Becoming an accredited sonographer in Australia

Sonographers in Australia are accredited, not registered with Ahpra. ASMIRT assesses your qualification first, then the Australian Sonographer Accreditation Registry (ASAR) accredits you.

YOUR REGISTRATION BODY

Australian Sonographer Accreditation Registry
After ASMIRT recognises your qualification (ASAR)

Checked against ASAR's and ASMIRT's pages in October 2026. If anything here differs from what they say, they are right, and they make every decision.

Every application is assessed individually, and the board makes every registration decision. The latest version, with questions that work out your likely route, is at ethicareresourcing.com/guides/australia-registration-asar. Ethicare never charges candidates. This is general information, not immigration advice.

Every route

ASMIRT recognition, then ASAR accreditation

For every overseas-trained sonographer.

ASMIRT's outcome is unconditional recognition, conditional (more evidence or experience first) or not recognised. ASAR then accredits you, and won't without the ASMIRT certificate.

ROUTE 1 OF 1

YOUR ROUTE

ASMIRT recognition, then ASAR accreditation

✓ This is the route for every overseas-trained sonographer.

There's no Ahpra registration for sonographers. ASMIRT assesses your qualification and issues a Certificate of Recognition in Ultrasound, then ASAR accredits you, which is what lets you scan under Medicare.

ASMIRT and ASAR make the decisions.

The steps

1

Gather your ASMIRT evidence

Your qualification, transcript, recent scanning practice and references.

Your ultrasound qualification and full transcript, evidence of recent clinical scanning with dates, settings and modalities, and references from people who can confirm your roles, dates and modalities. Clean colour scans, certified where required, plus certified identity documents and translations.

2

English: you're likely exempt

ASMIRT exempts UK, Irish, New Zealand, Canadian and US passport holders.

Check ASMIRT's current rules before you apply.

3

Apply to ASMIRT

It assesses your qualification against the Australian standard as it stood when you qualified.

Ask ASMIRT for its current fee. Its outcome is unconditional recognition, conditional (further evidence or experience first), or not recognised. There's no exam to sit instead: the way back is more evidence, experience or study. Reply quickly and completely to any request.

4

Apply to ASAR for accreditation

AU$110, once you hold your ASMIRT certificate.

With your Certificate of Recognition in Ultrasound and evidence of citizenship, permanent residency or a valid Australian working visa. Overseas applicants are accredited as Accredited Medical Sonographers (AMS 1B).

5

Your visa health and police checks

For the Department of Home Affairs, alongside accreditation.

Most sonographers we place move on an employer-sponsored 482. The Department of Home Affairs tells you which health examinations you need, often a medical and a chest X-ray, and issues a HAP ID so a clinic can book you. Overseas, you must see one of its approved panel physicians, and everyone on the application is examined, children included. You'll need police certificates too. General information, not immigration advice: our visa guide.

6

Keep your accreditation current

AU$110 a year, renewed between 1 and 30 April.

Keep your CPD up to date. Letting it lapse costs more to reactivate than renewing on time.

What it costs

ASMIRT qualification assessment	ASAR doesn't price it. Ask ASMIRT for the current fee.
ASAR application	AU$110 including GST
ASAR annual fee	AU$110 including GST, renewed between 1 and 30 April

Checked 17 October 2026 against ASAR's fees page. Confirm with ASAR which fees apply to you before you budget.

Questions people ask

ACCREDITATION

Do sonographers register with Ahpra?

No. Sonography isn't a protected title under the National Scheme. The route is ASMIRT recognition, then ASAR accreditation.

Why does accreditation matter so much?

It's tied to Medicare. An Accredited Medical Sonographer can perform scans that attract Medicare rebates, which is what public departments and private practices need.

Can I start with ASAR while ASMIRT is assessing me?

No. ASAR won't accredit you without the ASMIRT certificate, so it's one after the other.

What if ASMIRT doesn't recognise my qualification?

Unlike radiography there's no standard exam to sit instead. A conditional outcome asks for further evidence, more clinical experience or further study.

TIMING AND VISAS

How long does it take?

Months rather than weeks. A complete, well-evidenced ASMIRT application is the biggest thing you control.

Do I need the ASMIRT assessment whichever visa I'm on?

Yes, because ASAR needs it. On a skilled visa the same certificate also supports the skills assessment Home Affairs requires.

Can I be accredited before I have a visa?

ASAR expects you to be an Australian or New Zealand citizen, a permanent resident, or to hold a valid Australian working visa.

ETHICARE

Does Ethicare charge candidates?

No, never. If we're representing you, we line your accreditation up with the role and the visa. The decisions rest with ASMIRT and ASAR.