



Professional Associations and Industry Bodies

Professional associations are nonprofit organisations that seek to further a particular profession, provide professional standards and help their individual members advance their careers. Membership to professional associations can enhance your understanding of careers, increase your industry networks, offer certifications, education, advocacy and employment news and be a source for funding and career development opportunities.

Also listed in this document are various industry bodies who offer a range of information, support and resources for career development.

Further information about careers in your area can be found in the **Careers Links** document located [here](#).

- **Biochemistry & molecular biology**
- **Bioengineering systems** (see Engineering/IT)
- **Biotechnology** (see Science)
- **Cell & developmental biology**
- **Genetics** (see Science)
- **Health Informatics**
- **Human structure and function**
- **Immunology**
- **Microbiology & immunology**
- **Neuroscience**
- **Pathology**
- **Pharmacology**
- **Physiology**

Australian Society for Medical Research

www.asmr.org.au

The Australian Society for Medical Research (ASMR) is the peak professional society representing Australian health and medical research. In addition to direct members, ASMR represents an additional 18,000 people actively involved in health and medical research through fifty-six (56) affiliated professional societies and Medical Colleges.

Australian Institute of Medical Scientists

www.aims.org.au

The Australian Institute of Medical Scientists (AIMS) is the professional association representing medical scientists in all disciplines of pathology working predominantly in hospital and private medical laboratories in Australia. AIMS is involved in establishing and maintaining the high academic and professional standards of medical scientists and provides medical scientists with the opportunity to continually update their professional knowledge through national and state scientific meetings, a scientific journal and newsletters and postgraduate programs, such as the Fellowship.

Association of Australian Medical Research Institutes

<http://aamri.org.au/>

The Association of Australian Medical Research Institutes (AAMRI) was formed in 1993 as the peak body that represents Australia's independent medical research institutes. Since that time, we have adapted to changes in the health and medical research advocacy landscape, while promoting the unique interests of our member organisations. All members of AAMRI are recognised leaders in health and medical research, both in Australia and internationally.

National Health & Medical Research Council

<http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/>

NHMRC is Australia's leading expert body for: supporting health and medical research; developing health advice for the Australian community, health professionals and governments; providing advice on ethical behaviour in health care; and in the conduct of health and medical research.

Australian Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

<http://www.asbmb.org.au/>

The Australian Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology unites biochemists and molecular biologists from around Australia. ASBMB is devoted to promoting research, new developments and education in biochemistry and molecular biology. It achieves this in several ways, as described below.

Australian Association of Clinical Biochemists

<http://www.aacb.asn.au/>

The AACB is the major professional society for practicing clinical biochemists in Australia and New Zealand. The AACB welcomes graduates in science and medicine together with technicians, students and others with an interest in clinical biochemistry.

Biochemical Society

www.biochemistry.org/

The Biochemical Society promotes the advancement of the Molecular Biosciences, representing the interests of all those working in the sector. We also believe that we are part of a Bioscience community with a proliferation of learned societies with whom we work to foster a community of Bioscientists.

Australia and New Zealand Society for Cell and Developmental Biology

<http://www.anzscdb.org/>

ANZSCDB is one of Australia's oldest Scientific Societies supporting research in cell and developmental biology across the board - senior and early career researchers, and students. ANZSCDB is a member of the Australian [Academy of Science](#); the [National Committee for Cell and Developmental Biology](#); the [International Federation for Cell Biology \(IFCB\)](#); and the [International Society of Developmental Biologists \(ISDB\)](#).

International Society for Developmental Biology

<http://www.sdbonline.org/>

SDB is a non-profit professional society dedicated to advancement of the field of developmental biology. Over recent decades, the SDB has grown from a few hundred members to nearly 2000, and has evolved to provide an international forum for research, education and career development in developmental biology.

Australian Institute of Biology

www.aibiol.org.au/

The Australian Institute of Biology Incorporated (AIB) was formed to represent and develop the biology profession in Australia, promote education and research in biology, improve communication between biologists and speak on behalf of biologists and the biology profession to other organisations and to all levels of government.

Australasian College of Health Informatics

<http://www.achi.org.au/>

ACHI is the professional organisation for Health Informatics in the Asia-Pacific Region which sets standards for professional practice and education in Health Informatics. The college has free membership for students who are currently enrolled in Health Informatics-related subject or study program.

Health Informatics Society of Australia

<http://www.hisa.org.au/>

HISA is Australia's peak body for the digital health community and is the national affiliate of the International Medical Informatics Association (IMIA)

Australian Institute of Sport

<http://www.ausport.gov.au/ais>

The ASC is Australia's primary national sports administration and advisory agency, and the cornerstone of a wide-ranging sports system. The ASC plays a central leadership role in the development and operation of the Australian sports system, administering and funding innovative sport programs and providing leadership, coordination and support for the sport sector.

Australian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy

www.allergy.org.au

The Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy (ASCIA) is a professional medical organisation, comprised predominantly of Clinical Immunologists, Allergy Specialists and Immunology Scientists. The mission of ASCIA is to advance the science and practice of clinical immunology and allergy, by promoting education and the highest standard of ethical medical practice.

The Australian Society for Microbiology

www.theasm.org.au

ASM aims to advance the science of microbiology in Australia. The society does this through the dissemination of reading material, lectures, seminars, symposia and demonstrations on topics relevant to microbiology, as well as establishing and maintaining suitable standards for the practice of microbiology as a profession.

Haematology Society of Australia & New Zealand

www.hsanz.org.au

HSANZ aims to inform members of the most recent developments in haematology, and to advance knowledge and inspire continued professional development in this exciting discipline.

Australian Neuroscience Society

www.ans.org.au/

A non-profit organisation of scientists and physicians who study the brain and nervous system and are actively involved in research and teaching.

Australian Association of Pathology Practices

www.aapp.asn.au

(AAPP is the national peak body for private pathology in Australia. Our members include both small specialized laboratories as well as large corporations with laboratories nationwide. AAPP members are committed to the provision of high quality, affordable, safe and accessible pathology service to all Australians. Pathology Australia members provide a majority of all community-based pathology services in Australia.

Australasian Society for Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists

www.ascept.org/

ASCEPT was founded in 1966, and held its first scientific meeting a year later. Since that time, ASCEPT has developed into the peak professional society devoted to advancing excellence in Clinical and Experimental Pharmacology and Toxicology in Australasia. Membership is open to persons who are actively engaged in or interested in the pharmacological and toxicological sciences, and who have appropriate qualifications.

ARCS Australia

<http://arcs.com.au>

ARCS is a professional development association for people working in the development of therapeutic goods. (previously the Association of Regulatory and Clinical Scientists)

Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA)

www.psa.org.au/

PSA is the peak national professional pharmacy organisation representing Australia's 25,000 pharmacists working in all sectors and across all locations. PSA provides an extensive program of education and professional development activities across Australia, including a National Intern Training Program.

Australasian Pharmaceutical Science Association

<http://www.apsa-online.org/>

APSA is a professional society for individuals with an interest in pharmacy and the pharmaceutical sciences.

Australian Physiological Society

www.aups.org.au

AuPS is the professional association for Australian physiologists which was founded in 1960. The central aims of AuPS include promoting the advancement of the science of Physiology, encouraging of all aspects of research and teaching in this discipline and engaging in the general dissemination of knowledge of this and related disciplines.

Australia Chinese Association for Biomedical Sciences

www.acabs.org.au/

The Australia Chinese Association for Biomedical Sciences Inc. (ACABS) is a large independent non-profit professional organisation established by Australian Chinese Scholars in the fields of biological and medical sciences. The organization has formal members of more than 70 professionals in the sectors of biological medical research and practice with the headquarter being currently in Melbourne.

Related Fields

- **Audiology**
- **Dental Surgery**
- **Genetic Counselling**
- **Medicine**
- **Nursing Science**
- **Optometry**
- **Physiotherapy**
- **Psychology**
- **Public health**
- **Social Work**
- **Speech Pathology**

Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association

<http://ahha.asn.au/>

The Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association (AHHA), formerly Australian Healthcare Association (AHA), is the independent peak membership body and advocate for the Australian healthcare system and a national voice for universally accessible, high quality healthcare in Australia. The AHHA is uniquely positioned to facilitate collaboration between clinicians, academics, policy makers, administrators and politicians.

Victorian Healthcare Association

<http://www.vha.org.au/>

VHA is an independent, not-for-profit peak body working to improve population health outcomes through the advancement of health service delivery across Victoria. Our members include public hospitals, rural and regional health services, aged care facilities, community health services and primary care providers.

Public Health Association of Australia

www.phaa.net.au

In Australia, the Public Health Association of Australia Inc (PHAA) provides a forum for the exchange of ideas, knowledge and information on public health. The Association is also involved in advocacy for public health policy, development, research and training. PHAA has Branches in every state and territory. Membership of around 1900 individuals spans the health spectrum and over 40 public health related occupations are represented.

Allied Health Professionals Australia

<http://www.ahpa.com.au/>

AHPA is the recognised national peak body representing 78,000 allied health professions in Australia. Collectively, the 22 national organisations within AHPA represent the following professions: Audiologists, Chiropractors, Dietitians, Exercise Physiologists, Genetic Counsellors, Music Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Orthoptists, Orthotist/Prosthetists, Osteopaths, Hospital Pharmacists, Physiotherapists, Podiatrists, Perfusionists, Psychologists, Social Workers, Sonographers, Speech Pathologists, with the Associations for Audiometrists, Diabetes Educators, Diversional Therapists and Practice Managers as Friends.

Australian Institute of Environmental Health

www.eh.org.au

Environmental Health Australia (EHA) is the premier environmental health professional organisation in Australia which advocates regarding environmental health issues and represents the professional interests of all environmental health practitioners. EHA is committed to the professional development and status of its members and the enhancement of environmental health standards and services to the community through advocacy, promotion, education and leadership.

Audiology Australia

<http://www.audiology.asn.au/>

Audiology Australia is the peak body representing audiologists. In Australia audiologists are the primary specialists responsible for the non-medical management of ear disorders. Our mission is to provide leadership in the science and practice of audiology through advocacy, promotion, education and networking.

Australian Association of Audiologists in Private Practice

<http://www.aaapp.org.au/>

The mission of Independent Audiologists Australia Inc is to promote and support clinical practices owned by Audiologists.

New Zealand Audiological Society

<http://www.audiology.org.nz/>

To promote better hearing health care for the community by supporting the professional needs of our members.

Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons

www.racds.org/

The Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons is a postgraduate education body established primarily to improve the knowledge and skills of dental practitioners. The College has a particular role in providing a type of postgraduate education alternative to the study required for higher degrees in universities which is not always possible for those engaged in the private practice of dentistry.

Australian Dental Association

<http://www.ada.org.au/>

Primary objectives of the ADA are to encourage the improvement of the oral and general health of the public, promote the ethics, art and science of dentistry and support members to provide safe, high quality professional oral care.

Human Genetics Society of Australasia

<https://www.hgsa.org.au/>

HGSA provides a forum for the various disciplines represented under the title Human Genetics

Australian Medical Association

www.ama.com.au

The Australian Medical Association (AMA) is the peak membership organisation representing the registered medical practitioners (doctors) and medical students of Australia. The AMA promotes and protects the professional interests of doctors and the health care needs of patients and communities

Australian College of Nursing

<http://www.acn.edu.au/>

ACN is able to provide the nursing expertise and experience when government departments and key stakeholders are deciding the future of health. We ensure that nurses have a say in how the profession is shaped and its place in the health care system. We provide a platform for nurse experts. ACN is the voice of influence, with our network encompassing the key decision makers and influencers in nursing.

Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association

<http://www.apna.asn.au/>

APNA is the peak professional body for nurses working in primary health care. Its aim is to advance professional recognition, ensure workforce sustainability, nurture leadership in health, and optimise the role of nurses in a patient-centre care

Optometrists Association Australia

www.optometrists.asn.au/

Optometrists Association Australia is the peak professional body for Australian optometrists. The Association is committed to assisting optometrists deliver quality eye and vision care services across Australia. Services and resources provided by the Association include representation of optometrists to government and other bodies, as well as development and sharing of information.

Australian Physiotherapy Association

www.physiotherapy.asn.au/

The Australian Physiotherapy Association (APA) is the peak body representing the interests of Australian physiotherapists and their patients. The APA is a national organisation with non-autonomous state and territory branches and specialty subgroups. The APA is committed to the concept of continuing professional education. The APA offers members advanced training and the possibility of collegial support from physiotherapists working in a similar area through its 14 national groups.

Australian Psychological Society

<https://www.psychology.org.au/>

The Australian Psychological Society (APS) is the largest professional association for psychologists in Australia, representing over 20,000 members. The APS is committed to advancing psychology as a discipline and profession. It spreads the message that psychologists make a difference to peoples' lives, through improving scientific knowledge and community wellbeing.

Australian College of Psychologists

www.accp.org.au

The Australian College of Psychologists is a professional association devoted to the support and development of practising psychologists in Australia. The Australian College of Psychologists was formed in 1980 and is legally incorporated. The College is committed to psychology as a profession, a social science and as a means of promoting human welfare. The College aims to uphold professional standards of practice through training, supervision and peer review.

Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia

www.pacfa.org.au

The Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia, Inc. is the Federation of Professional Associations of psychotherapists and counsellors formed after lengthy national consultation involving many of the leading educators in these fields. There are 29 member associations which accept the professional standards set and which adhere to the ethical guidelines established.

Australian Association for Cognitive and Behaviour Therapy

www.aacbt.org

(AACBT is a non-profit organisation which promotes the scientific study and ethical practice in understanding and changing cognitions and behaviours in applied settings. It is the national professional body for practitioners and researchers of cognitive and behavioural therapies, with branches in most Australian states.

Australian Association of Social Workers

<https://www.aasw.asn.au/>

The Australian Association of Social Workers is the professional representative body of Social Workers in Australia, with more than 7,000 members nation-wide. The AASW's objectives include promoting the profession of social work, establishing, monitoring and improving practice and ethical standards and contributing to the development of social work knowledge and research.

Speech Pathology Australia

<http://www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au/>

Speech Pathology Australia is the national peak body for the speech pathology profession in Australia. Speech pathologists are university trained allied health professionals with expertise in the assessment and treatment of communication and/or swallowing difficulties.

Australian Community Workers Association

<http://www.acwa.org.au/>

The Australian Community Workers Association (ACWA) is the national body for over 500,000 hard working community work practitioners in Australia. ACWA's role is to support community workers in every sphere of their work. We promote the profession of community work as a rewarding career and set standards and a code of ethics as a guide for exemplary practice.

Complementary Medicines Australia

<http://www.cmaustralia.org.au/>

CMA is the leading expert association exclusively committed to a vital and sustainable complementary healthcare products industry. We believe in a holistic healthcare model based on promoting long-term wellness of the community.