



MEMBERSHIP POLICY Professional Development

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Introduction

Diversional Therapy Australia (DTA) believes that one of the primary roles of a professional association is to ensure that practicing professionals are continually updating knowledge and skills to ensure that their practice is embracing current trends.

Purpose

To create a guideline for managing Professional Development requirements for members of DTA.

Authorisation

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Secretary
DTA

Principles

To ensure that DTA, and its members and the profession in Australia have robust, meaningful but fair and practical requirements for Professional Development and that this requirement is managed and communicated to members.

Policy

Full Members – Diversional Therapist and Full Member – Diversional Therapy Assistant only are required to record 15 Professional Membership Points per year 1st July to 30th June.

Full Member - Life Members and affiliate members do not require Professional Development points to renew or maintain their membership.

New members who have joined during the year prior to 30th June so have not been a member for 12 months have reduced requirements for that first year only.

- Members who join within April-June are not required to produce any professional development points by 1st July. The following year they must have 15 points.
- Members who join Jan – Mar are required to produce 4 points or more. The following year they must have 15 points.
- Members who join Aug-Dec are required to produce 8 points or more. The following year they must have 15 points.
- Members who join in July will need to achieve the full 15 points by the following membership renewal period.

For example: member joins in Feb 2012 – only needs to collect 4 points by 1st July 2012. By the renewal period of July 2013 the member must have the full 15 points.

If members do not have 15 points?

- Members who have nil-10 Professional Development points for a 1 year period, 1st July to 30th June, will not be able to renew their membership for that period.
 - Any fee paid will be refunded less \$25 admin fee
 - They will be contacted by email or in writing to confirm that this action will be taken.
 - After a minimum 3 months waiting period, they will be permitted to rejoin as a new member, providing they hold the appropriate qualifications. Their previous membership status will not be of assistance in rejoining DTA. The current joining fee for new members will also apply to these members who are rejoining.
- Members who have 10-15 points may write to the Board with an explanation of their situation and the Membership Subcommittee of DTA Board will make a decision on their eligibility to renew

membership on a case by case basis. The Membership Committee of the Board at the time decision will be final.

- Members who have 14 points will be permitted to renew on the proviso that they guarantee that they will acquire 15 points on their next renewal and ongoing. This provision will only be granted once only for the life of the membership.
- Members who have suffered hardship and been unable to accrue PD points have the right to contact the Board via email or in writing to request reduced or no points for that year on compassionate grounds. Where illness is cited, a medical certificate will be required.

Responsibility

The Board's Membership Portfolio is responsible for the implementation and regular review of this policy.