

AUSActive Professional Accreditation

We want to lift the industry to a higher standard which is why we're introducing a service excellence program that involves offering AUSActive Professional Accreditation.

The AUSActive Professional Accreditation will set improved standards of service delivery, guaranteed by AUSActive. This opportunity will enable exercise professionals and our industry to be recognised like other allied health professionals.

Accreditation will increase the credibility for our Gym, Group Exercise Leaders/Instructors and Personal Trainers, resulting in a more professional industry.

What is AUSActive Professional Accreditation?

AUSActive Professional Accreditation is a greater industry credential for Registered Exercise Professionals that successfully achieve requirements within the accreditation framework.

Why have AUSActive introduced the accreditation?

As the peak body for the exercise and active health industry, AUSActive is committed to raising the bar and recognising best practice within the industry. As it stands, the fitness industry is one of the only remaining health related industries without any form of recognised accreditation for individuals. This will provide employers, clients and allied health professionals greater confidence with the accredited professional's skill level, experience and knowledge. AUSActive Professional Accreditation will provide exercise professionals with recognition of their abilities and will highlight the plethora of talent and skill we have within our sector.

What's involved in the process?

To become accredited, AUSActive professionals will be required to undertake a number of tasks including additional online learning, engaging with a mentor and performing a number of self-reflective tasks. There will also be a required minimum time in industry prior to application.

How was the program developed?

The program was developed with the assistance of a group of industry experts and through rigorous consultation with the wider industry. The program was also shaped through a detailed analysis of other accreditation programs in similar fields, including many programs in the allied health sector both here in Australia and around the world.

How much will the accreditation cost?

The accreditation program is free for AUSActive members.

How will this be assessed?

Competency will be assessed through a 360° approach which will include online assessment of knowledge, self-reflection, feedback from both clients and mentors and a minimum level of industry experience.

How long will this process take?

The length of time to complete the accreditation process will vary depending on an individual's time, availability and previous experience. One of the key elements of the program will be a significant level of practical training/instructing experience including record keeping. This will be able to be completed retrospectively. There is also a minimum time in industry (post-qualification) attached to the process.

What are the pillars that are covered in becoming accredited?



Knowledge



Delivery



Experience



Validation



Which registration categories is the program currently available to?

The accreditation program is currently available to Personal Trainers, Gym Instructors and Group Exercise Instructors & Leaders. The program will expand to cover broader registration categories in the future.

What will be the benefits of achieving accreditation?

Achieving accreditation will provide AUSactive professionals with a significant advantage. As the only recognised accreditation program in the industry, clients and employers will be provided with a unique level of confidence and security when engaging with Accredited Exercise Professionals. This level of confidence may also extend to allied health professionals for increased referrals and even insurance providers. Additionally, insurance partners, Guild Insurance offer further reduced premiums to those who have completed the accreditation requirements.

Is it a requirement to be an Accredited Personal Trainer to hold a Medibank provider number?

As of November 2022, AUSactive Personal Trainers will be required to be Accredited to hold an individual provider number with Medibank.

When will the accreditation program be available?

The program pilot commenced in 2021 and from March 2022 it is available to all Level 2 & 3 AUSactive professionals.

How do I get started in the Professional Accreditation Program?

Access the online accreditation program through your AUSactive dashboard. Look for the 'Professional Accreditation Program' button on the right-hand side of your dashboard once logged on and click to enter.

How will this be promoted to consumers and employers?

Accredited AUSactive Professionals will be able to use appropriate branding and they'll be profiled on the Australian public register of exercise professionals. As AUSactive continues to communicate with our business members/employers and grow our general community database, AUSactive Professional Accreditation will continually be highlighted.

Are there post-nominals I can use after completion?

Upon completion you can utilise the post-nominals AccREP.



Will my previous education and CECs count towards this accreditation?

Your verified skills and knowledge completed through CEC programs will assist in the accreditation process as it demonstrates continuous improvement in your professional development.

Is this the same as the AUSactive Quality Business Accreditation?

AUSactive launched its successful business accreditation model in 2018. It is similar with respect to assessing professional standards and quality service, however AUSactive Professional Accreditation is purely tailored to the individual exercise professional.

Is it mandatory to remain registered to complete the accreditation requirements?

Although recommended, it is not mandatory to complete as part of your registration with AUSactive.

Will sole-traders be able to become accredited?

Yes, as REP registration is included in the sole-trader membership, sole-traders will be able to become accredited REPs once they meet all of the requirements.

Finding a Mentor/Mentor Eligibility

Though mentors can come in many forms, for the purposes of this accreditation your mentor must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- ▶ A Current AUSactive Accredited Professional and be registered in the same category as the applicant (e.g. personal trainer)
- ▶ A Current Level 3 AUSactive Registered Exercise Professional who has completed the Mentor education module <https://fitness.org.au/directory/reps/category/mentor/1/321>
- ▶ A Current AUSactive Registered Exercise Professional with a post-graduate degree (masters or PhD in a related field) and completion of the Mentor education module
- ▶ A Registered / Accredited allied health professional in a related field (e.g. Accredited Exercise Physiologist)

What level of experience do I need before starting the program?

The accreditation program cannot be finalised until the applicant is at least two years post qualification. This period was agreed on by a panel of industry experts to provide the AUSactive professional with enough time and opportunity to broaden their skillset in a real-life practical environment.

In addition to the two-year minimum period, applicants must also have completed a minimum of 500 hours of practical instruction in the past two years.

Note: an applicant may begin this accreditation process prior to completing their full two years.

Get Started

ausactive.org.au



ACCREDITED

EXERCISE
PROFESSIONAL

AUSactive