

## Mandatory Declarations for Membership for New or Renewing Members

Mandatory Declarations are legal statements where individuals self-assess and confirm that they comply with standards and codes.

Allied Health Professions Australia recommends to professional organisations that every member should make certain mandatory declarations each year. We have used their template in creating declarations for our membership, both at renewal and at joining.

First, these declarations are about ensuring that our members are safe to work with children and vulnerable people as defined by your state or territory. The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse has brought this matter to the fore. Second, they ask about any criminal history or serious financial difficulties members may have had.

**These declarations are not meant to keep people out of SCA. Rather, they are a protection for all our members, for you yourself, and for our organisation.** They ensure that as your association we are fully informed and have had a conversation with any applicant who cannot make the declarations, before accepting them as a member. If there are any concerns for yourself, please contact SCA Executive Officer [eo@spiritualcareaustralia.org.au](mailto:eo@spiritualcareaustralia.org.au) who will work with you to decide on next steps.

1. I declare the following:
  - a. I will abide by the Spiritual Care Australia [Code of Conduct](#) and [Standards of Practice](#).
  - b. I hold a current, appropriate credential for working with children and/or vulnerable people. I have updated my SCA membership profile with my current credential details including the State or Territory, Number and Expiry date.
  - c. I have not been charged with a serious offence<sup>1</sup>.
  - d. I have not been convicted of a serious offence<sup>1</sup>.
  - e. I have not been de-registered by any other professional association.
  - f. I have not declared bankruptcy.
  - g. I have not been charged or convicted with a dishonesty offence or with an offence relating to taxation at the State, Territory or Federal level.
2. If I am currently registered or accredited to practice in another professional discipline, my SCA membership profile includes the name of the other discipline, name of the registration or accreditation body and my registration number.
3. I understand that if I cannot make the declaration in clause 1 a-g above, I will submit to the SCA Executive Officer [eo@spiritualcareaustralia.org.au](mailto:eo@spiritualcareaustralia.org.au), in confidence, the pertinent details. SCA may request further particulars in writing, and such particulars are to be provided in writing within 14 days of receipt of the request.



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4. I understand that I must notify SCA if I am charged with a serious offence or of any other change in circumstance of any items in the declaration above or any event that may impact on the declaration
  - a. in writing.
  - b. within 14 days of the changed circumstances or event
  - c. to the SCA Executive Officer or the President.
  
5. I understand that if any breaches occur, SCA will follow its disciplinary measures as set out in the SCA Constitution, sections 9 and 10.

*<sup>1</sup> A serious offence means an offence, in an Australian jurisdiction or elsewhere, punishable on first conviction with imprisonment for life, or for a term of five years imprisonment or more – From 'Suggested Policy Wording for Allied Health Professions Australia, April 2020'.*