



Psychosexual Therapist Accreditation Criteria Recognition of Prior Learning Guidelines

RPL applications will be assessed on a case by case basis.

Please use the instructions below to assist in your application.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to establish how they meet each criterion.

If you are unable to meet these criteria, but still believe you are eligible for RPL please provide an explanation as to why it is difficult for you to meet these criteria.

If you have any questions please contact your State Branch Accreditation Officer in the first instance.

| Criteria | | Associate – RPL Requirements | Clinical – RPL Requirements |
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| 1. | Membership of the Society of Australian Sexologists Ltd. | These criteria must be met. The criteria are not applicable to RPL. | |
| 2. | Pledges to adhere to the Society of Australian Sexologists Ltd. Code of Ethics and Practice | | |



SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIAN SEXOLOGISTS

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| <p>3.</p> | <p>Proof of Registration with Approved Professional Association –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AHPRA Occupations include: Medicine, Nursing & Midwifery, Physiotherapy, Psychology, and Occupational Therapy <p>(The occupations listed for AHPRA that are not appropriate for psychosexual therapy accreditation are: dentistry, podiatry, chiropractic, optometry, osteopathy, and pharmacy).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PACFA MAs, • Australian Counselling Association, • Australian Association of Social Workers • or equivalent Professional Association | <p>These criteria must be met. The criteria are not applicable to RPL.</p> |
| <p>4.</p> | <p>Proof of Professional Indemnity Insurance</p> | |
| <p>5.</p> | <p>Proof of National Police Check (and/or Working with Children's Check where appropriate)</p> | |

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| <p>6. Sexological Education - A minimum of 216 hours (or RPL equivalent) is required covering the following content areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Overview of the discipline of sexology (including historical and contemporary approaches to psychosexual therapy and sexuality research); b. Socio-Cultural Aspects of Sex, Sexuality, and Gender (including sexual and gender diversity/identity, spirituality/religion, ethnicity/race, ability, sexual subcultures); c. Sexual Function and Dysfunction (including diagnosis, testing/assessment, intervention); d. Sexual and reproductive anatomy and physiology (including models of sexual response cycles); e. Developmental sexuality across the lifespan; f. Knowledge of sexually transmitted infections and safer sex practices; g. Knowledge of atypical sexual behaviours (including rape and sexual assault, paraphilias, and fetishes); h. Familiarity of current research in psychosexual therapeutic and sexuality-related (broad) research. | <p>The RPL application must demonstrate <i>how</i> the applicant’s training and experience meets each of these eight criteria.</p> <p>The application must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a detailed statement (A4 Page) about each criterion and how the knowledge was gained/formed; and • a list of evidence which supports the statement. <p>Evidence can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copies of transcripts or certificates of completion of all relevant courses/professional development activities, including partial or incomplete courses. • Provide detailed evidence of the curriculum and content of all training courses undertaken. • Statement from current and/or past supervisors • Where this is not possible, a Statutory Declaration attesting to meeting these standards as well Letters of Support from at least two experienced and senior practitioners may be considered as evidence. |
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| <p>7.</p> | <p>Sexological Psychotherapy Training – A minimum of 72 hours (or RPL equivalent) is required covering the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication skills training in a sexological context (interpersonal micro-skills, report writing); • Professional practice issues in psychosexual therapy (including sexual history taking, self-awareness/self in the therapeutic context, referrals, professional development, ethics, law); • Counselling theories. • Counselling issues in psychosexual therapy; | <p>The RPL application must demonstrate <i>how</i> the applicant’s training and experience meets each of these eight criteria.</p> <p>The application must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a detailed statement (A4 page) about each criterion and how the knowledge was gained/formed; and • a list of evidence which supports the statement. <p>Evidence can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copies of transcripts or certificates of completion of all relevant courses/professional development activities, including evidence from unit/subjects studied • Provide detailed evidence of the curriculum and content of all training courses undertaken. • Detail <i>how</i> self-awareness activities, interpersonal and communication skills training and use of oneself in the therapeutic relationship were covered in the training. • Provide evidence of client contact undertaken during training courses. • Provide evidence of supervision undertaken during training courses. • Provide evidence of work-based learning (for example, placements) undertaken during training courses. • Statement/s from current and/or past supervisors • Demonstrated practice with a high volume of clients over an extended period of time. • Demonstrated experience in treating a diverse range of clients. • Specific skills required to work with specific types of clients and how these have been developed. • Demonstrated delivery of high quality group programs (if relevant to practice experience). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where this is not possible, a Statutory Declaration attesting to meeting these standards as well Letters of Support from at least two experienced and senior practitioners may be considered as evidence. |
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| <p>8.</p> | <p>Attitudes and Values Training Experience – a minimum of 12 hours is require in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Society of Australian Sexologists Ltd. approved Attitudes and Values training experience (e.g. SAR); consisting of a process oriented exploration of the applicant's own feelings, attitudes, values, and beliefs regarding human sexuality and sexual behaviour. • Such training is not to be construed as personal psychotherapy or as an academic experience in which the primary emphasis is on cognitive information. • The applicant will submit a one page comprehensive statement of his/her professional philosophy and goals of psychosexual therapy including how the SAR affected that philosophy. | <p>The application must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A certificate of completion signed by provider/facilitator/trainer. • One page A4 statement on the applicant’s professional philosophy and how the ‘s values have changed following the training <p>Evidence can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A certificate of completion signed by provider/facilitator/trainer. • Where no availability of training has been available an A4 page statement on how the applicant’s values towards sex and sexuality have been informed covering <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • social issues; • cultural issues; • developmental issues; • age-related issues; • situational life events; and • Family of Origin influences. (This is in addition to the above statement) |
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| <p>9. Supervision and Client hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A minimum of 200 client-contact hours with a minimum of 50 supervision hours; consisting of a minimum of 30 hours individual supervision with maximum 20 hours group supervision. • The supervisor needs to be approved by Society of Australian Sexologists Ltd. • These hours need not be in sex therapy. | <p>These criteria must be met. The criteria are not applicable to RPL.</p> <p>All applicants must submit evidence of supervision signed by supervisors.</p> <p>Where this is not possible, a Statutory Declaration attesting to meeting these standards as well Letters of Support from at least two experienced and senior practitioners may be considered as evidence.</p> <p>Higher number of hours can be used as evidence for meeting Sexological Education and Sexological Psychotherapy Training where an argument can be made by the applicant.</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A minimum of 1000 client-contact hours (may include the above 200 hours), with a minimum of 80 supervision hours (may include the above 50 hours); consisting of a minimum of 50 hours individual supervision, with a maximum of 20 hours group supervision and a maximum of 10 hours peer supervision. • The supervisor needs to be approved by Society of Australian Sexologists Ltd. • All hours over the initial 200 hours must be sex therapy oriented. | |



Other Supporting Evidence which may be used to support your application:

1. Contribution made to the Profession of Counselling and Psychotherapy

Applicants will need to reflect on their clinical practice performed in the role of practicing counsellors/psychotherapists and specify how this practice has made a demonstrable contribution to the profession.

Applicants can provide supporting evidence such as:

- Evidence of a high level of skill as a practicing counsellor/psychotherapist.
- Contributions made to the public profile of counselling/psychotherapy.
- Demonstrated expertise in specific area(s) of practice.
- Development and/or provision of professional education/training/professional development
- Research related to sex therapy
- Sex therapy practice publications (referee journal articles, published books/monographs – not vanity/self publishing)
- Presentations at conferences

2. Recognition within the Profession of Counselling and Psychotherapy

Applicants must provide written evidence (at least 2 A4 pages) from at least two sex therapists who are eligible for accreditation which demonstrates how the applicant has made a contribution to the field of sex therapy over a sustained period of time.

3. Supporting Material

- Comprehensive curriculum vitae including details of employment history or private practice.
- Evidence of ongoing participation in Professional Development, over many years.
- Evidence of membership or involvement in any other relevant professional bodies.
- References from previous employers/supervisor(s) attesting to their competency in the role of counsellor/psychotherapist.
- Logs of client work and supervision, signed by supervisors.