



Psychotherapy & Counselling  
Federation of Australia

## **Register Requirements for Accredited Supervisors**

### **Principles**

PACFA Accredited Supervisors are Clinical Registrants whose practice includes the provision of professional supervision to counsellors and/or psychotherapists.

The PACFA Supervision Training Standards 2018 set out the principles and requirements for the training of professional supervisors. These standards must be met for listing on the PACFA National Register as an Accredited Supervisor.

This document sets out the requirements to apply for listing as an Accredited Supervisor via the standard pathway, the Accredited Supervisor Pathway. It also sets out the requirements for listing via the Transitional Accreditation Pathway, which is offered as an alternative pathway to accreditation for the first eight years of the Accredited Supervisor scheme. On 30 June 2020, the Transitional Accreditation Pathway will come to an end.

The Transitional Accreditation Pathway can be used by supervisors who have not completed an official training in supervision but who would like to seek listing as an Accredited Supervisor based on their professional development and practice experience as a supervisor.

The PACFA Register of Supervisors is intended to be a resource for psychotherapists and counsellors and rather than being a mandatory procedure. PACFA Registrants are not required to undertake their supervision with a PACFA-accredited supervisor although they may choose to do so. This ensures practitioners have the flexibility to access supervision from a variety of sources both inside and outside PACFA.

### **Pre-requisites for applying for listing as an Accredited Supervisor**

Before applying to become a PACFA Accredited Supervisor, a practitioner must be listed on the PACFA Register. Applicants are required to have a minimum of 5 years post training experience as a qualified psychotherapist or counsellor, with a minimum of 3 years as a PACFA Clinical Registrant or as a member of a PACFA Member Association at an equivalent membership level.

### **Pathways to Supervisor Accreditation**

For a period of eight years from 1 July 2012 there will be 2 pathways for listing on the PACFA Supervisor Register:

- the Accredited Supervisor Pathway
- the Transitional Accreditation Pathway.

From 1 July 2020, the Transitional Accreditation Pathway will no longer be offered and all those applying to the Supervisor Register must fulfil the requirements of the Accredited Supervisor pathway.

### **Accredited Supervisor Pathway**

- Supervisor training program which meets the Supervision Training Standards 2018 (at least 36 hours of person-to-person teaching in supervision theory and practice, of which at least 33% or 12 hours, is experiential learning)
- A minimum of 10 hours of supervised client contact in the role of supervisor during the supervisor training program
- 40 hours of supervisor practice over a minimum of 2 years (this is in addition to the 10 hours of supervised client contact in the role of supervisor completed during training)
- 10 hours of supervision on supervision practice, which includes the supervision on supervision practice that takes place during the supervision training

Applicants should refer to the PACA Supervision Training Standards 2018 for detailed guidance on the minimum training requirements for this pathway.

### **Transition Accreditation Pathway**

- A minimum of 20 hours training or professional development in supervision
- 50 hours of client contact in the role of supervisor over a minimum of 2 years
- 10 hours of supervision on supervision practice

### **Application process**

Application for Accreditation as Supervisor are to be made using the Accredited Supervisor Application Form. A non-refundable application fee of \$99, inclusive of GST, is payable.

### **Renewal requirements**

The renewal process for Accredited Supervisor listing is included in the annual renewal form for PACFA registration. There is an annual renewal fee to renew listing as an Accredited Supervisor (for details see the PACFA Schedule of Fees).

### **Professional Development**

The PD requirement for renewal of registration as an Accredited Supervisor as approved by the PACFA Council is:

- 20 hours of professional development in the previous 12 months;
- It is recommended that 10 points of the professional development time relates specifically to supervision practice.

## **Supervision requirements**

The supervision requirement for registration renewal as an Accredited Supervisor, as approved by the PACFA Council, will be:

- 15 hours of formal supervision linked to practice in the previous 12 months;
- It is recommended that 5 hours of the supervision time relates specifically to supervision practice.

In practice, how the supervision time each year is fulfilled is determined by the individual requirements of the Registrant. Hence the choice of supervisor(s) would reflect those aspects of supervision appropriate to the supervisee's different roles. For example:

- Supervision for clinical practice
- Supervision for supervisor role
- Supervision for trainer role
- Supervision for group leadership/group supervision role

The allocation of supervision time over the course of any given year needs to mirror the ratio of the Registrant's various roles during that period.

Documentation of the focus of supervision sessions will be necessary to support applications for the Supervisor Register and in the future this documentation will also be required to support renewal of listing as an Accredited Supervisor.

To ensure that your documentation will be adequate to achieve listing as an Accredited Supervisor and for the purposes of renewal of this listing each year, PACFA recommends the use of a Supervision Log by Registrants showing, for example, where sessions are utilised for clinical work or for supervision on supervision. If the supervisory focus encompasses more than one aspect of the supervisee's work within the one supervision session, then the proportion of the supervision session used for supervision on supervision and the proportion used for another role are to be clearly stated. The log is to be countersigned by the supervisor.