## Europe

Various countries in Europe have various standards, and are at various stages of developing registration systems. Due to the closeness to England, it is likely that there will be some links to REPs UK.

## North America

The United States is unique, in that it has several registration bodies (and literally dozens of smaller bodies) varying from highly regarded organisations (such as ACSM and ACE), to those of highly questionable value. Most registration organisations are also training organisations, and as a part of registration require ongoing education to be undertaken with that organisation. Depending on the state, employer, and applicable legislation, the need to register in the US varies considerably.

In Canada you may wish to check out CanFitPro. [www.canfitpro.com](http://www.canfitpro.com)

For further information on this topic, or anything to do with REPs, please visit the REPs web site - [www.reps.org.nz](http://www.reps.org.nz)

All of REPs' documentation and info sheets are able to be downloaded from this site, which is kept updated with the most recently version of all documents.

**This document was last updated in May '05.**

Overseas Callers call +64-3-379-6139

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REPs Partners:



# 1, 2, 3 Guide to International Portability

*A quick overview of the international portability of REPs Registration, with a three step (1,2,3) guide to registering in other countries.*

*This guide is designed to help New Zealanders registering in other countries and those from outside NZ and wanting to register with REPs.*

## Ensure you have FULL registration

When REPs was formed, existing workers in the industry were registered under a "Provisional Registration". FULL registration can be gained once an individual's qualifications have been formally matched against the REPs standards. While having provisional registration is fully recognised in New Zealand, only FULL registrations with REPs are internationally portable.

Note: All REPs registrations are provisional until full registration has been confirmed, if you have not had a letter confirming you are FULLY registered then you still have provisional registration with REPs (as of May 05 only a handful of individuals have full registration).

**If you are thinking of going to Australia or the UK and wish to gain FULL registration, please contact REPs at least 28 days before you leave**, and REPs will match your paper qualifications against the REPs standards, and also the standards of the country you are going to so that you will gain FULL registration, and therefore be able to register easily. Please do NOT wait until you get to your destination to contact REPs as this may lead to delays in your employment, or worse, may result in you being unable to register and/or work in that country. In the case of Australia's group exercise the New Zealand and Australia standards are different, so please contact REPs if you are a group exercise instructor thinking of teaching in Australia.

NB: Matching is a FREE service to those registered with REPs (all others pay an assessment fee).

**If you are from overseas:** If you have a REGISTRATION from Australia or REPs UK then this is recognised by REPs NZ. If you are from any other country, and/or have a qualification, but not registration, then you may apply, but your qualifications would need to be reviewed before registration is granted. In all cases a registration and application fee is payable.

## 1,2,3 of International Portability

There are now several countries with a single national level registration system, with many other countries in development. **It's extremely important that you take registration seriously, as many countries/employers are very insistent that you can not work without registration.** Having a current NZ REPs registration is the easiest way of ensuring you are recognised in other countries. Below is the summary of how to maximise the portability of your registration with REPs.

### (1) Register in New Zealand

New Zealand, like Australia and England, has an established standard for exercise professionals. The first step in international portability is ensuring you register with REPs in New Zealand. If you have gained a qualification in New Zealand and will be travelling overseas immediately, you can apply to get a confirmation letter from REPs that confirms you meet the standards without actually registering (in such cases an application fee is still payable).

**NB:** If you are from Australia or the UK and wish to register with REPs and you have registration from the relevant state body (eg FitnessNSW) or REPs UK, then registration with REPs NZ is simple. In all other cases you will be asked to provide evidence that your qualifications meet the REPs standards.

### (2) Check the country you are intending to travel to

Before you travel to another country check if they run any registration system (see *The World at a Glance* guide in this info sheet). You may wish to contact employers in the country you are wishing to work in - ensure you specifically ask their requirements for registration with any particular organisation.

If you are travelling to Australia or England, your REPs registration is recognised - but ONLY if it's full registration (see explanation to the left of this page). For other countries contact REPs and we can advise you on what requirements that country has, as well as how portable your REPs registration will be.

### (3) Register in the country you are travelling to

Depending on the answer to (2) above, you should then register with the relevant organisation in the country you are travelling to. It is advisable to do this well before you intend to travel.

**In all cases, ensure you PLAN your travel. Check out all legal requirements of working in the country you intend to move to, and ensure your REPs registration is current.**

**In all cases ensure you give REPs lots of notice to answer your questions - we can help, but need time.**

*If you are currently registered with REPs in New Zealand, REPs will take steps to help you with your registration in other countries, regardless of what level of interaction REPs and that country has. For example, if you have lost your certificates and you are overseas, REPs can fax copies of these to you.*

*Important Note: This guide is not designed to give any information on the legality of working in other countries. Many countries have restrictions on who can work, and in what industries. You should check this yourself.*