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.

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SCIENCE

Study areas:
- Chemical Systems
- Earth Sciences
- Engineering Systems
- Environmental Sciences
- Information Technology
- Life Sciences
- Mathematics and Statistics
- Physical Sciences
- Psychological Sciences

Australian Academy of Science
> www.science.org.au

The objectives of the Academy are to promote science through a range of activities, which include recognition of outstanding contributions to science, education and public awareness, science policy and international relations.

Australian Science Communicators (ASC)
> www.asc.asn.au

The ASC is a network of over 500 people working in science and technology communication across Australia and overseas.

Key aims of ASC include:
- supporting and representing our members,
- promoting the importance of science communication to science, government, communication agencies, and
- working on key national and international projects.

Members include journalists and broadcasters employed by major media outlets, freelance writers and consultants, scientists, teachers and public affairs officers working for research organisations, laboratories and universities.

National Institute of Forensic Science
> www.anzpaa.org.au/nifs

The National Institute of Forensic Science advocates forensic science in Australia and its application. It sponsors and supports research in forensic science, assists with the development and co-ordination of forensic science services between jurisdictions, facilitates information exchange between relevant parties, supports, co-ordinates and conducts training programs in forensic science and co-ordinates the delivery of relevant forensic science quality assurance programs.

Professionals Australia (Formerly APESMA)
> www.professionalsaustralia.org.au

Professionals Australia helps you get ahead by providing support, intelligence and a strong leadership voice. We’re a network of 25,000 professionals working together for a better deal for all members. We support you by offering expert advice on your pay, your conditions and your rights at work. We are also your collective voice, which means strength in numbers, and give you access to industry intelligence.

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CHEMICAL SCIENCES

Study areas:
- Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (see MDHS)
- Chemistry
- Food Science
- Geology (see Earth Sciences)
- Pathology (see MDHS)
- Pharmacology (see MDHS)
- Physics (see Physical Sciences)

The Royal Australian Chemical Institute (RACI)
> www.raci.org.au
RACI is the voice of chemistry in Australia. It advocates the importance of chemistry to the public and all levels of education, industry and government and supports the professional needs and interests of all its members.

The New Zealand Institute of Chemistry (NZIC)  
> nzic.org.nz

The NZIC represents some 1000 members involved in the profession of chemistry. Members participate in the study, practice, teaching, promotion and management of chemistry.

International Union Of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC)  
> www.iupac.org

The IUPAC serves to advance the worldwide aspects of the chemical sciences and to contribute to the application of chemistry in the service of Humankind. As a scientific, international, non-governmental and objective body, IUPAC can address many global issues involving the chemical sciences.

Australian Society of Cosmetic Chemists (ASCC)  
> www.ascc.com.au

The ASCC is a professional scientific organisation that promotes the advancement of the theory and practice of the science and technology of cosmetics, toiletries and perfumery. Membership is open to individuals who are working or interested in the cosmetics, toiletries and perfumery industry.

The Plastics and Chemical Industries Association (PACIA)  
> www.pacia.org.au

PACIA the pre-eminent national body representing Australia’s $40 billion chemistry industry, whose sectors directly employ more than 60,000 people and contribute approximately 11.5 per cent of total Australian manufacturing. Our member companies include chemicals manufacturers, importers and distributors, logistics and supply chain partners, raw material suppliers, plastics fabricators and compounders, chemicals and plastics recyclers and service providers to the industry.

Australian Food and Grocery Council (AFGC)  
> www.afgc.org.au

AFGC is the leading national organisation representing Australia’s packaged food, drink and grocery products manufacturers. The food and grocery product industry is Australia’s largest manufacturing sector.

Foodservice Suppliers Association of Australia (FSAA)  
> fsaa.org.au

The FSAA is the premier national organisation representing all suppliers to the Foodservice Industry.

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EARTH SCIENCES

Study areas:
- Climate and Weather
- Environmental Science (see Environmental Science)
- Geology

Minerals Council of Australia (MCA)  
> www.minerals.org.au

The MCA represents Australia’s exploration, mining and minerals processing industry, nationally and internationally, in its contribution to sustainable development and society. MCA member companies produce more than 85 per cent of Australia’s annual mineral output.

The Minerals Institute: The Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (AusIMM)  
> www.ausimm.com.au

The AusIMM was formed in 1893, representing professionals engaged in all facets of the global minerals sector. With a focus on ‘enhancing professional excellence’, The AusIMM delivers an ongoing program of professional development services to ensure our members are supported throughout their careers to provide high quality professional input to industry and the community.

Australian Institute of Geoscientists (AIG)  
> aig.org.au

AIG is the leading professional institute representing geoscientists in all professional sectors throughout Australia. Many members are consultants and geosciences contractors who are able to assist with consulting assignments or to augment your team in wide range of geoscientific fields, from mineral
and energy exploration to groundwater resource evaluation, environmental remediation and geotechnical assessments, to name but a few. Education is also a major focus of the AIG, through many activities including a student bursary programme.

**Australian Society of Exploration Geophysicists**

> [www.aseg.org.au](http://www.aseg.org.au)

The Australian Society of Exploration Geophysicists is a non-profit company founded in 1970. Its aims are to promote the science of geophysics – and specifically exploration geophysics – throughout Australia, foster fellowship and co-operation between geophysicists, encourage closer understanding and co-operation with other earth scientists and assist in design and teaching of courses in geophysics and to sponsor student sections where appropriate.

**Geological Society of Australia**

> [www.gsa.org.au](http://www.gsa.org.au)

The Geological Society of Australia was established as a non-profit organisation in 1952 to promote, advance and support Earth sciences in Australia. Their primary aims are to cater for a wide diversity of members, influence the decision making processes of government, particularly to support geoscience research and teaching, encourage and promote wider community awareness and application of Earth sciences and provide media and forums for communication in the Earth sciences.

**Australian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society (AMOS)**

> [www.amos.org.au](http://www.amos.org.au)

AMOS is an independent Australian society that supports and fosters interest in meteorology, oceanography and other related sciences, providing a forum for people with a common interest, and by publishing relevant material. The Society helps all those with an interest in the environment including research workers and professionals, those whose work is affected by, and affects, the atmosphere and oceans, and those who simply want to keep up with new findings.

**The Australian Water Association (AWA)**

> [www.awa.asn.au](http://www.awa.asn.au)

The AWA is the national peak water organisation, delivering information, expertise and collaboration for sustainable water management. Membership is broadly-based and multi-disciplinary, covering the entire water cycle.

AWA provides the platform for our water experts, practitioners and businesses to share information, grow expertise and collaborate effectively.

### ENGINEERING SYSTEMS

**Study areas:**

- Bioengineering systems
- Chemical Systems
- Civil Systems
- Computing and Software Systems (see Information Technology)
- Electrical Systems
- Mechanical Systems
- Mechatronics Systems
- Spatial Systems (see Information Technology)

**Engineers Australia, Colleges (EA)**


EA's nine Colleges provide continuing professional development for members through regular conferences, publications and visiting speakers. The Colleges broadly cover all areas of practice in engineering. To learn more or to get involved please browse the Colleges by area of interest.

**Association of Professional Engineers Australia (APEA)**


APEA represents engineers as part of the Professionals Australia network with more than 25,000 members across Australia.

**Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE)**

> [www.atse.org.au](http://www.atse.org.au)

ATSE is an independent body of more than 800 Australian scientists and engineers seeking to enhance Australia's prosperity through technological innovation.

**Consult Australia (CA)**


CA is the industry association for consulting companies in the built environment sector, including engineers, architects, project managers, planners, environmental scientists and quantity surveyors, among others.
**Science**

**PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

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**Association of Consulting Structural Engineers Victoria (ACSEV)**  
> www.acsev.org.au

ACSEV is a professional association of structural engineers that provides technical and professional support to its members.

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**ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES**

**Study areas:**
- Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
- Environmental Science
- Geography

**Ecological Society of Australia (ESA)**  
> www.ecolsoc.org.au

The ESA is the peak group of ecologists in Australia, with over 1,500 members from all states and territories. Its aims include promoting the scientific study of all organisms in relation to their environment, the application of ecological principles in the development, use and conservation of Australia’s natural resources and advising governmental and other agencies in matters where the application of ecological principles may be of assistance.

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**The Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand**  
> www.eianz.org

The Institute has a key role within the Australian and New Zealand communities as a major contributor to the formulation of effective and responsible policies in the broad field of environmental management. The practical consequence of the Institute’s involvement in environmental management reform processes is a long-term improvement in the quality of environmental management.

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**Institute of Australian Geographers (IAG)**  
> www.iag.org.au

IAG is the principal body representing geographers and promoting the study and application of geography in Australia. It was founded in 1958 and since then has promoted, supported and defended Australian geography.

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**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**Study areas:**
- Computational Biology
- Computing and Software Systems
- Informatics
- Spatial Systems

**Australia Computer Society (ACS)**  
> www.acs.org.au

The ACS is the association for Australia’s information and communications technology (ICT) profession. We represent all ICT practitioners in business, government and education. We’re passionate about recognising professionalism, developing ICT skills and creating a community with a true sense of belonging.

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**Australian Information Industry Association (AIIA)**  
> www.aiia.com.au

AIIA is the peak representative body and advocacy group for the ICT industry in Australia. Its mission has been to advocate, promote, represent and grow the ICT industry in Australia. We are a not-for-profit organisation, with membership open to all organisations involved with the ICT industry in Australia. We represent over 400 member organisations nationally, including global brands, international companies, national companies, and a large number of ICT small-to-medium enterprises (SMEs).

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**Australian Association for Information Systems (AAIS)**  
> www.aaisnet.org

AAIS is the Australasian chapter of the Association for Information Systems (AIS), a global network of IS communities. AAIS seeks to promote and extend the support provided by a number of other organisations that are also active in the region. Among these organisations are ACPHIS (Australasian Council of Professors and Heads of IS) and ACS (Australian Computer Society). AAIS actively supports the AJIS (Australasian Journal of Information Systems) and the annual ACIS conferences (Australasian Conference on Information Systems) which have been held since 1990.

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Medical Software Industry Association  
> www.msia.com.au  
The Association represents the interests of the Australian commercial software industry which develops, supplies and services information management products and services for healthcare practitioners, healthcare service providers and healthcare organisations.

Communications Alliance  
Communications Alliance was formed to provide a unified voice for the Australian communications industry and to lead it into the next generation of converging networks, technologies and services. The System Administrators Guild of Australia.

Information Technology Professionals Association (ITPA)  
> www.itpa.org.au  
Information Technology Professionals Association (ITPA) is a not-for-profit organisation established to advance the understanding of ICT matters within the community, corporate and government sectors in Australia.

Auscontact Association  
> www.auscontact.com.au  
Auscontact Association is the united voice for the customer contact industry in Australia, connecting people, industries and organisations, locally and globally, to deliver excellence in customer contact experience.

International Cartographic Association (ICA)  
> icaci.org  
The aim of ICA is to ensure that cartography and GIScience are employed to maximum effect and full potential for the benefit of society and science through promotion and representation of the disciplines and professions of cartography and GIScience internationally.

Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)  
> www.rics.org/au  
RICS promotes and enforces the highest professional qualifications and standards in the development and management of land, real estate, construction and infrastructure.

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LIFE SCIENCES

Study areas:
- Agricultural Science
- Animal Health and Disease
- Animal Science and Management
- Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (see MDHS)
- Biotechnology
- Cell and Developmental Biology (see MDHS)
- Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (see Environmental Sciences)
- Food Science (see Chemical Systems)
- Forest Science
- Genetics
- Human Structure and Function
- Immunology
- Marine Biology
- Microbiology and Immunology (see MDHS)
- Neuroscience
- Pathology
- Pharmacology
- Physiology
- Plant Science
- Zoology

AusBiotech  
> www.ausbiotech.org  
AusBiotech is Australia’s biotechnology organisation, working on behalf of members for 25 years to provide representation and services to promote the global growth of Australian biotechnology. AusBiotech is dedicated to the development, growth and prosperity of the Australian biotechnology industry, by providing initiatives to drive sustainability and growth, outreach and access to markets, and representation and support for members nationally and around the world.

New Zealand Biotech  
> www.biotech.org.nz  
New Zealand’s geography, isolation and early economic base of agriculture, horticulture and forestry helped to set the scene for biotechnological research and investment in these areas. Combined with a sense of innovation and entrepreneurialism, New Zealand’s biotechnology industry has flourished, such that it is now a world leader in certain sectors.

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**PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

**Science**

**New Zealand Bio (NZBIO)**  
> www.nzbio.org.nz

NZBIO is the leadership forum that proactively and strategically enables the development and promotion of New Zealand’s biotechnology industry.

**Australian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society (AARES)**  
> www.aares.org.au

AARES is an independent association of persons and organisations interested in agricultural, resource and environmental economics, based at the Australian National University.

**Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations (FAO)**  
> www.fao.org/home/en

Achieving food security for all is at the heart of FAO’s efforts. One of their three main goals is the sustainable management and utilisation of natural resources, including land, water, air, climate and genetic resources for the benefit of present and future generations.

**Australian Institute of Agricultural Science and Technology (AIA)**  
> www.aginstitute.com.au

AIA is committed to promoting the advancement of Australian Agriculture and Natural Resource Management in accord with sound scientific developments and represents professionals involved in these areas.

**National Farmers’ Federation (NFF)**  
> www.nff.org.au

The NFF is the peak national body representing farmers and agriculture across Australia.

**Australian Mammals Society (AMS)**  
> australianmammals.org.au

The AMS is an interdisciplinary society of biologists whose common interest is in the biology and conservation of Australasian mammals. Research by members of the Society spans a wide variety of biological disciplines including behavioural and community ecology, population genetics, management and conservation.

**The Australian Society for Fish Biology (ASFB)**  
> www.asfb.org.au

A professional, non-profit organisation, the ASFB’s objectives are to promote research, education and management of fish and fisheries in Australia and to provide a forum for understanding, sustaining and restoring fish populations.

**Australian Entomological Society**  
> austentsoc.org.au

To advance and disseminate entomological knowledge in all its aspects, particularly but not exclusively, in relation to the Australian fauna.

**Australasian Systematic Botany Society (ASBS)**  
> www.asbs.org.au

With over 300 members, ASBS is an incorporated association of people with professional and amateur interests in Australasian systematic botany.

**Institute of Foresters Australia (IFA)**  
> www.forestry.org.au

The IFA is Australia’s only professional body for foresters and other forestry professionals.

On this site you can find information about becoming a member as well as forest-related training, publications, professional recognition and policy.

**Australian Institute of Environmental Health (EHA)**  
> www.aieh.org.au

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.

**The Australian Marine Sciences Association (AMSA)**  
> www.amsa.asn.au

The AMSA is Australia’s peak professional body for marine scientists from all disciplines and for over
Science

50 years has promoted all aspects of marine science in Australia.

Human Genetics Society of Australia
> www.hgsa.com.au

The Human Genetics Society of Australasia was formed in 1977 to provide a forum for the various disciplines collected under the title of Human Genetics. The Society holds an Annual Scientific Meeting each year with visiting international and national speakers. All members of the Society are encouraged to present original work in the form of oral and poster presentations. The majority of members hold both a qualification and are employed in a position relevant to Human Genetics.

MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS

- Computational Biology
- Mathematical Physics
- Mathematics and Statistics

Statistical Society of Australia
> www.statsoc.org.au

The Statistical Society of Australia, Inc., represents Australian and overseas statisticians, providing an umbrella organisation for branches in six states and territories. The objective of the Society is to further the study, application and good practice of statistical theory and methods in all branches of learning and enterprise.

The Australian Mathematical Society
> www.austms.org.au

The Australian Mathematical Society is the national society of the mathematics profession in Australia. Our mission is to promote and extend mathematical knowledge and its applications. The Society promotes mathematics in the community (both pure and applied), represents the interests of the profession to government, produces publications and submissions, holds conferences and seminars, provides awards in recognition of outstanding contributions to the mathematical sciences.

PHYSICAL SCIENCES

- Climate and Weather (see Earth Sciences)
- Mathematical Physics (see Maths and Stats)
- Physics

The Australian Institute of Physics
> www.aip.org.au

The Australian Institute of Physics promotes the role of physics in research, education, industry and the community. It does this in many ways, including representing the physics community to government and other legislative or policy-making bodies, organising meetings and conferences on research and professional topics, supporting physics teaching and education in schools, colleges and universities and setting and supporting professional standards and qualifications in physics.

Institute of Physics
> www.iop.org

The Institute of Physics is a leading scientific society. We are a charitable organisation with a worldwide membership of more than 45,000, working together to advance physics education, research and application. We engage with policymakers and the general public to develop awareness and understanding of the value of physics and, through IOP Publishing, we are world leaders in professional scientific communications.

PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCES

- Psychology

Australian Psychological Society (APS)
> www.psychology.org.au

The 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.

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 (AACBT)**

> 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.