



## MEMBERSHIP POLICY Affiliate Membership

Document Number: *DRTAMEM05*  
Date of Issue: *9<sup>th</sup> April 2021*

Version: 1

### 1. Purpose and scope

- (a) Diversional & Recreation Therapy Australia (DRTA) encourages and welcomes affiliate membership applicants as described below, to this membership level.
- (b) Qualifications do not align with any particular level within the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF).
- (c) To make provision for affiliates to become or remain members of Diversional & Recreation Therapy Australia (DRTA) whilst not directly working in it.
- (d) DRTA encourages and welcomes applicants with an interest in the profession.
- (e) Changes in the different levels of membership as of 01/01/2021 have included the provision of one affiliate membership level.

### 2. Definitions

- (a) For the purposes of this policy, the following definitions apply:
  - Affiliate membership is deemed appropriate if working outside Australia
  - Affiliate membership is deemed appropriate for those inside Australia, who have an interest in the profession without working directly in it.
  - Affiliate membership is deemed appropriate for those who have retired or cease to practice
  - Affiliate membership is deemed appropriate for those who are on maternity leave for a 12-month period
  - Affiliate membership is deemed appropriate for academic affiliates

### 3. Policy Statement

To ensure DRTA members and the profession in Australia continues to advance through upholding membership standards, maintaining minimum training levels and continuous professional development.

3.1 Affiliate members must not be directly or currently working in leisure, recreation and health. If working directly in leisure, recreation and health then member needs to be identified in degree, diploma, certificate IV or student membership and not considered an affiliate member.

3.2 Affiliate members whilst not directly working in the field would be considered 'friends of' DRTA and being supportive of the profession and the development of it. Affiliate membership would be appropriate for those wanting to stay up to date with the profession and not directly working in it.

- (a) The person retired or ceasing their practice in the Diversional and Recreation Therapy field.
- (b) The person is working in education field but not directly in the Diversional or Recreational Therapy field.
- (c) The person is working overseas
- (d) The person is currently on non-paid leave including maternity leave for a period of more than ten months

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

- (a) The amalgamation of various affiliate memberships
- (b) Affiliate Member – International Practitioner ceasing as a membership level
- (c) Affiliate Member – Retired or Non-Practicing ceasing as a membership level
- (d) Affiliate Member – Academic Affiliate as a membership level
- (e) Affiliate Member – Student Affiliate ceasing membership level and now being Student Membership- hence no longer being 'affiliates' of DRTA
- (f) The inclusion of non-paid leave including maternity leave for a period of more than ten months to support inclusion of professional not working for extended periods of time.

3.4 Affiliate membership:

- (a) Does not hold voting rights for elections
- (b) Access to the DRTA Website members only areas
- (c) Access to monthly eNewsletters
- (d) Attending network groups, either face to face or online
- (e) Receive discount rates for workshops and conferences
- (f) Do not require professional development hours to be collected
- (g) Are not eligible to hold board positions

#### **4.Procedures**

- (a) To renew membership annually by 1<sup>st</sup> July
- (b) To forward any necessary documentation for Affiliate membership
- (c) When a member is accepted for Affiliate 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

<b>Status:</b>	Current		
<b>Version:</b>	1		
<b>Effective Date:</b>	01 January 2021		
<b>Review Date:</b>	31 December 2023		
<b>Approval Authority Policy:</b>	DRTA Board		
<b>Endorsed by (reviewer):</b>	Charlise Bennett		
<b>Approval Date:</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> April 2021		
<b>Enquiries Contact:</b>	<a href="mailto:Enquiries@diversionaltherapy.org.au">Enquiries@diversionaltherapy.org.au</a>		
<b>Available On:</b>	SharePoint		Website

## 7.Summary of Changes from Previous Version

- DRTAMEM02 Policy Affiliate Member – International Practitioner V2 was retired as a policy
- DRTAMEM01 Policy Affiliate Member – Retired or Non-Practicing V2 was retired as a policy
- DRTAMEM10 Policy Affiliate Member – Academic Affiliate V2 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 the above retired policies.