



MEMBERSHIP POLICY Diploma Membership

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Version: 1

1. Purpose and scope

- (a) Diversional & Recreation Therapy Australia (DRTA) encourages and welcomes applicants with vocational training as described below, to this membership level.
- (b) Qualifications align with the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF), level 5.
- (c) To provide membership guidelines for applicants with the minimum qualification as described below and to encourage and support further education, should it be sought.
- (d) DRTA encourages members to further the profession with knowledge and skills, supporting competencies for practice.
- (e) Members defined as meeting Diploma Membership will have an industry specific qualification with a focus in health, leisure and recreation at a minimum.
- (f) Changes in the different levels of membership as of 2021 have included the provision of current members with 'Level 1 membership' being considered to have diploma membership, meeting the construct of a 'Grandfather Clause'.
- (g) New members with an associate degree in the field having been completed the years post 2000 will align with Diploma membership and not degree membership.
- (h) Those with a qualification in a related field, not explicitly in health, leisure and recreation will need to show evidence of gaining further knowledge for each component.

2. Definitions

- (a) For the purposes of this policy, the following definitions apply:
 - Qualified in this context means that the person has an industry specific diploma.
 - The member is committed to best practice in the profession through lifelong learning through at least twenty (20) hours of continuous professional development each year.

3. Policy Statement

To ensure that DRTA, and its members and the profession in Australia are advanced through upholding membership standards through maintaining minimum training levels and continuous professional development. Qualification requires components in health with leisure and recreation being a substantial focus of the diploma.

3.1 The membership category Diploma Membership for members prior to 2021 must hold one of the following:

- (a) Diploma in Leisure and Health

- (b) Diploma in Community Services
- (c) Diploma of Health Science (Leisure and Health)*
- (d) Diploma of Diversional Therapy (Redleaf College)
- (e) Diploma of Arts (Aged Care)
- (f) Other diploma qualifications approved by DRTA Board

3.2 Diploma Membership for members from 2021 must hold one of the following:

- (a) A diploma as identified above
- (b) Requires a diploma with components in health, leisure and recreation

3.3 Changes to eligibility for the application of Diploma Membership joining from 2021:

- (a) Associate degrees will now fall into Diploma Membership.
- (b) If current 'level 1' membership lapses for more than six months, membership renewal will then change to automatically to be based on their qualification, with 'level 1' membership now redundant.
- (c) Other diploma qualifications (not industry specific) will not be considered under this level of membership unless the diploma has components in health, leisure and recreation.
- (d) All other diploma qualifications will not be eligible for association members until such time as additional knowledge has been completed in health, leisure and recreation, or enrolled to study, in which case the eligibility will change to student membership.
- (e) Evidence of seventy (70) hours for each of these components- health, leisure and recreation will be required either during the diploma or post qualification.

3.4 Diploma membership includes:

- (a) Full Membership of DRTA
- (b) Voting rights for elections (or Proxy if unable to attend)
- (c) Access to the DRTA Website members only areas
- (d) Access to monthly eNewsletters
- (e) Attending network groups, either face to face or online
- (f) Receive discount rates for workshops and conferences
- (g) Can nominate for election to the DRTA Board as a state representative

4.Procedures

- (a) Member to supply evidence of qualifications on application and to update throughout membership
- (b) To renew membership annually by 1st July
- (c) To undertaking twenty (20) hours of Continuous Professional Development (CPD) to be collected and submitted each year in the period from 1st July to the 30th June the following year

- (d) When a member is accepted for diploma membership, this policy is sent to the member for clarity of expectations about membership.

5.Guidelines and references – related legislation, policies and procedures

The DRTA ensures that membership criteria, voluntary codes and advice to members comply with the *Competition and Consumer Act*.

The DRTA ensure membership rules are transparent and applied equally to all potential members, including substantiating reasons for qualification requirements.

DRTA ensures that this policy is in line with the *Constitution of Diversional Therapy Australia*.

6.Policy status and details

Status:	Current		
Version:	1		
Effective Date:	01 January 2021		
Review Date:	31 December 2024		
Approval Authority Policy:	DRTA Board		
Endorsed by (reviewer):	Charlise Bennett		
Approval Date:	9 th April 2021		
Enquiries Contact:	Enquiries@diversionaltherapy.org.au		
Available On:	SharePoint		Website

7.Summary of Changes from Previous Version

- DRTAMEM08 Policy Member -Full Member Diploma Qualified V3 was retired as a policy
- New Membership levels were voted in by members in December 2020
- This policy is essentially a new policy developed from DRTAMEM08 Policy Member -Full Member Diploma Qualified V3