



# Allied Health Professions Australia

Allied Health Professions Australia (AHPA) is the peak body and national voice for allied health professions. Through our allied health member organisations we represent more than 130,000 allied health professionals.

Allied health professionals are tertiary-qualified health professionals who together make up almost a third of Australia's health workforce but also have important roles in disability, aged care, social services, education and justice.

AHPA works with government departments and agencies, and other organisations, providing the allied health sector's collective insights and perspectives and promoting the value of allied health.

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

Allied health professions are diverse and work in diverse settings, but together we can strengthen the voice of allied health, initiate change, and improve the access of Australians to allied health services.

AHPA works closely with our allied health member organisations to understand and advocate on key issues for allied health professions, and to support their own capacity to undertake advocacy.

### INSIGHT

- Identifying key areas where advocacy can provide effective outcomes for allied health
- Identifying opportunities for AHPA to assist and shape government policy agendas
- Understanding areas of policy concern for members

### ACTION

- Nurturing government and political relationships to promote the value of allied health to decision-makers
- Leveraging strategic alliances with other organisations
- Using media and other platforms to increase visibility

### SUPPORT

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

## What does this involve?

AHPA undertakes a range of activities to involve our allied health member organisations and promote allied health. Our allied health 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 where appropriate

### 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

- Free advertising on AHPA website
- Practical support through workshops
- Alignment with AHPA as peak body for the sector
- Access to a work desk and meeting space in the AHPA office

## Who else is a member?

When you join AHPA, you join 35 other organisations that are already contributing to the voice of allied health. These include 21 allied health professions and 14 affiliate organisations.

### Ordinary members

Audiology Australia  
Australasian College of Paramedic Practitioners  
Australian and New Zealand College of Perfusionists  
Australian Association of Psychologists Inc.  
Australian Association of Social Workers  
Australian Chiropractors Association  
Australian Music Therapy Association  
Australian New Zealand & Asian Creative Arts Therapies  
Australian Orthotic Prosthetic Association  
Australian Physiotherapy Association  
Australian Podiatry Association  
Australian Psychological Society

Australian Society of Genetic Counsellors  
Australian Society of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy  
Exercise & Sports Science Australia  
Occupational Therapy Australia  
Optometry Australia  
Orthoptics Australia  
Osteopathy Australia  
Rehabilitation Counselling Association of Australasia  
Speech Pathology Australia

### Affiliate members

Australasia Pacific Play Therapy Association  
Australasian Lymphology Association  
Australian Association of Practice Management  
Australian College of Audiology  
Australian Counselling Association  
Australian Diabetes Educators Association  
Australian Hand Therapy Association  
Australian Society of Dermal Clinicians

Dance Movement Therapy Association of Australasia  
Hearing Aid Audiology Society of Australia  
Myotherapy Association Australia  
Pedorthic Association of Australia  
Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia  
Spiritual Health Association

**STRONGER TOGETHER**