

Continuing Professional Development Requirements – Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Speech-Language Therapy

| | Mandatory Requirements | Range of learning activities required | Indirect & Online learning options | Application for special circumstances exemptions | Potential expenses | | | | | |
|-----|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| | | | | | Registration with AHPRA [^] | Professional association membership ^{*^} | Travel [#] | Accommodation [#] | Learning Activity Fee | Subscription to Journals/ Purchase of books/texts [#] |
| OT | 30 hours every 12 months | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ (partial) | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| PT | Minimum 20 hours every 12 months | ✓ | ✓ | x | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| SLP | 20 “points” per year | ✓ | ✓ | ✓(maternity leave) | x | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

*Some courses are only available to members. Professional association membership may provide eligibility for discounted CPD fees. Will also provide access to association developed journals

[^]These expenses are typically paid for by the individual.

[#]These expenses may be paid for by the individual, or negotiated with the business unit in part or whole.

| Price range estimates | Registration with AHPRA (excludes application fee) | Professional association membership | Online course* (1-15 hours) | Web conference (1 hour) | 1 day face to face course/ workshop | 3 day face to face course/ workshop | 5 day face to face course/ workshop |
|-----------------------|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| OT | \$110 | \$350 – 500 | \$0 - 350 | \$30 - 150 | \$190 - 625 | \$580 - 1200 | \$1375 - 1595 |
| PT | \$110 | \$420 - 1020 | \$0 - 250 | \$0 - 90 | \$390 - 680 | \$595 - 1430 | Info not available |
| SLP | - | \$535.00 | N/A | \$88.00 | \$330.00 | \$583.00 (2 days) | Conference approx \$900.00 |

Continuing Professional Development (CPD):

- activities are required to have clear goals and outcomes
- must contribute to maintaining and improving professional competence
- is required to relate to scope of professional practice.

Respective boards for OT and PT will take appropriate action should it be found through declaration or audit, that a professional not meet the CPD requirement, which may include:

- a requirement to undertake further CPD or supervised practice
- the imposition of conditions on registration, and/or
- disciplinary action.

Speech Pathology Australia conducts an annual random audit, and if a professional does not meet the requirements they will no longer meet the requirement of certified practising speech pathologist.

Barriers to CPD include:

- Events are typically held in capital cities, and may be one event nationally each year/ every two years
- Small department size may reduce opportunities due to impact on staffing
- Time
- Access – some videoconference and online web conference/ learning course opportunities may be available
- Appropriateness – available informal and formal learning may not relate to the professional's goals or scope of practice

Additional detail: Occupational Therapy

- CPD to be completed in compliance with Occupational Therapy Board of Australia's CPD registration standard
- Evidence to be retained in a CPD portfolio for 5 years
- At registration, renewal each year a declaration about CPD activities is required. A false statement is grounds for the Board to refuse registration.
- A range of activities must be completed across 3 categories:
 - Category 1 Formal learning activities, maximum 25 hours
 - Category 2 Informal learning activities, maximum 25 hours
 - Category 3 Engagement with the profession, maximum 10 hours
- <http://www.occupationaltherapyboard.gov.au/Codes-Guidelines/Continuing-professional-development.aspx>

Additional detail: Physiotherapy

- CPD to be completed in compliance with Physiotherapy Board of Australia's CPD registration standard

- Minimum 20 hours every 12 months; or 5 hours per 3 month period if registration occurs partway through the year.
- Evidence to be retained in a CPD portfolio for 4 years
- All learning activities which help maintain competence can be accepted as CPD including
 - Formal learning activities
 - Non-formal and incidental learning activities
- <http://www.physiotherapyboard.gov.au/Codes-Guidelines/CPD-guidelines.aspx>

Additional Detail: Speech Pathology

- Position Description denotes that speech pathologists must be eligible for certified practising membership of Speech Pathology Australia
- A total of 20 points must be accrued per year across at least two different activity types.
- A maximum of 12 points per activity type is set.
- A minimum of 10 points per year must be accrued in activities related to clinical practice.
- Activities include: independent study, attendance at conferences and expositions, attendance at workshops and special interest groups, teaching or presenting at a workshop, conference to community groups, other professionals, to client and carer groups, participation in research activities, student supervision, mentoring peer support of clinical supervision, external study.
- Speech pathologists complete a plan and log activities throughout the year, and report on the number of points accrued in each category at membership renewal.