



**Society of Australian Sexologists LTD
Psychosexual Therapist Accreditation Criteria**

Criteria		Associate	Clinical
1.	Membership of the Society of Australian Sexologists Ltd.	•	•
2.	Pledges to adhere to the Society of Australian Sexologists Ltd. Code of Ethics and Practice	•	•
3.	<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 (The occupations listed for APHRA that are not appropriate for psychosexual therapy accreditation are: dentistry, podiatry, chiropractic, optometry, osteopathy, and pharmacy). • PACFA MAs, • Australian Counselling Association, • Australian Association of Social Workers • or equivalent Professional Association <p>International Applicants: Applicants from countries other than Australia seeking accreditation as a Psychosexual Therapist will need to meet this criterion as appropriate to their national registration standards. Proof of registration with the respective professional body will need to be supplied.</p>	•	•
4.	Proof of Professional Indemnity Insurance	•	•
5.	Proof of National Police Check (and/or Working with Children’s Check where appropriate)	•	•

<p>6.</p>	<p>Sexological Education - A minimum of 216 hours (or RPL equivalent) is required covering the following content areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of the discipline of sexology (including historical and contemporary approaches to psychosexual therapy and sexuality research); • Socio-Cultural Aspects of Sex, Sexuality, and Gender (including sexual and gender diversity/identity, spirituality/religion, ethnicity/race, ability, sexual subcultures); • Sexual Function and Dysfunction (including diagnosis, testing/assessment, intervention); • Sexual and reproductive anatomy and physiology (including models of sexual response cycles); • Developmental sexuality across the lifespan; • Knowledge of sexually transmitted infections and safer sex practices; • Knowledge of atypical sexual behaviours (including rape and sexual assault, paraphilias, and fetishes); • Familiarity of current research in psychosexual therapeutic and sexuality-related (broad) research. 	<p>•</p>	<p>•</p>
<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 issues in psychosexual therapy; • Counselling theories. 	<p>•</p>	<p>•</p>



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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>•</p>	<p>•</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>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. • Therapeutic hours may include individual or group therapy hours. Group therapy hours are per group, not per participant. • The supervisor needs to be approved by Society of Australian Sexologists Ltd. • These hours need not be in sex therapy. 	<p>•</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 except the first 200 hours MUST be sex therapy oriented. • Therapeutic hours may include individual or group therapy hours. Applicants must provide a statement detailing the structure of the group, what the groups entailed and how they were psychotherapeutic, along with how each participant’s needs were identified and addressed within the group, and whether individual therapy was available to a participant, if wanted or needed. In addition, the applicant must provide information to clarify the nature of supervision and how it related to group therapy practice. Please note, that when tallying hours, they must be counted per group, not per individual, and an applicant cannot use the same group hours in applying for both Psychosexual Therapist and Sexuality Educator. 		<p>•</p>



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10.	<p>Ongoing Clinical Supervision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To maintain Clinical Accreditation status, clinical members must engage in 15 hours of formal supervision each year, meeting the below criteria; Clinicians with a minimum of 5 years post graduate psychotherapeutic experience in sexology may elect to have either 5 hours of individual formal supervision, or 5 hours of formal small group facilitated supervision with less than 6 individuals with a designated supervisor; plus a minimum of 10 hours of peer supervision; Clinicians with less than 5 years post graduate psychotherapeutic experience in sexology are required to engage in a minimum of 5 hours of individual supervision; plus a minimum of 10 hours of peer supervision, or formal small group facilitated supervision with less than 6 individuals with a designated supervisor; The supervisor needs to be approved by Society of Australian Sexologists Ltd. 		•
11.	<p>Ongoing Clinical Practice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To maintain Clinical Accreditation a minimum of 50 hours of practice is required per calendar year, or 100 hours over two calendar years. These must be formal therapy sessions (i.e. 50 min sessions) and not <i>adjunct</i> to another role (e.g., occupational therapist, general practitioner, practice nurse). 		•
12.	<p>Continuing Professional Development (CPD)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A minimum of 30 points of professional development must be undertaken each year. CPD points must meet the criteria for CPD activities as listed below. For new accreditation applications a record of CPD for the previous two (2) years must be submitted with the initial application (equiv. 30 points per year). CPD activities need to be varied and cover a number of areas. To ensure breadth a maximum of allocation of points have been placed in each area of activity to encourage diversity in professional development. 	•	•



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1. CPD activities:

Activity	Allocation
1. Attending Society of Australian Sexologists Ltd. Committee meetings (not clinical education sessions)	For every hour of meeting = 0.5 points to a maximum of six (6) points
2. Reading journal articles	For every journal article (record reading, for example reflexive journal entry) = 0.25 points to a maximum of six (6) points
3. Attending Society of Australian Sexologists Ltd. clinical education sessions	One (1) hour = one (1) point to a maximum of ten (10) points (certificate of attendance or receipt and description)
4. Attending Professional Development Activities (organised)	One (1) hour = one (1) point to a maximum of ten (10) points
5. Attending the Society of Australian Sexologists Ltd. Conference	One (1) hour = one (1) point to a maximum of sixteen (16) points (certificate of attendance or receipt and description)
6. Attending: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Asia Oceania Federation of Sexology (AOFS); or • the World Association for Sexual Health (WAS) Conference; or • other professional conferences with a clear link to sexology and/or therapeutic intervention. 	Five (5) points per day to a maximum of ten (10) points (certificate of attendance or receipt and description)
7. Undertaking postgraduate coursework studies with a clear link to sexology and/or therapeutic intervention.	Two (2) points per semester unit/subject to a total of sixteen (16) points (8 subjects/units)
8. Undertaking postgraduate research studies (Research degree only; research components of coursework degrees are generally listed as subjects/units in the course) with a clear link to sexology and/or therapeutic intervention.	Fulltime enrolment, a total of ten (10) points. Part-time enrolment, a total five (5) points. *Research only degrees are narrower in focus than coursework degrees.