

Professional qualifications for continuing to Intermediate and Full Certification as a Theraplay® Practitioner

Membership and/or registered in one of the following professional associations or bodies*:

- Psychologists: General Registration, Psychology Board of Australia (Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency - AHPRA). Provisionally registered psychologists may start the practicum but will need to be fully registered to complete Final certification.
- Psychiatrists: The Royal Australian & New Zealand College of Psychiatry (RANZCP) – Members and Associate Members
- Accredited Mental Health Social Worker (AMHSW): Australian Association of Social Workers (AASW).
 - Minimum 2 years full-time equivalent (post-qualifying social work experience in a mental health setting, (experience meets the AASW Practice Standards for Mental Health Social Workers 2014),
 - Minimum 2 years full-time equivalent post-qualifying supervision in a mental health field and meet the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) requirements.
- Social Worker: Current membership with Australian Association of Social Workers (AASW) **and** provide evidence to The Theraplay Australia Advisory Board (TAAB) of
 - Minimum 2 years full-time equivalent post-qualifying practice in a mental health field (experience meets the AASW Practice Standards for Mental Health Social Workers 2014),
 - Past 12 months Continuing Professional Development (CPD) requirements for AMSHW (A total of 40 hours) which includes ongoing professional development (minimum 20 hours 'Skills and Knowledge' relevant to mental health practice) and supervision (minimum 10 hours relating to mental health practice) Note: you are not required to complete the 10 hours of CPD relevant to Focused Psychological Strategies (FPS) that would be required to maintain AMHSW status)
 - May have to attend a brief 15-30 minute discussion with a member of the TAAB re your application.
- Counsellors: Psychotherapists and Counsellors Federation of Australia (PACFA) Clinical Member on the PACFA National Register or Australian Counselling Association (ACA) - Levels 3 & 4 Membership
- Occupational Therapists: Occupational Therapy Board of Australia (AHPRA). Eligibility for Better Access Mental Health Endorsement. Must have completed a minimum of 2 year FTE working in mental health post completion of training and be able to provide evidence of recent relevant mental health practice, supervision and active engagement in mental health CPD.
- Credentialed Mental Health Nurses: Australian College of Mental Health Nurses and registered with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (AHPRA) **OR eligibility for registration** (see *C4N professional application guidelines* <https://acmhn.org/Web/Credentialing/Apply-for-credentialing.aspx#Docs>)

- Mental Health Nurse – Registered with AHPRA **and** provide evidence to The Theraplay Australia Advisory Board (TAAB) that meets the requirements of the credentialing for mental health nurses which includes:
 - Minimum 2 years full-time equivalent post-qualifying practice in a mental health setting
 - Past 12 months: Continuing Professional Development (CPD) requirements which include:
 - Professional Education related to Mental Health Nursing (minimum 20 hours)
 - Practice Development (minimum of 20 hours) For more information see '*CPD evidence-based record (MHN) template - new applicants*' Available at:
<https://acmhn.org/Web/Credentialing/Apply-for-credentialing.aspx#Docs>
 - May have to attend a brief 15-30 minute discussion with a member of the TAAB re your application.
- Art therapists: Australian New Zealand and Asian Creative Arts Therapies Association (ANZACATA) – Professional Members with a Masters level qualification in Art Therapy.
- Play therapists: Registration in Australia with one of the registering associations, bodies or boards such as:
 - Australasia Pacific Play Therapy Association (APPTA) – Registered Play Therapist
 - Australian Play Therapists Association (APTA) - Provisional Clinical Member, Clinical Member
 - Australian Counselling Association (ACA) (Level 3 or 4)
 - Clinical Register with the Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia (PACFA).

*All applicants need to have current professional registration with their relevant professional body. Applicants who can demonstrate their eligibility for professional association memberships such as ACA, PACFA, APTA will be considered with supporting evidence of the requirements.

Recognition of prior learning: Any questions re eligibility please contact Theraplay Australia <https://www.theraplayaustralia.com.au/contact> or Kate Lewer kate.m.lewer@gmail.com or Alison Saxton (alison@byyoursidepsychology.com.au).

References:

Social work

Australian Association of Social Workers (AASW) <https://www.aasw.asn.au/>

Art therapy and creative therapies

Australian, New Zealand and Asian Creative Arts Therapies Association (ANZACATA)
<https://www.anzacata.org/categories-and-requirements>

Counsellor:

Australian Counselling Association (ACA) <https://www.theaca.net.au/>

<https://www.theaca.net.au/online-application.php>

Psychotherapy & Counselling Federation of Australia (PACFA) <https://www.pacfa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/PACFA-Membership-and-Registration-Requirements-and-Renewal-Requirements-2018.pdf>

Occupational Therapy

Occupational Therapy Australia <https://otaus.com.au/>

Credentialed Mental Health Nurse

The Australian College of Mental Health Nursing <http://www.acmhn.org/>

Play Therapy

Australasia Pacific Play Therapy Association (APPTA)

<https://appta.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Membership-categories-and-criteria.pdf>

Australian Play Therapists Association (APTA) http://aptaasn.wpengine.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/PR-F10-15_ProvisionalClinical.pdf

PPT slide for Level 1 training:

Qualification requirements to continue to Intermediate and Full certification.

Examples of eligibility:

- Fully registered psychologist
- Psychiatrist or psychiatrist in training
- Accredited Mental Health Social Worker (AMHSW)

- Masters degree in mental health/therapeutic specialisation e.g. play therapy, art therapy, counselling and eligible for registration with a relevant professional body.
- Allied health (OT): Eligibility (and preferably registration) for the Better Access Mental Health endorsement. This endorsement requires a minimum of 2 years full time experience post-graduation in the mental health field with supervision in mental health and additional specialised training and supervision in mental health.
- Counsellor/psychotherapist/play therapist/art therapist: Eligible for accreditation with the Australian Counselling Association (ACA) at Level 3 or 4 or clinical membership with Psychotherapy Counselling Federation of Australia (PACFA)
- Play Therapist: Registration in Australia with Australasia Pacific Play Therapy Association (APPTA) – Registered Play Therapist or Australian Play Therapists Association (APTA) - Provisional Clinical Member, Clinical Member
- Credentialed Mental Health Nurse

Recognition of prior learning: Any questions re eligibility please contact Theraplay Australia <https://www.theraplayaustralia.com.au/contact> or Kate Lewer kate.m.lewer@gmail.com or Alison Saxton (alison@byyoursidepsychology.com.au).