



Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia



JOIN TODAY



2024/2025

PACFA Student Membership

www.pacfa.org.au | memberships@pacfa.org.au

PACFA acknowledges the traditional owners of the Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung Country on which we operate, and pays respects to elders past present and future.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Nigel Polak

PACFA PRESIDENT

“

Welcome to PACFA! As you embark on your studies and journey into the rewarding field of counselling and psychotherapy, we are here to guide and support you at every stage. We are dedicated to empowering you to excel as professionals, providing a comprehensive suite of resources to support your development from student counsellor to registered practitioner.

As a self-regulating body, PACFA emphasises the importance of registration as a critical pathway to recognition and remuneration in the field. Enjoy your studies, knowing that PACFA's commitment to quality assurance and excellence extends to fostering your growth and success, helping you make a significant positive impact through counselling and psychotherapy.



OUR MISSION & VISION

Our Purpose

Why do we exist?

PACFA exists to support its members and the community by regulating the training and practice of Psychotherapy, Counselling and Indigenous Healing Practices to the highest standards of safety, quality and professionalism.

Regulating includes certification, registration, accreditation, and complaints management.

Our Mission

What do we do?

PACFA regulates and supports the provision of effective high-quality Psychotherapy, Counselling, and Indigenous Healing Practices.

To do this, PACFA:

- Registers and certifies suitably qualified and skilled practitioners
- Accredits appropriate training courses
- Provides resources and a professional network for the development of Psychotherapy, Counselling, and Indigenous Healing Practitioners
- Educates and advocates to the public, other professions, and policy makers to ensure the value of Psychotherapy, Counselling and Indigenous Healing Practices is recognised and appreciated.

PACFA student members are 'student counsellors' and are not registered to practice professionally as counsellors or psychotherapists. They only see clients in the context of their training program and supervised placement(s). It is important to note that 'student counsellors' are still undergoing supervised training and are not yet fully qualified practitioners.



CEO Johanna de Wever and President Nigel Polak at Parliament House

OUR VALUES

Authenticity

- We act with integrity by being consistent, fair, transparent, and accountable.
- We are trustworthy and professional. We do what we say we will do.
- We are courageous in our willingness to speak our truth.
- We stand for the value and integrity of Psychotherapy, Counselling, and Indigenous Healing Practices.

Compassion

- We approach everyone from a position of kindness and goodwill.
- We celebrate difference and diversity.

Connection

- We seek to connect with curiosity and openness.
- We value the self of the practitioner as the heart of professional practice, and the role of professional supervision in safeguarding our practices and their recipients.

Humility

- We acknowledge our mistakes, embrace our failures, and learn from them.

**PACFA is a registered charity working for the benefit of the profession.
Our Board does not have any affiliation with commercial training providers.**

INCLUDED IN OUR: STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

Unrivalled Advocacy:

- ✔ Campaign for greater recognition of counsellors and psychotherapists by governments, NGOs, PHNs, and other organisations that provide counselling services.

Professional Indemnity Insurance:

- ✔ Access to affordable insurance cover through our partner Insurance.com, with free insurance included in student membership, for any client work undertaken within your training programs.

CPD and Practice Support:

- ✔ PACFA offer a range of cost-effective CPD events including online and face-to-face CPD run by PACFA; Including topics such as Grief, Trauma, Neurodiversity, Supervision and many more. You can also get access to past PACFA webinar recordings, free of charge.

Staying Connected:

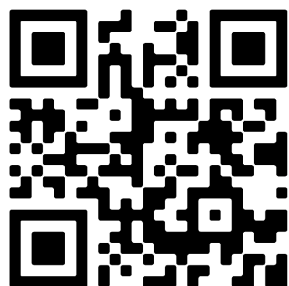
- ✔ Access to the international, peer-reviewed journal, PACJA and the PACFA eNews; including updates on PACFA's advocacy work each month, member opportunities, useful information, CPD opportunities, and more.

Free Branch Membership:

- ✔ Join your local PACFA branch and network with your professional peers from all over Australia.

Explore our PACFA Colleges:

- ✔ PACFA is designing career pathways for further recognition in advanced areas of study. Every new student member gets complimentary access to the College of Counselling upon joining.



JOIN US
TODAY

www.pacfa.org.au/join
membership@pacfa.org.au

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Psychotherapy and Counselling
Federation of Australia



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We honour the long history of caring, cultural, creative and healing practices that have taken place on this continent for millennia and continue today. We extend our respect to elders past and present, and to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

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