



# Allied Health Professions Australia

Allied Health Professions Australia (AHPA) is the peak body and national voice for allied health professions. Through our member organisations we represent allied health practitioners, who together make up a third of Australia's health workforce but also have important roles in disability, aged care, social services, education and justice.

The allied health sector is diverse, with many professions working across a range of sectors, clinical settings and funding schemes. But together, allied health professions are a strong network with expert knowledge and a passion for making a difference. AHPA works with government departments and agencies, and other organisations, providing the allied health sector's collective insights and perspectives on complex issues.

## What are the benefits of being an AHPA member?

By working together, we can strengthen the voice of allied health, initiate change, and improve the access of Australians to allied health services. There are three key areas where we support our members in this.

### Advocate on key issues to advance allied health

- Identify and address key areas for advocacy which provide effective outcomes for allied health
- Identify key areas where AHPA can assist and shape government policy agendas
- Consult and engage members to ensure their voices are heard on advocacy initiatives

### Support member advocacy capability

- Provide timely, accessible and user-friendly information on key areas impacting on allied health
- Provide support, advice and opportunity for policy development
- Support individual member positions and policies where appropriate

### Enhance relationships with key stakeholders

- Leverage strategic alliances with other organisations
- Nurture relationships at government and political levels to reinforce the value of allied health to decision-makers
- Use media and other platforms to increase visibility and influence with stakeholders

## How are these benefits achieved?

AHPA undertakes a range of activities to involve our member organisations and promote allied health. Our members are a key part of our success – we all benefit from our collaborative involvement in the following AHPA activities.

### Advocacy and representation

- Direct advocacy via access to government departments
- AHPA representation at external committees & alliances
- Informing AHPA advocacy through Member Collaborative Forums & AHPA working groups
- Media representation
- Endorsement of profession-specific issues

### Communications

- Regular member updates on issues relevant to allied health
- Updates/feedback on AHPA activities and progress
- Information available via AHPA website, member portal & social media

### Networking opportunities

- Member Collaborative Forums, policy symposiums
- CEO and policy networks
- AHPA working groups
- Member-to-member communication and support

### Organisational support

- Advertising on AHPA website
- Practical support through workshops
- Alignment with AHPA

## Who else is a member?

When you join AHPA, you join 30 other organisations that are already contributing to the voice of allied health. These include 19 allied health professions and 11 affiliate organisations that are involved in the allied health sector.

### Ordinary members

Audiology Australia  
Australian and New Zealand College of Perfusionists  
Australian Chiropractors Association  
Australian Orthotic Prosthetic Association  
Australian Podiatry Association  
Australian Society of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy  
Occupational Therapy Australia  
Orthoptics Australia  
Rehabilitation Counselling Association of Australasia

Australian Society of Genetic Counsellors  
Australian Association of Social Workers  
Australian Music Therapy Association  
Australian Physiotherapy Association  
Australian Psychological Society  
Australian New Zealand & Asian Creative Arts Therapies  
Exercise & Sports Science Australia  
Optometry Australia  
Osteopathy Australia  
Speech Pathology Australia

### Affiliate members

Australasian Lymphology Association  
Australian College of Audiology  
Australian Counselling Association  
Australian Diabetes Educators Association  
Australian Hand Therapy Association  
Australian Society of Dermal Clinicians

Hearing Aid Audiology Society of Australia  
Myotherapy Association Australia  
Pedorthic Association of Australia  
Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia  
Spiritual Health Association

**STRONGER TOGETHER**