

PROFESSIONAL ACCREDITATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please select which category/s you are applying for Professional Accreditation:

Note: If eligible you may apply for all three categories.

☐ **Educator**

☐ **Researcher**

☐ **Therapist**

Title:

Full Name:

Postal Address:

Suburb: Postcode/State:

Phone number/s: Work: Mobile:

Email Address:

Preferred contact method (please select): ☐ Phone ☐ Email.

1. ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS:

2. OCCUPATION:

3. CURRENT AREA(S) OR PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

If more room is needed for Questions 3 to 7, please attached further paperwork.

4. AREA(S) OF PROFESSIONAL INTEREST:

5. TRAINING RECEIVED IN AREA OF SEXOLOGY:

6. PLEASE PROVIDE A BRIEF OUTLINE OF YOUR WORK IN THE AREAS OF SEXOLOGY OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS:

7. MEMBERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONS:

PLEASE ATTACH THE FOLLOWING TO YOUR APPLICATION:

(Do not send Originals.)

1. CURRICULUM VITAE:

2. QUALIFICATIONS, DIPLOMAS and CERTIFICATES ECT.

Please only provide certified copies of originals.

They can be certified by a Justice of the Peace or an ASSERT Board Member.

3.DETAILED DOCUMENTATION:

Sex Therapist: Documented two hundred (200) hours of Sex Therapy in the last two years.
Note: Please refer to attached template example in appendix 1 and find criteria in appendix 2.

Sex Educator: History of Sex Education you have provided over the past two years.
Note: Please refer to criteria in the appendix 3.

Sex Researcher: List of sexuality research you have completed, list of published papers/ books/chapters.
Note: Please refer to criteria in the appendix 4.

4. REGISTRATION DETAILS of Professional organisations.

5. PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY INSURANCE:

Copy of current professional insurance or certified copy or letter OF EMPLOYMENT from government or private organisation if covered by indemnity insurance by them.

6. COPY OF NATIONAL POLICE CHECK and/or A signed statutory declaration stating that they have no criminal convictions related to their professional conduct or relevant offenses.

7. COPY OF WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK (or state legislated equivalent):
(Applicable if you work with people under the age of 18)

8. REFEREES: Either one referee from an ASSERT member

OR

Two other referees: (these can be academic or work-related referees, preferable working in the sexual health field)

1/ **Name:**
 Phone:**Email:**
 Address:
 Occupation/Position:

2/ **Name:**
 Phone:**Email:**
 Address:
 Occupation/Position:

By signing the below:

1. You give permission to receive group emails from ASSERT in relation to sexual health, which may or may not interest you. Please be aware that your personal security / spam filters may take out emails containing certain words (i.e., sex)
2. You acknowledge you have read the WAS Declaration of Sexual Rights on the ASSERT website and agree to practice in accordance with it.

Signature: **Date:**

Once accreditation as an ASSERT Accredited Member, would you like to be listed on ASSERT website, under Find a therapist/educator/researcher?

☐ **YES**

☐ **NO**

Igive ASSERT permission to display my professional contact details on the ASSERT website.

Upon accreditation as an ASSERT Professional Accredited Member, you will receive an invoice requesting \$140 annual membership fee.

CHECK LIST

- Curriculum Vitae
- Degrees/Diplomas, Certificates
- Indemnity Insurance
- Proof of Registration with other professional organisations (If applying for sex therapist accreditation)
- COPY OF NATIONAL POLICE CHECK and/or A signed statutory declaration stating that they have no criminal convictions related to their professional conduct or relevant offenses.
- Copy of Working with Children Check (If working with people under 18 years of age)

Email your application to: info@assert.au

PLEASE NOTE: You will be notified when your application has been approved by ASSERT Board and sent an invoice to pay \$140 for your yearly membership.

DO NOT MAKE PAYMENT UNTIL YOU HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED TO DO SO.

OFFICE USE ONLY.

Date received: Date approved:

Name and Signatures of ASSERT Board Member/s responsible to validate accreditation.

ASSERT MEMBER: SIGNATURE:

ASSERT MEMBER..... SIGNATURE:

Applications for Professional Accreditation as a Sex Therapist are required to submit documentation of two hundred (200) hours of Sex Therapy within the last two years.

ASSERT Professional Accreditation Application Form.

Example Template for documentation of Two Hundred Clinical Hours

Dates	Description Types of client sexual Issues	Number of Clinical Hours
Week 1 May 8 th - 14 th 2023	Female Sexual arousal disorder, Premature Ejaculation, Sex Education	15
Week 2 May 15 th - 21 st 2023	Support and Education Prostate Cancer, Erectile Dysfunction, Fear of being Sexual, Sexual History taking, assessment and Referral to GP for tight foreskin	12
Week 13 May 22 nd - 28 th 2023	Sex & Relationship Difficulties, Sexual Abuse, Erectile Dysfunction, Premature Ejaculation, Sex Education re Female Sexuality, Concerns around inability to orgasm	18
TOTAL HOURS		45

APPENDIX 2

ASSERT Accredited Sex Therapist Criteria

An Accredited Sex Therapist is a person with the following qualifications and criteria:

1. PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Must hold a degree from a recognized University in Australia as listed in the Australian Qualifications Framework, register of recognized institutions (<http://www.aqf.edu.au/register.htm>) or from an international institution listed in the National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (NOOSR) register:

(<http://www.workplace.gov.au/workplace/Individual/Migrant/NationalOfficeofOverseasSkillsRecognitionNOOSR.htm>).

It is preferable that the degree is in an area related to sex therapy and has at least 80 hours of course content in sexual counselling. It is expected that a sex therapist has completed further education in sexual health counselling.

This training should be:

- A degree or diploma in sexual health from a university
- Evidence of a high level of skill as a practicing counsellor/psychotherapist
- Additional educational opportunities such as sexual health courses, workshops or sexual health conferences will be considered by the ASSERT Accreditation Committee.

2. ASSERT Code of Ethics

The applicant will have read the ASSERT Code of Ethics.

By signing the certification application form, the applicant agrees to be bound by the ASSERT Code of Ethics.

3. PROFESSIONAL TRAINING DOCUMENTATION IN SEX THERAPY

The applicant must have worked a minimum of 200 hours, face-to-face sex therapy counselling, and has been in clinical practice for at least two years.

The applicant has received, (within the last two years) 24 hours of clinical sex therapy supervision by an ASSERT approved Supervisor.

The following would be considered examples of a sex therapist:

- Work in private practice where a major part of their client work is sex therapy/counselling.
- Work for an organisation where they provide client-contact sex therapy counselling.
- Work with individuals and couples who need counselling for sexual related issues.
- Facilitate sexual and relationships group therapy.
- Facilitate a support group for sexually related issues.

4. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

The accreditation committee of ASSERT recognizes that there may be applicants with extensive experience in sex therapy who have not had the opportunity of a formal qualification in the area. The committee will consider these applications individually under these special circumstances category. Special circumstances could include specialization in one or limited areas of sex therapy. The ASSERT Accreditation Committee will review the documentation and work experience of the applicant.

5. DOCUMENTATION

The following documentation must be submitted to the ASSERT Accreditation Committee:

- 1) Completed application for ASSERT Accredited Sex Therapist.
- 2) Copies of official transcripts of program(s) in which degree(s)/diploma(s) were awarded, certified by a Justice of Peace.
- 3) Detailed documentation of 200 hours of clinical sex therapy.
- 4) A nomination signature from an ASSERT Member, supporting the application or two professional referees supporting the application.
- 5) Proof of registration with an approved professional organisation such as: ACA - CAPA – AASW or equivalent Professional Association.
- 6) Copy of current professional insurance or certified copy of letter OF EMPLOYMENT from government or private organisation if covered by indemnity insurance by them.
- 7) Copy Of National Police Check and/or A signed statutory declaration stating that they have no criminal convictions related to their professional conduct or relevant offenses.
- 8) Complete the Permission to display professional details on ASSERT website.

Upon approval of the Accredited Professional Sex Therapist by ASSERT Accreditation Committee, the successful applicant will receive a letter in recognition of having met the ASSERT requirements for Accredited Sex Therapist membership.

The applicant will then be invited to become a member of ASSERT.

When the applicant has accepted the offer, they will be required to pay a membership fee.

On receipt of the membership fee, the applicant will receive notification of their accredited sex therapy membership.

6. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES CATEGORY

For those applicants being considered under the Special Circumstances Category, the ASSERT Accreditation Committee will clearly indicate where the applicant has met the required criteria for Sex Therapist.

ASSERT Accreditation Committee will also indicate if there are unmet criteria and make clear recommendations of how these can be met within a practical time frame.

7. MAINTAINING PROFESSIONAL STATUS

To maintain accredited professional sex therapist membership of ASSERT, every **three years** or a period stated by ASSERT board, members must submit documentation of:

- 200 hours of sex therapy annually,
- 12 hours of clinical sex therapy supervision annually,
- At least 20 hours per year of activities such as workshops, conferences, seminars and reading academic journals or books related to sex therapy.

To retain the ASSERT Professional Sex Therapy status, the member must pay membership on an annual basis.

If the membership lapses the accreditation status will also lapse.

DOCUMENT CREATED: 31/01/24 20/02/2025 **FORMATED** 16/02/2024.

APPENDIX 3

ASSERT Accredited Sex Educator Criteria

An Accredited Sex Educator is a person with the following qualifications and criteria:

3. PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Must hold a degree from a recognized University in Australia as listed in the Australian Qualifications Framework, register of recognized institutions (<http://www.aqf.edu.au/register.htm>) or from an international institution listed in the National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (NOOSR) register:

(<http://www.workplace.gov.au/workplace/Individual/Migrant/NationalOfficeofOverseasSkillsRecognitionNOOSR.htm>).

It is preferable that the degree is in an area related to sex education methodology and has 80 hours of course content in education. It is expected that a sexuality educator has completed further education in in sexuality and sexual health.

This training should be:

- A degree or diploma in sexual health from a University/College
- Additional educational opportunities such as sexual health courses, workshops or sexual health conferences will be considered by the ASSERT Accreditation Committee
- Evidence of a high level of skill as a sex educator.

4. CURRENTLY WORKING AS A SEX EDUCATOR

Must have over the last two years provided, at least 200 hours of sex education to health professionals, students, or the general community.

5. ASSERT Code of Ethics

The applicant will have read the ASSERT Code of Ethics.

By signing the certification application form, the applicant agrees to be bound by the ASSERT Code of Ethics.

3. PROFESSIONAL TRAINING DOCUMENTATION IN SEX EDUCATION

- Detailed documentation of minimum of 200 hours experience in providing sex education. The following would be considered examples of sex education:
- Tutor, lecturer, or coordinator of a teaching unit offered as part of a degree program in sexology, sexual health, and health promotion.
- Teaching in the field of human sexuality and reproductive health, such as Family Planning Education Teams, university teaching work in sex, high school teaching and training, youth work, religious institutions or related health or outreach agency.
- Teaching or development of teaching programs in the field of human sexuality and reproductive health.

6. ACCREDITED SEXUALITY EDUCATOR - SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

The accreditation committee of ASSERT recognizes that there may be applicants with extensive experience in sex education who have not had the opportunity of a formal qualification in the area. The committee will consider these applications individually under this 'special circumstances category'. Special circumstances could include specialisation in one or limited areas of sex education. The ASSERT Accreditation Committee will review the documentation of education and work experience of the applicant to determine the applicant's membership status.

7. DOCUMENTATION

The following documentation must be submitted to the ASSERT Accreditation Committee:

- 1) Completed application form for ASSERT Accredited Sexuality Educator Membership.
- 2) Official transcripts of program(s) in which degree(s) and diploma(s).
- 3) Documentation of 200 hours of education in human sexuality within the last 2 years. Documentation must include the dates, name of organization that is providing the education, and outline of the educational program, signed by a supervisor, colleague or professional referee.
- 4) A nomination signature from an ASSERT Accredited Member, supporting the application or two professional referees supporting the application.
- 5) Copy of current professional insurance or certified copy of letter OF EMPLOYMENT from government or private organisation if covered by indemnity insurance by them.
- 6) COPY OF NATIONAL POLICE CHECK and/or A signed statutory declaration stating that they have no criminal convictions related to their professional conduct or relevant offenses.
- 7) Complete the Permission to display professional details on the ASSERT website. Please note this is at the bottom of the application form.

Upon approval of the ASSERT Accreditation Committee, the successful applicant will receive a letter in recognition of having met the ASSERT requirements for accredited sexuality educator membership.

The applicant will then be invited to become a member of ASSERT.

When the applicant has accepted the offer, they will be required to pay a membership fee.

On receipt of the membership fee, the applicant will receive notification of their accredited sex therapy membership.

8. MAINTAINING PROFESSIONAL STATUS

To maintain accredited professional sex therapist membership of ASSERT, every **three years** or a period stated by ASSERT board, members must submit documentation of:

- 100 hours of sex education annually,
- 80 hours of ongoing appropriate education, research, reading of relevant academic articles

To retain the ASSERT Professional Sex Educator status, the member must pay membership on an annual basis, and be a practicing sex educator.

If the membership lapses the accreditation status will also lapse.

APPENDIX 4

ASSERT Accredited Sex Researcher Member

An Accredited Sex Researcher is a person with the following qualifications and criteria:

9. PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Must hold a degree from a recognized University in Australia as listed in the Australian Qualifications Framework, register of recognized institutions (<http://www.aqf.edu.au/register.htm>) or from an international institution listed in the National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (NOOSR) register:

(<http://www.workplace.gov.au/workplace/Individual/Migrant/NationalOfficeofOverseasSkillsRecognitionNOOSR.htm>).

It is preferable that the degree is in an area related to research methodology.

Examples of a sex researcher:

- The researcher is undertaking research in human sexuality as part of a degree with a recognized university or college.
- The researcher is involved in sexuality research that is a medical trial which is approved through appropriate government bodies.
- The researcher is involved in sex research that has been approved through a recognized ethics committee.
- Documentation of professional experience in sex research.

10. ASSERT Code of Ethics

The applicant will have read the ASSERT Code of Ethics.

By signing the certification application form, the applicant agrees to be bound by the ASSERT Code of Ethics.

11. PROFESSIONAL TRAINING DOCUMENTATION

This should include at least one of the activities listed in Category 1 and at least one in the activities listed in Category 2.

Category 1:

- 1.1 Sex Research as part of a degree: Undergraduate, Honours, Masters or PHD research project/thesis.
- 1.2 Participation in a sex research team that has been approved through an appropriate ethics committee.
- 1.3 Publication of at least two sex related articles in peer reviewed journals within the last 5 years.
- 1.4 *Publication of a book related to sex within the last 5 years using evidence-based research

** To be reviewed through a case-by-case criterion by the ASSERT accreditation committee.*

Category 2:

- 2.1 Two or more conference presentation and/or posters in a sex research area.
- 2.2 Participation in the teaching of sex research
- 2.3 Has formal sex research supervision at Undergraduate, Honours, Master, or PhD level.

12. ONGOING INVOLVEMENT IN RESEARCH

Applicant for Professional Membership Sex Researcher will be required to document an ongoing participation in sex research.

This documentation may include any of the below activities:

- Member of a research team
- Current enrolment in a research degree
- Supervision of a research student
- Individual research

13. DOCUMENTATION OF PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE IN SEX RESEARCH

The following documentation must be submitted to the ASSERT Accreditation Committee:

1. Completed application form for ASSERT Accredited Sex Researcher
2. Official transcripts of program(s) in which degree(s) and diploma(s) were earned, certified by a Justice of Peace.
3. Documentation of Category 1 and 2 Research activities
4. A nomination signature from an ASSERT Professional Member, supporting the application or two professional referees supporting the application.
5. Copy of current professional insurance or certified copy or letter OF EMPLOYMENT from government or private organisation if covered by indemnity insurance by them.
6. Copy Of National Police Check and/or A signed statutory declaration stating that they have no criminal convictions related to their professional conduct or relevant offenses.
7. Complete the Permission to display professional details on the ASSERT website. Please note this is at the bottom of the application form.

Upon approval of Accredited Sex Researcher Members Application by ASSERT board, the applicant will then be invited to become a member of ASSERT.

If the applicant is unsuccessful in gaining membership, ASSERT board member will inform them where their application is deficient, and where possible how this can be remedied. Should the applicant wish to withdraw their application, their membership fee will be returned to them.

ASSERT members subcommittee will also indicate if there are unmet criteria and make clear recommendations of how these can be met within a practical time frame.

Participation in the above processes with relevant documentation ensures ongoing membership of ASSERT as an Accredited Sex Researcher.

6. MAINTAINING PROFESSIONAL STATUS AS A SEX RESEARCHER

- To maintain Accredited Sex Researcher Membership of ASSERT, members must document their **annual four** research meetings, conference papers and posters they have presented, journal articles they have had published, sexuality books they have published.
- To retain the ASSERT Accredited Sex Researcher status, the member must pay membership on an annual basis and be a practicing sex researcher.
- If membership lapses accreditation status will also lapse.

Once accredited, the Sex Researcher will establish ongoing consultations or collaborations ideally with other ASSERT accredited Sex Researchers. Such consultations may also be with a small peer or professional research group focused on sex research.

Consultations are recommended to be on a **quarterly** basis. The purpose of such consultations would be to provide relevant specialist support, to maintain a high standard of knowledge, competencies, self-awareness, and rigor in research. Accredited Sex Researcher members will be expected to have at least one paper published in a recognised journal or a conference presentation at national or international level every three years.

Participation in the above processes with relevant documentation ensures ongoing membership of ASSERT as a Sex Researcher.

7. ACCREDITED SEX RESEARCHER - SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

The accreditation committee of ASSERT recognizes that there are many members with extensive experience in sex research who have not had the opportunity of a formal qualification in the area. The ASSERT accreditation committee will consider these applications individually under 'special circumstances category'. Special circumstances could include specialization in one or limited areas of sex research.

The ASSERT Accreditation Committee will review the documentation of research and professional experience.

To retain the ASSERT Accredited Sex Researcher status, the member must pay membership on an annual basis and be a practicing sex researcher.

If membership lapses accreditation status will also lapse.