

APPLICATION FOR THE REGISTRATION OF ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL DESIGNATION(S) FOR PROFESSIONAL BODIES ALREADY RECOGNISED BY SAQA

Association for Supportive Counsellors and Holistic Practitioners (ASCHP)

Name of Professional Body	Association for Supportive Counsellors and Holistic Practitioners (ASCHP)
Statutory or Non-Statutory Body	Non-Statutory
Sector	Non-Psychological Counselling
Physical Address	Burkea Crescent 58, Boekenhoutskloofdrift, District Cullinan, 1000
Application Approved by Board/Council	Yes
Application Signed by CEO / Registrar/ Board Chairperson	Yes
Registered Designations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supportive Counsellor • Holistic Counsellor
Designations Applied for	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wellness Counsellor • Specialist Wellness Counsellor
Date of Gazette Notice	01 December 2017

BACKGROUND

The Association for Supportive Counsellors and Holistic Practitioners (ASCHP) was formed in 1995 under the name Council for Counsellors in South Africa to represent and regulate non-psychological counsellors. The purpose is to provide consistency in standards across and within provinces in South Africa, and across different counselling contexts. Many voluntary counsellors currently work in a variety of contexts and often in environments where mental health professionals such as psychologists and social workers are not necessarily accessible to the majority of the population. The Association provides a consistent basis for evaluating and regulating counselling at this level to ensure greater access to ethical and professional counselling services.

CRITERIA FOR REGISTRATION OF A PROFESSIONAL DESIGNATION

The criteria for the awarding of the additional Professional Designations below comply with the SAQA *Policy & Criteria for Recognising a Professional Body and Registering a Professional Designation for the Purposes of the National Qualifications Framework Act, Act 67 of 2008* and the designations complement those already registered, creating a designation pathway.

Designation Title: Wellness Counsellor

Underlying Qualification(s)	Relevant Bachelor's Degree in Psychology, Counseling, Criminology, Sociology or equivalent
Experiential Learning and Practical Experience	Wellness Counsellors are required to complete 200 hours practical experience under supervision. A self-evaluation report has to be submitted upon completion of the practical

	experience.
Board/ Admission Examination/Assessment	A Board examination is written.
Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Requirements	Candidates are required to complete 15 CPD points per annum.
Application of Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)	RPL for a designation is done in accordance with the RPL policy taking professional competence, skills and work experience into consideration.
<p>Designation competences:</p> <p>The Wellness Counsellors serve to enhance the total well-being of their clients by making use of a systems approach to counselling – working towards achieving wholeness within the integrative unity of body, mind and spirit. Wellness Counsellors work in the following areas of counselling/coaching which include: Individual, marriage, life style, problems, trauma, drug and alcohol abuse, HIV/AIDS, gambling addiction, bereavement and hospice counseling. Support and assistance in human development is rendered and research in the domain of counseling is done,</p> <p>The Wellness Counsellors is competent to lend comprehensive counselling support towards the improvement of the quality of life by assisting client in resolving conflicts, improving relationships, sorting out general problems, coping with life’s challenges and finding inner peace.</p> <p>Wellness Counsellors are required to refer clients to medical and psychological professionals if they identify needs that require specialised intervention such as mood, personality and anxiety disorders and health related problems that require medical attention.</p>	

Designation Title: Specialist Wellness Counsellor

Underlying Qualification(s)	Honours Degree in Psychology, Counselling, Criminology or Sociology or equivalent
Experiential Learning and Practical Experience	Specialist Wellness Counsellors are required to complete 300 hours practical experience under supervision. A supervision report has to be submitted upon completion of the practical experience.
Board/ Admission Examination/Assessment	A Board examination is written.
Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Requirements	Wellness Counsellors are required to complete 20 CPD points per annum of which ethics is compulsory.
Application of Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)	RPL for a designation is done in accordance with the RPL policy taking professional competence, skills and work experience into consideration.
<p>Designation competences: The competences for the Specialist Wellness designation is the same as the Wellness Counsellor designation because it has the same scope of practice but the Specialist will specialise in one field.</p> <p>Specialist Wellness Counsellors serve to enhance the total well-being of their clients by making use of a systems approach to counselling – working towards achieving wholeness within the integrative unity of body, mind and spirit. Specialists Counsellors specialise in one</p>	

or more of the following areas of counselling/coaching: Individual, marriage, life style, problems, trauma, drug and alcohol abuse, HIV/AIDS, gambling addiction, bereavement and hospice counselling. Support and assistance in human development is rendered and research in the domain of counseling is done.

The Specialist Wellness Counsellors is competent to lend comprehensive and specialised counselling support towards the improvement of the quality of life by assisting client's in resolving conflicts, improving relationships, sorting out general problems, coping with life's challenges and finding inner peace.

Specialist Wellness Counsellors are required to refer clients to medical and psychological professionals if they identify needs that require specialised intervention such as mood, personality and anxiety disorders and health related problems that require medical attention.

ASCHP registered the following designations:

DESIGNATION TITLE	UNDERLYING NQF REGISTERED QUALIFICATION/PART-QUALIFICATION	PRACTICAL LEARNING
Supportive Counsellor	<p>Any combination up to at least 24 Credits at Level 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct basic lay counselling in a structured environment (US ID: 114478) • Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of HIV and AIDS, other Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) and Tuberculosis (TB) for counselling purposes (US ID: 252510) • Describe and apply Christian pastoral counselling skills (US ID: 116744) • Facilitate a group counselling process (US ID: 117849) • Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of trauma and skills for supportive counselling (US ID: 252531) <p>Demonstrate an understanding of the ethical and legal aspects relating to counselling (US ID:117866)</p>	A minimum of one year's relevant practical learning experience under the professional supervision of an ASCHP registered Supportive Practitioner
Holistic Counsellor	<p>Any one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced Certificate in Counselling at Level 6; • Diploma in Counselling and Communication at Level 6; OR <p>Any other suitable, comparable qualification at Level</p>	A minimum of one year's relevant practical learning experience under the professional supervision of an ASCHP registered Holistic Practitioner

Designation Pathway

- Supportive Counsellor
- Holistic Counsellor
- **Wellness Counsellor**
 - **Specialist Wellness Counsellor**

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the following additional ASCHP Professional Designation be registered on the NQF:

Designation Title
Wellness Counsellor
Specialist Wellness Counsellor