



INFORMATION FOR PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICANTS

Professional Membership requires applicants to meet criteria in regard to recognized astrological qualifications, education in counselling theory and participation in professional supervision.

Information and guidelines for Membership include the following criteria:

1. Astrological training and education and qualifications
2. Counselling requirements
3. Supervision requirements
4. Nominators and referees
5. Individual assessment
6. Fees and general information
7. Membership Convenor's role
8. Before submitting the application form
9. APA Constitution as relating to membership requirements

1. Astrological Education, Training and Qualifications

Please attach as evidence a certified** copy of your

- FAA Practitioners Diploma
- Astro*Synthesis Diploma
- Astro Logos Diploma

OR

- other qualifications accepted by the Association of Professional Astrologers International (UK)

OR

for other qualifications to be considered you need to provide evidence that the qualification included the completion of the Association's required 320 hours of theoretical and practical training over a minimum of four years.

** a certified copy is a copy that a Justice of the Peace signs off as a true copy of the original document.

2. General Counselling Theory Education

Professional members of the APA are required to have completed a minimum 30 hours counselling theory and provide certified evidence of this education. If completing your counselling theory online with Mental Health Academy the hours required are 38 of the APA approved units. Please attach certified evidence of completion.

3. Supervision

Professional Members must have participated in supervision for a minimum of 25 hours with an APA approved Supervisor. Other associations that provide supervision with accredited

Supervisors in local areas include PACFA (Psychotherapy & Counselling Federation of Australia) www.pacfa.org.au or ACA (Australian Counselling Association) www.theaca.net.au

For supervision to meet Professional Membership criteria there must have been an arrangement specifically for the purpose of supervision between the supervisor and supervisee prior to supervision taking place.

Suitable evidence of the completion of the required supervision hours is a written reference from the APA approved supervisor(s) together with a certified copy of the supervision log signed by the supervisor (s) and supervisee at the time of each supervision session.

The hours accredited as “supervision” must be different from those hours accredited as “training”.

In the case of group supervision, a proportion of the total number of hours of supervision should be accredited to each individual supervisee. Group supervision shall be accredited as follows:

- 1 – 4 (inclusive) supervisees: the total number of hours is accredited
- 5 – 6 (inclusive) supervisees: 2 hours for every 3 hours shall be accredited
- 7 – 8 (inclusive) supervisees: 2 hours for every 4 hours shall be accredited
- 9 supervisees or more is considered training, not supervision.

Webinar Supervision

Due to the corona virus epidemic in 2020, online webinar supervision has also been introduced but the maximum number of supervisees must not exceed 4 persons for any group supervision, with the above requirements still pertinent. Wherever possible face to face supervision is still the preferred option but it is recognised that this is not always viable or indeed possible.

In the case of webinar group supervision, a proportion of the total number of hours of supervision should be accredited to each individual supervisee. Group supervision shall be accredited as follows:

- 1 – 4 (inclusive) supervisees: the total number of hours is accredited

4. Nominator and Referee

Applicants must be nominated by a Professional Member of the APA and a written reference provided by the nominator. A second written reference from another Professional Member of the Association also needs to be provided with your application.

5. Individual Assessment

The Standards Committee appointed to assess all membership applications will assess each membership application on its merits and the Committee may accept or reject any application.

6. Membership Fees and General Information

Member fees are paid annually and a joining fee is required to be paid on acceptance as a Member. Membership fees fall due on the 31st October each year. Your first membership fee may be reduced if approval is given part way through the APA financial year.

On approval of your Membership application, an Executive Member of the APA will contact you with details of how to pay your joining and member fees to complete your acceptance as a Member. Fees are not payable before acceptance.

If your Membership lapses due to non-payment of fees you will be required to reapply for Membership and pay another joining fee.

Members will receive the quarterly APA Newsletter, be kept informed on APA events, professional development and networking opportunities and advice as needed by the Membership Convenor.

7. Membership Convenor's Role

The role of Membership Convenor is to: -

- Provide interested parties with information on how to complete membership application forms and the provision of required documentation
- Oversee the progress of membership applications
- Notify applicants of the receipt of applications and of any additional information that is required.
- Liaise between the Standards Committee and membership applicants
- To oversee supervisory arrangements for Associate Members including the registration and acceptance by the Standards Committee of the proposed supervision plan and completion of astrological supervision logs.
- To confirm with the Standards Committee the completion by Associate Members of counselling and supervision plans after being provided with the required documentation.
- Provide a copy of all certified documents related to applications i.e. qualifications, counselling theory and supervision documents plus written references provided to nominate and support applications to the Standards Committee.

8. Before submitting your Professional Membership Application ensure that:

- You and your nominator has signed the application as required
- All details are correct and your documentation is certified (copies signed by a Justice of the Peace as true copies of the originals)
- Preference is for all applications and documents to be provided electronically as a PDF to the Membership Convenor at membershipenquiries@apainc.org.au
- If you plan to post your application and documents contact the Membership Convenor at membershipenquiries@apainc.org.au for the postal address for your application. It is highly recommended you use Express Post so you can track the delivery of your application.

9. Professional and Associate Membership Requirements (APA Inc Constitution)

1. Membership generally

- (1) A person is eligible to be a member of the association if:
 - (a) the person is a natural person, and
 - (b) the person has been nominated and approved for membership of the association in accordance with clause 4.

- (2) A person is taken to be a member of the association if:
 - (a) the person is a natural person, and
 - (b) the person was:
 - (i) in the case of an unincorporated body that is registered as the association - a member of that unincorporated body immediately before the registration of the association, or
 - (ii) in the case of an association that is amalgamated to form the relevant association - a member of that other association immediately before the amalgamation, or
 - (iii) in the case of a registrable corporation that is registered as an association - a member of the registrable corporation immediately before that entity was registered as an association.

- (3) A person is taken to be a member of the association if the person was one of the individuals on whose behalf an application for registration of the association under section 6 (1) (a) of the Act was made.

2. Nomination for Membership

- (1) A nomination of a person for membership or associate membership of the Association -
 - a. shall be made in writing in the prescribed form, signed by a member of the Association;
 - b. shall be accompanied by the written consent of the person nominated (which may be endorsed on the form of nomination); and
 - c. must be lodged with the secretary of the Association.

- (2) A person who is not a member of the Association at the time of the incorporation of the Association shall not be admitted to membership unless-
 - a. s/he is nominated as provided in sub-rule (d) of this rule; and
 - b. his/her admission as a member is approved by the committee; and

- c. s/he has passed an examination in astrology recognised by the association as requiring the applicant to be of a professional standard in the practice of astrology. The Standards Committee of the association once formed will advise the Committee which examinations may be accepted under this sub rule;
- d. s/he meets the requirements regarding counselling training and supervision hours as agreed by the standards committee
- e. s/he provides two supporting references from professional members of this association
- f. s/he is required to meet any other requirements that maybe set by the standards committee from time to time to provide evidence of proficiency in applied practical astrological counselling.
- g. s/he has agreed to abide by the APA Statement of Professional Behaviour (Schedule 1)

(3) A person who is not a member of the Association at the time of the incorporation of the Association shall not be admitted to associate membership for 12 months unless

- a. s/he meets requirements of Sub-rules 2.a) b) and c)
- b. s/he is prepared to arrange, complete and provide evidence of completion of the counselling and supervision requirements for membership as set by the standards committee and to meet any related costs that may be incurred.
- c. s/he is required to provide for approval to the standards committee a written supervision plan, including details of the supervisor prior to commencement of the supervision plan.
- d. s/he is required to be prepared, on completion of the supervision requirements to request and provide to the standards committee a reference from the agreed supervisor as to successful completion of the supervision plan before membership is granted
- e. s/he is required to apply in writing to the standards committee for an extension of associate membership for a specific period if after 12 months of associate membership the counselling and supervision requirements for membership are not completed.
- f. s/he is required to meet any other requirements that maybe set by the standards committee from time to time to provide evidence of proficiency in applied practical astrological counselling.
- h. s/he has agreed to abide by the APA Statement of Professional Behaviour (Schedule 1)
- g. an associate member will not have voting rights.