



## ATCA MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

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### Preamble:

In 2013 the *ATCA Standard* was redrafted to include Residential Rehabilitation Services, and the *ATCA Standard* was subsequently registered with JAS-ANZ in 2014. Audits against the Standard commenced in 2015.

In recognition of this development, the ATCA Board has revised the Association's membership categories to reflect the certification options inherent in the Standard and to identify the various pathways to membership of the Association. Broadly speaking the membership is divided into:

- A. Therapeutic Communities – Organisational Members;
- B. Therapeutic Communities – Group Members;
- C. Residential Rehabilitation Services; and
- D. Affiliates.

Within these primary divisions, six categories of membership have been determined by the ATCA Board, namely:

- Certified Therapeutic Community – Organisational Member.
- Therapeutic Community – Organisational Member.
- Certified Therapeutic Community Group Membership.
- Therapeutic Community Group Member.
- Certified Residential Rehabilitation Service – Associate Member.
- Residential Rehabilitation Service – Associate Member.
- Affiliate Member.

It is an expectation that applicants under all categories will demonstrate:

- Evidence-based practice - Services are consistent with current best practice and the organisation undertakes evidence-based AOD prevention and treatment strategies as outlined in current publications
- Staff qualifications - The service ensures that all counselling and treatment is delivered by appropriately trained and/or experienced staff
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island/Māori Cultural Security – the service agrees to acknowledge and respect the history, cultural rights, values, beliefs and diversity of Indigenous people and work towards embedding the principle of cultural security into service delivery
- Cultural competency – the service considers the needs of clients from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds and provides a culturally competent service

**A. THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONAL MEMBERSHIP** is a category for those organisations that have embraced the therapeutic community model of treatment and incorporated it into their organisational practice. There are two categories in this division:

1. **CERTIFIED THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITY – ORGANISATIONAL MEMBER** is for organisations that provide an AOD service embracing the values of “Community as Method” and whose practice has been certified as conforming with the *ATCA Standard*. These services will also hold accreditation under a recognised accreditation body.
2. **THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITY – ORGANISATIONAL MEMBER** is for organisations that provide an AOD service embracing the values of “Community as Method” and whose practice identifies with the *ATCA Standard* but is yet to be certified. These services have been accredited under a recognised accreditation body and are committed to certification under the *ATCA Standard* within three years of joining as an Organisational member holding industry accreditation.

**B. THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITY GROUP MEMBERSHIP** is open to organisations that have one central registered office of administration and multiple Therapeutic Communities within one or more states or territories. These services will hold accreditation under a recognised accreditation body.

There are two categories in this division:

3. **CERTIFIED THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITY – GROUP MEMBER** is for organisations that provide an AOD service embracing the values of “Community as Method” and whose practice has been certified as conforming with the *ATCA Standard*.
4. **THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITY – GROUP MEMBER** is for organisations that provide an AOD service embracing the values of “Community as Method” and whose practice identifies with the *ATCA Standard* but is yet to be certified under the *ATCA Standard*. These services are in transition to certification and are required to be certified within three years of joining as a non-certified (Group) member.

**C. RESIDENTIAL REHABILITATION SERVICE MEMBERSHIP** is a category for organisations that support and/or are interested in the “Community as Method” model but do not currently provide a therapeutic community. Residential Rehabilitation Services may join ATCA in their own right and undertake the first six Expectations of the *ATCA Standard* to become certified as a residential rehabilitation service. It is an expectation that members applying under this category will already hold accreditation under a recognised accreditation body and have aspirations towards becoming a therapeutic community. As such, members in this category may join the Association as an Associate Member with a longer-term view of developing into a therapeutic community and be seeking support with this objective.

For those Residential Rehabilitation Services aspiring to become a therapeutic community, assistance to implement the *ATCA Standard* will be available from the Association. There are two categories in this division:

1. **CERTIFIED RESIDENTIAL REHABILITATION SERVICE – ASSOCIATE MEMBER** is for organisations that provide a residential AOD service whose practice has been certified as conforming to Expectations 1-6 of the *ATCA Standard*, in addition to industry accreditation.

2. **RESIDENTIAL REHABILITATION SERVICE – ASSOCIATE MEMBER** is for organisations that provide a residential AOD service which is yet to be certified against the *ATCA Standard*. These services are in transition to certification and are required to be certified within three years of joining as a non-certified Residential Rehabilitation Service member. They will also hold accreditation under a recognised accreditation body.

**D. AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP** - is a category for individuals and/or organisations that endorse the “Community as Method” model but do not currently provide a Therapeutic Community or a Residential Rehabilitation Service, or have not yet completed an accreditation process under a recognised accreditation body to gain industry accreditation.

There are four sub categories:

1. AFFILIATE MEMBER – NOT FOR PROFIT ORGANISATION
2. AFFILIATE MEMBER - PRIVATE ORGANISATION
3. AFFILIATE MEMBER – INDIVIDUAL
4. AFFILIATE MEMBER – HONORARY LIFE MEMBER

Organisational Members that are undertaking an accreditation process will hold Affiliate Membership until such time as they are awarded accreditation. At that time, they may apply as TC or RR members under the above categories. Following this, they will then be expected to work towards certification under the *ATCA Standard* within three years of becoming a full TC or RR member.

Organisations applying as For-Profit or as Private rehabilitation programs, will also be expected to have in place an accreditation process under a recognised accreditation body to gain industry accreditation and provide a program which is in line with the *ATCA Standards*. These organisations will also have adopted a Client Bill of Rights and a Staff Code of Ethics and will be providing services that are evidence-based.

Any such organisation holding this status of membership shall assume that Affiliate Membership is not an endorsement of practice.

Affiliate membership status or *ATCA* logos may not be included in any marketing, advertising, web site, promotional material or any and all forms of social media; and the *ATCA* logo may only be used with written permission from the *ATCA* Board of Management.

**Affiliate Member – Honorary Life Member:** Honorary Life Membership may be granted by the Board of Directors (the Board) of the Australasian Therapeutic Communities Association (the Association) to an individual in recognition of commitment and services rendered to the Association and its membership.

Each nomination for Honorary Life Membership must be considered on its merits and in consideration of that nomination the Board is not to be influenced by any personal relationship with the nominee and is not to make direct comparisons with other Honorary Life Members, nominees or persons not nominated.

The granting of Honorary Life Membership must be recorded in the Association's official records.

General principles to consider in granting Honorary Life Membership:

- Honorary Life Membership is a great honour and should not be treated lightly.
- Honorary Life Membership should not be considered as a competitive process.

- Nominees must be considered individually and on their personal attributes, achievements, commitment and contribution to the Therapeutic Community model and to the Association and its membership.
- Honorary Life Membership is reserved for those whose contribution goes beyond the ordinary for an extended period of time.

Criteria to be considered in granting Honorary Life Membership

- Length of active membership - a nominee will have been any active TC representative and been involved for a significant time, demonstrating a long-term commitment.
- Demonstrate a significant contribution to the Association – this may include holding positions on the Board, Work Group / Committees supporting their own or other Association member therapeutic communities, significant contributions and support to the organising of Association events.
- Significant contribution in the national, state and territory arenas that has furthered the position of the Association and its membership.

## **BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP:**

### **A. CERTIFIED AND NON-CERTIFIED THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITY MEMBERS.**

- Certified and Non-Certified Therapeutic Community Organisational Members receive an ATCA logo recognising and endorsing their status as an accredited member.
- Therapeutic Community Organisation Members receive notice of meetings, attend meetings, and vote at meetings of the members of the Association. They can nominate and be nominated to stand for election to the Board.

**Weighted Voting** – The ATCA Board has weighted the voting for different categories of membership, with reference to the history and the primary purpose of the Association as a quality assurance broker for the therapeutic community model. Consequently -

- Organisational Members receive:
  - Discounts when attending ATCA Conferences and workshops
  - ATCA Newsletter
  - Membership of the ATCA News Forum

**Weighting Voting** - Organisational Members hold one vote with a weighting of five.

### **B. CERTIFIED AND NON-CERTIFIED GROUP MEMBERS –THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITY**

- Certified and Non-Certified Group Therapeutic Community Members receive an ATCA logo recognising and endorsing their status as an accredited member.
- Group members receive notice of meetings, attend meetings, and hold one Group Membership vote with a weighting of five at meetings of the members of the Association. They can nominate one position and be nominated to stand for election to the Board.

Group Members receive:

- Discounts when attending ATCA Conferences and workshops
- ATCA Newsletter
- Membership of the ATCA News Forum

**Weighted Voting** – Group Members hold one vote with a weighting of five.

**C. CERTIFIED AND NON-CERTIFIED RESIDENTIAL REHABILITATION SERVICE ASSOCIATE MEMBERS.**

All Residential Rehabilitation Service Associate Members receive:

- Discounts when attending ATCA Conferences and workshops
- ATCA Newsletter
- Membership of the ATCA News Forum

Residential Rehabilitation Service Associate Members cannot nominate or be nominated to stand for election to the Board. They may however be seconded onto the Board for a defined period.

**Weighted Voting** – Certified and non-Certified Residential Rehabilitation Members hold one vote only.

**D. AFFILIATE MEMBERS.**

Affiliates cannot nominate or be nominated to stand for election to the Board. They may however be seconded onto the Board for a defined period.

Affiliate Members receive:

- Discounts when attending ATCA Conferences and workshops
- ATCA Newsletter
- Membership of the ATCA News Forum

**Weighted voting** – Affiliate members are invited to attend and may speak, but are not able to vote at Association Meetings.

**ATCA Membership Benefits Summary:**

<b>Membership Category</b>	<b>Fee</b>	<b>News-Letter</b>	<b>Information Updates</b>	<b>Voting rights</b>	<b>Standards documents</b>	<b>Nominate persons for the Board</b>
Certified TC Organisational Member	Variable	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
TC Organisational Member	Variable	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Certified Group Member	Variable	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Group Member	Variable	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Certified RR Service Associate Member	Variable	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
RR Service Associate Member	Variable	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Affiliate For Profit or Private Residential Rehabilitation or TC Member	\$1,100	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
Affiliate Individual Member	\$117	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
Affiliate Organisational Member	\$117	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
Affiliate Honorary Life Member	Nil	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No

**Membership Pathways:** The ATCA Board is committed to maintaining the integrity of the Therapeutic Community model of treatment. The Board believes that the best way to achieve this is for Therapeutic Communities to participate in a certification cycle that will ensure continuous quality improvement in line with the essential elements that define the model.

The pathway to Certified Therapeutic Community Organisational Membership is via the *ATCA Standard* and a certification cycle.

All membership categories with the exception of the Affiliate Individual and Honorary Life Members are encouraged to pursue this pathway. It is the Board's anticipation that all members will be certified within their classification within a three-year time frame from joining, or from **July 2015** for those who were members prior to this time.

## **SCHEDULE OF FEES**

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### **ORGANISATIONAL MEMBERS:**

The fee for Organisational Membership is related to the operational budget\* of the Therapeutic Community/ies operated by the member organisation.

Less than \$250,000:	\$235
\$250,001 - \$500,000:	\$476
\$500,001 - \$750,000:	\$712
More than \$750,000:	\$948

*\* In this instance operational budget is defined as the combined income from governments, fees raised from residents and fund raising dedicated to the Therapeutic Community.*

### **GROUP MEMBERS:**

Group Members pay the full fee for membership (according to the above operating budget definition) of the key or lead TC and then a fee of \$117 for each of the therapeutic communities that make up the Group Membership. Therefore, a Group Member with five therapeutic communities with an operating budget above \$750,000 would pay \$948 for the lead agency plus \$117 for each of the other four TCs – a total of \$1,416.

### **ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:**

The fee for Organisational Membership is related to the operational budget\* of the Residential Rehabilitation Service operated by the Associate Member.

Less than \$250,000:	\$235
\$250,001 - \$500,000:	\$476
\$500,001 - \$750,000:	\$712
More than \$750,000:	\$948

*\* In this instance operational budget is defined as the combined income from governments, fees raised from residents and fund raising dedicated to the Residential Rehabilitation Service.*

### **AFFILIATE MEMBERS:**

NOT FOR PROFIT ORGANISATIONAL - \$117  
PRIVATE or FOR PROFIT ORGANISATIONAL - \$1,100  
INDIVIDUAL - \$117  
HONORARY LIFE MEMBER - NIL

### **APPLICATION AND FEES:**

Applications for Membership should be made on the appropriate form and be accompanied by the *Application for Membership – Organisational Details or Individual Details*. Please provide the supporting documentation as outlined in the form. Potential Organisational Members and Residential

Rehabilitation Service will be required to undertake a desktop audit to be reviewed by the ATCA Board as a precondition of Membership.

Following a successful application, which will include a site visit from the ATCA Board and Secretariat (other than for Individual Membership), the Annual Fee, as detailed above, will be payable.

Application fees are set out below:

- |   |          |
|---|----------|
| • Therapeutic Community – Organisational Member:                  | \$220.00 |
| • Therapeutic Community Group Membership:                         | \$220.00 |
| • Residential Rehabilitation Service – Associate Member:          | \$220.00 |
| • Affiliate For Profit or Private Membership:                     | \$220.00 |
| • Affiliate Individual Member (Other than Honorary Life Members): | \$66.00  |

Additionally, the applicant may be asked to contribute to the cost of a site visit to assist the ATCA Board to determine membership category (ie. Entry as Therapeutic Community or Residential Rehabilitation Service; or under the For-Profit or Private category). Generally, a visit will be undertaken by the Secretariat and a Board member in the applicant’s jurisdiction.





**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP OF  
AUSTRALASIAN THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITIES ASSOCIATION INC**

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(Name of applicant Organisation or Individual)

(Hereinafter referred to as **Applicant**), of

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(address)

desires to become a member of Australasian Therapeutic Communities Association Inc  
(**Association**) in the following category:

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In the event of admission of the Applicant as a member of the Association, the Applicant agrees to be bound by the Constitution of the Association (ATCA) for the time being in force.

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(Name & signature of duly authorised person for and on behalf of the Applicant)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

.....

I, \_\_\_\_\_, a member of the Association, nominate the  
(name)  
Applicant, for membership of the Association.

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Signature of Proposer

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Date

I, \_\_\_\_\_, a member of the Association, second the  
(name)  
nomination of the Applicant, for membership of the Association.

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Signature of Proposer

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Date



**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP  
INDIVIDUAL DETAILS**

Name of Individual: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Work Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of employment:  Full time  Part time  Volunteer  Student

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Present position: \_\_\_\_\_

*For current students only:*

Degree enrolled: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Expected year of completion of study: \_\_\_\_\_

Main interests in Alcohol and other Drugs field: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Specific interest in Therapeutic Communities: \_\_\_\_\_

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What is your main interest in wishing to join the ATCA? \_\_\_\_\_

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Please enclose the following information:

- Curriculum Vitae
- Affiliate Membership Application signed by Nominator and Seconder
- Any information relevant to your interest in therapeutic communities, including research studies

Application Fees:

- Affiliate \$66 (incl GST)
- NB. Yearly membership as an Affiliate is \$117 (incl GST)

Cheques should be made payable to the **Australasian Therapeutic Communities Association** and sent to;

Executive Officer  
Australasian Therapeutic Communities Association  
PO Box 464  
YASS, NSW, Australia, 2582

Direct Deposits can be made to:

ATCA Operational Account  
BSB: 032 005  
Account Number: 768242



**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP  
ORGANISATIONAL DETAILS**

Name of Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nominated Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Nature of Program: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Aims of Program: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Residential Capacity: \_\_\_\_\_

Target Groups: \_\_\_\_\_

Client/resident Schedule of Fees: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Facilities: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Number of Staff: \_\_\_\_\_

Staffing Structure: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate whether you are applying for:

Organisational TC Membership

Group TC Membership  Name of Lead Agency

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Names of Affiliate Group Members under umbrella of Lead Agency

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Organisational Residential Rehabilitation Service Membership

Group Residential Rehabilitation Service Membership  Name of Lead Agency

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Names of Affiliate Group Members under umbrella of Lead Agency

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.....

Affiliate For Profit or Private Membership

**Please enclose the following information:**

- Constitution
- Program details
- Management Flow Chart
- Annual Report
- Brochures or promotional material

**Application Fees:**

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| • Therapeutic Community – Organisational Member:         | \$220.00 |
| • Therapeutic Community Group Membership:                | \$220.00 |
| • Residential Rehabilitation Service – Associate Member: | \$220.00 |
| • Affiliate For Profit or Private Membership:            | \$220.00 |

Cheques should be made payable to the Australasian Therapeutic Communities Association and sent to;

Executive Officer  
Australasian Therapeutic Communities Association  
PO Box 464  
YASS NSW, Australia 2582

Direct Deposits can be made to:

ATCA Operational Account  
BSB: 032 005 Account Number: 768242