Member Application Instruction Manual

September 2019
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Introduction

This Instruction Manual is divided into four sections. All applicants are advised to begin by reading Section A. Then select the section to review that provides instruction depending on the membership category you are applying for.

- Professional Member Applicants – Read Section A and B
- Student Member Applicants – Read Section A and C
- Supporting Member Applicants – Read Section A and D

Membership Categories

Review Membership Categories and select the category appropriate for your membership eligibility and benefits.

Professional:

Apply for this category if you meet one or more requirements for professional membership:

- New graduate from a Therapeutic Recreation program or Recreation and / or Leisure program with specified coursework and practicum requirements.
- CTRS designation from NCTRC.
- Current membership in good standing as a Recreation Therapy professional in another jurisdiction and have substantially equivalent membership requirements.
- Currently practicing, supervising, teaching or returning to practice after a Leave of Absence (LOA) of 3 consecutive years and who meet academic and clinical placement requirements.
- Professional Members are entitled to serve as a Director and vote for Directors, Bylaw amendments, professional issues and can serve on
Professional Advancement Committees. Benefits include but are not limited to professional networking, communities of practice, bursaries, awards and professional guiding documents to ensure your ongoing competence.

- Professional members are entitled to a 50% discount off the membership with the Canadian Therapeutic Recreation Association (CTRA).
- **Note:** Effective April 1, 2021 ATRA will require new applicants for Professional Membership to have a degree in Therapeutic Recreation or Recreation / Leisure Studies degree. The Degree program is required to meet specified coursework and practicum criteria.
Student:

Apply for this category if you meet one or more of the following requirements for student membership:

- Enrolled in one or more courses towards the completion of a diploma, post graduate certificate, bachelors / masters / doctorate degree whose title contains Therapeutic Recreation or Recreation & Leisure Studies.

- Student Members do not serve as Directors or vote for Directors, Bylaw amendments, professional issues or serve on Professional Advancement Committees. Student members are eligible to vote on their Chapter Student Representative. Benefits include but are not limited to bursary programs, standardized clinical placement requirements, and access to professional guiding documents.

- ATRA Student Members receive a free Student membership with the Canadian Therapeutic Recreation Association (CTRA).

- **New Graduates**: If you have graduated please apply for Professional Membership.

- **Note**: ATRA professional members who continue to work in therapeutic recreation while taking courses are expected to maintain Professional Membership.
Supporting:

- Apply for this category if you are interested in furthering the objectives of ATRA and are not eligible for Professional or Student Membership.
- Supporting Members do not serve as Directors or vote for Directors, Bylaw amendments, professional issues or serve on Professional Advancement Committees.
- Benefits include professional networking opportunities, reduced rates for symposia, conferences and webinars and a 50% discount off Supporting Membership with the Canadian Therapeutic Recreation Association.

Disclaimer: Membership Applications in any membership category may be deferred, refused or conditions imposed if the renewal applicant does not meet membership criteria.

Who can I contact at ATRA for more information?
If after reading this Application Instruction Manual you have additional questions or concerns, send an email to vicepresident@alberta-tr.org.
Section A - Information for All Applicants:
Professional, Student & Supporting

Application Process

This introductory section applies to all applicants for ATRA’s three membership categories – Professional, Student and Supporting. By providing this information you have initiated your application for membership. Applications for both the Professional Membership and Student Membership require the submission of additional documents. You will find additional information in the following material. If your application is accepted you will be assigned a membership number and access to your online Member Profile.

What is a Member Profile?

Each ATRA Member is assigned an online Member Profile account with membership acceptance. The Professional Member Profile contains your employment information and an area to record your Continuing Education Units required in ATRA’s Continuing Competence Program.

To edit your Member Profile you will sign in to your account to make changes to your legal name and contact information.

As a professional member, you can also make changes to your employment information and upload brochures or certificates of participation in ATRA’s Continuing Competence Program.
Applicant’s Declaration

Read and complete the online declaration carefully before checking the box.

☐ I declare that I clearly understand that providing false or misleading information on this application is considered unprofessional conduct and will result in my membership application being declined. I also understand that I will receive all correspondence from ATRA electronically.
Membership Category

The first choice you will make in the online membership application process is to select the membership category that best suits your needs. You will be automatically directed to the appropriate online application sections.

Member Category Options

☐ Professional
☐ Student
☐ Supporting

CTRA Membership

The second step is for you to decide if you will become a member of the Canadian Therapeutic Recreation Association (CTRA). CTRA benefits include continuing education, access to professional resources offered by the national association and an opportunity for Professional Members to serve on the Board of Directors.

ATRA Professional and Supporting Members are entitled to a 50% discount off membership fees with CTRA. ATRA Student Members receive a free CTRA Student Membership.

Select this option to obtain this member benefit.

ATRA will remit fees on your behalf and you will receive a separate membership package directly from CTRA.

Reduced CTRA Rates with ATRA Membership

☐ CTRA Professional Member – Annual fee $75.00 + GST
☐ CTRA Student Member – Annual fee $0.00
☐ CTRA Supporting Member – Annual fee $75.00 + GST
Chapter Affiliation

ATRA maintains four chapters that govern and address local needs. Your provincial membership allows you to select a chapter affiliation to belong to.

To obtain notices of meetings, to network in person and participate in educational opportunities select the ATRA Chapter closest to your geographical location.

☐ Lethbridge
☐ Medicine Hat
☐ Calgary (Central)
☐ Edmonton (North)

Meetings may be hosted in a variety of venues located within each Chapter. Watch for meeting notices and announcements from your designated Chapter.
Communities of Practice (CoP)

CoP’s are groups of individuals who share a concern or passion for a subject and interact with one another on an ongoing basis to expand their knowledge and develop their expertise. Select one or several communities of practice that you have an interest in. ATRA uses this information to connect therapists, educators and researchers into communities of practice.

**Indirect Client Service**

*Administration / Manager* – primary focus of activities is on management of services, or the development of policy and / or programs.

*Client Caseload Management* – primary focus of activities is the management of client services across the health care continuum, specifically the coordination of multiple services as required for client care.

*Professional Practice Lead* – A leadership role that provides professional practice expertise and promotes practice excellence.

*Education* – focus of activities is directed at providing post-secondary teaching to individuals registered in formal education programs.

*Research* – focus of activities is in knowledge development and dissemination of research.

**Direct Client Service**

*Children and Youth* – services provided to clients from birth to age seventeen.

*Developmental Disabilities* – services to individuals with mental or physical impairments originating prior to the age of 18 and lasting throughout their lifespan.

*General Physical Health* – services provided to clients with a variety of general physical health issues.

*Geriatric* – services provided to elderly clients.

*Mental Health & Addictions* – services provided to clients with a variety of mental health and addiction challenges.

*Rehabilitation: Cardiovascular and Respiratory* – services provided to clients with a variety of cardiovascular and / or respiratory health issues.

*Rehabilitation: Digestive/Metabolic/Endocrine* service provided to clients with e.g. diabetes, obesity, etc.
Rehabilitation: Musculoskeletal – services provided to clients with a variety of musculoskeletal health issues.

Rehabilitation: Neurological – services provided to clients with a variety of neurological health issues. e.g. Brain Injury, spinal cord injury, stroke.

Palliative Care – services provided to clients with the aim of relieving suffering and improving the quality of life for persons who are living with or dying from advanced illness or who are bereaved.

Other – area of practice not identified.
Personal Information

**Name:** Your membership record must contain your full legal name. Enter your full legal name exactly as it appears on your government issued identification.

**Gender:** Indicate your self-identified gender by selecting your choice of those provided in the drop down list. ATRA uses this information to provide statistics to Alberta Labour without disclosing personal information.

**Date of Birth:** Enter your date of birth using the format of month / day / year. ATRA uses this information to provide statistics to Alberta Labour without disclosing personal information.

**Contact Information:** Provide your current telephone number(s), primary email secondary email and residential address, so we may contact you regarding your application and membership services. If this information changes after your application is processed you must make these changes in your *Member Profile*.

*Personal Information Protection* ATRA collects information from members to perform the business of ATRA. This includes determining eligibility for membership registration and maintaining the membership register. The information is also used to support activities that further the mission of the association and workforce planning.
Section B Professional Member Applicants

Pathways to ATRA Professional Membership

Select one of three entry pathways to become an ATRA Professional member. Please review each of the options to determine your best option.

Pathway A: Academic Track –
(New graduate or new professional member applicant to ATRA)

Initiate application online.

A. Graduate from a nationally or internationally accredited post-secondary institution meeting three criteria:
   1. Degree or post degree title recreation therapy or therapeutic recreation. A title of recreation and leisure studies is accepted with a specialization / minor in therapeutic recreation.
   2. OR until April 30, 2021, a diploma with degree transfer designation in recreation therapy, therapeutic recreation or recreation and leisure studies is accepted with a specialization / minor in therapeutic recreation. Note: Effective May 1, 2021, the diploma option for new Professional Member applicants will no longer be accepted.
   3. Examples of degrees / diplomas titles not accepted: Recreation and Sport, Management or Tourism (without a specialization or minor in therapeutic recreation), kinesiology, physical education, adapted physical education, community rehabilitation or rehabilitation assistant.

B. Academic Coursework:
   1. Three (3) courses in Therapeutic Recreation (minimum) [3.0 credits each].
   2. Three (3) courses in General Recreation, Leisure, Leadership or Play [3.0 credits each].
   3. Six (6) supporting courses across three Clinically related Areas [3.0 credits each]:
      a. Psychology (General, Abnormal, Educational, Counseling)
      b. Sociology (Group Dynamics, Leadership, Volunteerism)
      c. Education (Special, Physical, Early Childhood)
      d. Therapies (Music, Art, Dance, Drama)
C. Clinical Practicum:

Applicants graduating after May 1, 2011 are required to submit the Practicum Reporting Form. You will find this form on the Application Process Documents page located in the Application & Renewals section of the ATRA Website.

Pathway B: Certification Track –

Initiate application online.

Applicants that have already met criteria and are certified as a CTRS by NCTRC will select this pathway. Provide your certification number online and complete all required data fields. ATRA will verify your current certification with NCTRC. You will be notified if verification was not successful.

Note: ATRA does not require Professional Members to be certified by NCTRC.

Pathway C: Return to Practice Track

Initiate application by submitting form

Applicants who were once previous ATRA Professional Members (academic credentials previously assessed by ATRA) AND have been on a leave of Absence from ATRA of over three consecutive years or more. You will find the required form in the Application Process Documents page of the Application & Renewal section of the ATRA Website.
Pathway A: Academic Track - Additional Steps

Step One: Initiate the application process by completing the online sections and submitting required fees

Step Two:
To complete your official application you must send in:

1. **Application Checklist**: The applicant emails or mails a copy of the Application Check list. You will find this form in the Application Process Documents page in the Application & Renewal Section of the ATRA website. 

2. **Therapeutic Recreation Practicum Placement Confirmation Form**. The applicant emails or mails the practicum placement confirmation form. This form is available in both the Student and Application sections of ATRA’s website. Both the student and the professional preceptor must sign the form.

3. **Official transcripts**
   a. **Official transcripts**. Each transcript must include the registrar signature and seal to be considered official.
   b. The Registrar of the educational institution emails or mails (official/original) sealed transcripts directly to ATRA (preferable).
   c. Or the applicant mails official sealed transcripts directly to ATRA.
   d. Faxes, scans or copies of official transcripts will not be accepted.

4. **Timely manner**: Arrange to submit your official transcript and clinical placement verification within ten days of completing the online section.

The Membership Review Committee approves all applications for Professional Membership. The Committee meets **once per month** to review all completed applications. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed until all of the required information, documents and fees are received. Once membership is approved, it will generally be processed within 7 - 10 business days of the committee meeting. If there are any issues with the membership, the Membership Review Committee will contact the applicant for further information.
Pathway C: Return to Practice Track - Additional Steps

Return to Practice applicants will submit a completed Return to Practice Re-Application Form that is located in the Application Process Documents page of the Applications & Renewals section of ATRA’s website. Applicants do not complete the online Application Form.

Applicant will provide evidence of Therapeutic Recreation experience:

1. Proof of ATRA Professional Membership is a requirement for present employment.
2. Current job description that outlines roles and responsibilities that aligns with the Competency Profile of Recreation Therapists in Alberta. You will find this document in the About Section of the ATRA website.
3. Resume outlining professional experience and roles related to therapeutic recreation, health and professional practice.
4. Continuing Competence Evaluation: submission of Continuing Competence Form listing forty – five (45) Competence Education Units obtained within the previous three years. You will find this document in the Application Process Documents page of the Applications section of the ATRA website.
Employment Information

Information on employment status, employer, facility, and area of practice are collected by ATRA to assist with workforce planning purposes and to facilitate professional networking. Please do not submit information on positions for which you are not provided with compensation such as volunteer positions.

Employment Status in the field of Recreation Therapy

Indicate only one employment category for each employment.

- **Permanent Full Time** is one who works more than thirty-six (36) hours per week with regularly scheduled shifts of a continuing nature.
- **Permanent Part Time** is one who works less than thirty-six (36) hours per week with scheduled shifts of a continuing nature.
- **Temporary** is one who is hired on a temporary basis for a full-time or part-time position:
  - For a specific job of more than three (3) months and less than twelve (12) months; or
  - To replace a full-time or part-time employee who is on a leave due to illness or injury where the employee on leave has indicated to the employer that the duration of such leave will be in excess of three (3) months (Alberta Labour, 2014, pp. 2 – 4).
- **Casual** is one who works to provide service in the absence of another employee or to provide additional support.
- **Self – Employed** is one who works more than thirty-six (36) hours per week independently without anyone overseeing his or her activities and provides their own workspace.
- **Un-employed** employment in the field of Recreation Therapy is currently not a requirement for professional membership.

**Note:** If at anytime throughout the year your employment status changes after your membership has been processed change this information on your *Member Profile.*
Primary Employer Information

ATRA recognizes that membership may have more than one position in the field of Recreation Therapy and accommodates up to three employment situations. Primary employment refers to the job with the greatest number of hours worked either with an employer or in a self-employment arrangement.

If applicable, complete required information in the same manner on your secondary and third employment.

Employer / Facility

Employer - e.g. Alberta Health Services; Lifestyle Options, etc.

Employment Facility - List the name of the facility where you work primarily e.g. Cypress View LTC. If your employment requires you to provide service in a number of facilities, record the facility that is considered your home base.
Employment Position

Select the job title that best describes your position.

**Administration / Manager** – major role is management

**Client Caseload Management** – primary focus of activities is the management of client services across the health care continuum, specifically the coordination of multiple services as required for client care.

**Professional Practice Lead** – A leadership role that provides professional practice expertise and promotes practice excellence.

**Educator** – Major role is as an educator for students enrolled within a therapeutic recreation program or course.

**Recreation Therapist** – primary role is the direct service provision of recreation therapy services as defined by ATRA’s Standards of Practice and Competency Profile.

**Recreation Therapy Assistant** – primary role is the direct service provision of recreation therapy services under the direct supervision of a Recreation Therapist. (Helgason, Suntjens & McMillan, 2016).

**Researcher** – Major role is in knowledge development and dissemination of research.
Employment Agency
Select the agency that best describes the organization where you work a majority of the time.

**Acute Care Hospital** – a health care facility that offers a range of inpatient and outpatient health care services (e.g. medical, surgical, psychiatry, etc.) available to the target population.

**Association / Government** – an organization or government that deals with regulation, advocacy, policy development, program development, research and / or the protection of the public at a national, provincial / territorial regional or municipal level.

**Community Recreation / Leisure Service Provider** – a municipality that offers recreation therapy services as defined by ATRA’s Standards of Practice and Competency Profile

**Day Program** – a therapeutic recreation program of activities offered in a community setting designed to promote well-being through social and health related services for adults and respite services for caregivers (CCADS, 2017)

**Home Care** – publicly funded personal and health care services including recreation therapy for clients of all ages living in a private residence or other residential setting (AHS, 2017).

**Mental Health Hospital / Facility** – health care facility that has as its primary focus the post acute, inpatient and / or outpatient care of individuals with mental health issues and illness.

**Owner / Operator Professional Practice** – a community based professional practice / business organized around the delivery of recreation therapy services by a single professional. Support staff may be involved, however, the health
professional is the focus of service provision.

**Post Secondary Education Institution** – a post secondary institution either a university or a college with a primary focus on the delivery of formal education.

**Public Health Centre** – a community based organization that may be the first point of contact for clients, offering a range of primary health, social and / or other non-institutional based services, including recreation therapy, i.e. Primary Care Network.

**Rehabilitation Hospital / Clinic** - health care facility that has as its primary focus the acute or post-acute, inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation of individuals.

**Residential Care Facility** – Refers to a licensed or regulated health facility that provides 24-hour skilled or immediate nursing care (that is, qualified nurses are on-site and available to respond immediately, if required). Includes long-term care facilities, nursing homes, special care homes, homes for the aged.

**Supportive Living Residence** – a non-institutional or institutional community setting that integrates a shared living environment with varying degrees of supportive services of the following types: supervision, housekeeping, personal care, meal service, transportation social and recreation opportunities.

**Other** – employment type not otherwise describe. Specify.
Employment Practice Area
Select the practice areas that best describe the type of service that you provide a majority of the time.

**Indirect Client Service**

**Administration / Manager** – primary focus of activities is on management of services, or the development of policy and / or programs.

**Client Caseload Management** – primary focus of activities is the management of client services across the health care continuum, specifically the coordination of multiple services as required for client care.

**Professional Practice Lead** – A leadership role that provides professional practice expertise and promotes practice excellence.

**Education** – focus of activities is directed at providing post secondary teaching to individuals registered in formal education programs.

**Research** – focus of activities is in knowledge development and dissemination of research.

**Direct Client Service**

**Children and Youth** – services provided to clients from birth to age seventeen.

**Developmental Disabilities** – services to clients with mental or physical impairments originating prior to the age of 18 and lasting throughout their lifespan.

**General Physical Health** – services provided to clients with a variety of general physical health issues.

**Geriatric** – services provided to elderly clients.

**Mental Health & Addictions** – services provided to clients with a variety of mental health and addiction challenges.

**Rehabilitation: Cardiovascular and Respiratory** – services provided to clients with a variety of cardiovascular and / or respiratory health issues.

**Rehabilitation: Digestive / Metabolic / Endocrine** services provided to clients with e.g. diabetes, obesity, etc.
Rehabilitation: Musculoskeletal – services provided to clients with a variety of musculoskeletal health issues.

Rehabilitation: Neurological – services provided to clients with a variety of neurological health issues. e.g. Brain Injury, spinal cord injury, stroke.

Palliative Care – services provided to clients with the aim of relieving suffering and improving the quality of life for persons who are living with or dying from advanced illness or who are bereaved.

Other – area of practice not identified
Employment Related Affiliations

ATRA collects this information to identify what affiliations or additional credentials add value to client service delivery. This information will inform post secondary educational institutions providing therapeutic recreation programs and our Continuing Competence Program of membership competence needs.

Select the associations, societies or organizations that you are currently affiliated with that support your recreation therapy practice.

☐ Alberta Association on Gerontology
☐ Alberta Fitness Leadership Certification Association
☐ Canadian Centre on Activity and Aging
☐ Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology
☐ List other affiliations not identified. If more than one is to be listed, separate with a comma.
Professional Membership Fees

You must pay the application fee to begin the application process. ATRA uses PayPal, a secure online payment protection system to accept your payment in Canadian dollars. If you cancel your application or your application is not accepted your application fee will be refunded.

Prorated Fee Schedule

ATRA’s Professional Membership Year begins April 1 of each year and extends to March 31 of the following year. Applicants are encouraged to apply for membership at any time of the year. Your first membership fees is prorated based on when you apply -

Apply on or after April 1  $300.00 + GST
Apply on or after July 1  $225.00 + GST
Apply on or after October 1  $150.00 + GST
Apply on or after January 1  $75.00 + GST
What to expect after you become a Professional Member

Professional Membership Verification

Verifying your professional membership with ATRA may be required for employment, income tax or other purposes.

ATRA offers several options to assist you with these requests.

1. Keep an electronic and hard copy of the receipt you were issued in your Professional Career file for ready retrieval.
2. Direct those requesting verification to search for your name on ATRA’s Professional Member Verification Website. You will find this located in the Employers Section / Professional Members List.
3. Send a request to application@alberta-tr.org

Membership Renewal

ATRA requires all members to renew their membership once a year every year. ATRA’s membership year is April 1 of each year and extends to March 31 of the following year. In February of each year you will begin to receive notice to renew your annual membership fees at a cost of $300.00 + GST.
Continuing Competence Program

Ongoing **Professional Membership** status requires mandatory participation in ATRA’s Continuing Competence Program to ensure Albertans receive therapeutic recreation services from capable, knowledgeable and skilled practitioners who are able to apply advances in the profession.

ATRA Professional members are required to acquire 45 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) in a 3-year period that aligns with ATRA’s membership year of that begins April 1 of each year and extends to March 31 of the following year.

1. Professional members who are on a leave of absence (LOA) from work or are not working in the TR field for any reason during this 3-year period are required to achieve a minimum of 45 CEUs to ensure competency is maintained. With the change from a 1-year to 3-year Continuing Competence Program, this will allow flexibility for attaining CEUs and maintaining competency despite breaks in practice.

2. Effective March 31, 2018 Professional members will no longer be able to select *Non-practicing status* when submitting their application for renewal as we move to a 3-year CEU Program and recognize the necessity for all Professional members to participate in the Continuing Competence Program on an ongoing basis to maintain competency.

3. **Timeline:** Professional members will enter CEU credits attained since April 1, 2017 directly to their on-line Membership Profile. The first 3-year CEU cycle for a majority of current ATRA Members is 2017 – 2020.

   New professional member applicants, including students transitioning to a professional membership, who apply between April 1 – September 30 will have April 1 of that same membership year as their CEU attainment start date. For those applying between October 1 – March 31, the CEU attainment start date will be April 1 of the following membership year.

4. **Record:** ATRA recommends recording all professional activities identified as qualifying for Continuing Education Units (CEUs) on a regular basis and to attain a minimum of 15 CEUs per year with the goal of achieving 45 CEUs by the end of the 3-year Continuing Competence Program period.

5. **Proof:** Professional Members are required to retain proof of their learning activities that support CEU attainment. It may include conference brochures,
CEU statements from education sessions, conference/education receipts, certificates of participation, copies of presentations, etc.

6. **Audit:** Every three years, your personal Continuing Competence Program is subject to a random audit to verify your professional commitment to maintaining and enhancing your practice to protect and serve the public. You must retain records from your portfolio for a minimum of four years.

7. **Accountability:** In the event you do not meet the CEU requirements of 45 units in a three-year period, your membership status will be recorded as *Professional Member with Conditional CEU Status.*
   a. You will develop and submit a *Continuing Competence Learning Plan* to the [competencedirector@alberta-tr.org](mailto:competencedirector@alberta-tr.org) indicating how the CEU shortfall will be made up. ATRA’s Continuing Competence Director or designate will review your plan and provide guidance as needed.
   b. In addition to meeting your CEU shortfall, you will need to continue to attain 45 CEU’s for the concurrent 3 – year period. *Conditional CEU Status* will remain in effect until the CEU shortfall has been met and authorized by the Continuing Competence Director.
   c. Information related to participation in an individual’s Continuing Competence Plan is maintained in accordance with the Alberta Government’s *Personal Information Protection Act (PIPA)* and kept confidential between the ATRA BOD and staff and the individual.
Section C – Student Member Applicants

Two – step Process
Applying for Student Membership is a two-step process.

Step One: Initiate the application process by completing the online sections and submitting required fees

Step Two: Complete the application by scanning and submitting a jpeg of your student Identification card.

Timely manner: Arrange to submit your official transcript and clinical placement verification within ten days of completing the online section

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| application@alberta-tr.org | Alberta Therapeutic Recreation Association  
ATTN: Application  
P.O. Box 19531, Cranston PO  
Calgary, Alberta  
T3M 0V4 |

Membership Renewal ATRA requires all members to renew their membership once a year every year. ATRA’s membership year begins April 1 of each year and extends to March 31 of the following year. In February you will begin to receive notice to renew your annual membership fees at a cost of $300.00 + GST.

Renew your Student Membership if you are continuing your formal therapeutic recreation education and are taking one or more courses towards the completion of a diploma, post graduate certificate, bachelors / masters / doctorate degree whose title contains Therapeutic Recreation or Recreation & Leisure Studies.
New Graduates

ATRA Student Members are encouraged to apply for Professional Membership with ATRA upon graduation from your therapeutic recreation program.

ATRA supports student membership with an application reduction fee when the student applies for professional membership. “If you are graduating after you have already renewed your student membership for the year, you will not be charged any additional fees for the balance of that membership year”.

You will find this information on our website - http://www.alberta-tr.org/students/finished-your-education.aspx
Section D – Supporting Member Applicants

This application process is for applicants for Supporting Membership with the Alberta Therapeutic Recreation Association (ATRA). Apply for this category if you are interested in furthering the objectives of ATRA and are **not** eligible for Professional or Student Membership.

Note: individuals **ineligible** for this category include those:

- Individuals who are on LOA from the recreation therapy field for up to 3 years. These individuals are required to maintain **Professional Membership** and participate in the Continuing Competence Program.
- Individuals who are not working in the recreation therapy field but may wish to re-enter the profession in the future and do not wish to apply as a new applicant and meet entry to practice criteria at the time of application. These individuals are required to maintain **Professional Membership** and participate in the Continuing Competence Program.
- Professional members of other provincial Therapeutic Recreation Associations will need to apply as a Professional member.
Appendix A
Application Check List for Professional Membership
Name: ___________________________ Date: ____________

Application Process
Applying for Professional Membership requires you to complete the online application, pay fees and submit required documents. Complete this Checklist electronically OR download, complete by hand and scan. You will find this Checklist in Appendix A of this Manual and the Application Section of ATRA’s Website.

Regular mail and email are the only acceptable ways to send the required supporting documents to complete your application. Submissions sent by fax or courier will not be accepted.

Include with your checklist

1. Completed Checklist
☐ Include this completed checklist so the Membership Review Committee know which documents will be sent separately.

2. Identification
☐ If your name on any document submitted with your application is different than the name under which you are applying, you must also include a photocopy of documentation too support the name change. An example of documentation is a government issued marriage certificate or Legal Change of Name Document.

3. Clinical Placement & Academic Preparation
☐ Entry A applicants only: Practicum Placement Form(s)
☐ Entry A applicants only: Official transcripts from the college(s) or university(s) to confirm your educational course content.

4. Third Party verification
☐ Entry B applicants only: ATRA will directly verify your current certification with NCTRC. You will be notified if additional supportive documentation is necessary.

Send email to:
application@alberta-tr.org

Send by mail to:
Alberta Therapeutic Recreation Association
ATTN: Application
P.O. Box 19531, Cranston PO
Calgary, Alberta
T3M 0V4

ATRA’s Membership Review Committee approves all applications for Professional Membership. The Committee meets once per month to review all completed applications. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed until all of the required information, documents and fees are received. Once membership is approved, it will generally be processed within 7 - 10 business days of the committee meeting. If there are any issues with the membership, the Membership Review Committee will contact the applicant for further information.
### Appendix B

#### Professional Member – Return to Practice Reapplication Form

Applicants who were once previous ATRA Professional Membership (academic credentials previously assessed by ATRA) **AND** have been on a leave of Absence from ATRA of over three consecutive years or more

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<tr>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Applicant Name:</th>
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<tr>
<th>Previous ATRA Membership Number:</th>
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<td>If you do not have this information, you can request ATRA to locate the data.</td>
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<th>Primary Email:</th>
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Complete all areas, print, attach required documents and mail - OR – email to application@alberta-tr.org.

- **ATRA Membership a requirement for present employment**
  Provide evidence in the form of a letter from your employer or other means that ATRA Professional Membership commitments and benefits are required for your present employment

- **Job Description**
  Attach a copy of your current Job Description that outlines roles and responsibilities that aligns with the Competency Profile of Recreation Therapists in Alberta. You will find this profile in the About section of the ATRA Website.

- **Resume**
  Attach a copy of your resume that outlines professional experience and roles related to therapeutic recreation, health and professional practice.

- **Continuing Competence Evaluation**
  Submit the ATRA Continuing Competence Form listing forty-five (45) Continuing Education Units.
  Find this document in the Application Process Documents page of the Applications section of the ATRA website.

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<th>Send email to:</th>
<th>Send mail to:</th>
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<td><a href="mailto:application@alberta-tr.org">application@alberta-tr.org</a></td>
<td>Alberta Therapeutic Recreation Association</td>
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<td>ATTN: Application</td>
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<td>T3M 0V4</td>
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References


Canadian Coalition of Adult Day Services, 2017. What is a Day Program. Retrieved from the CCADS website http://ccadsonline.ca/