



College of Sexual and Relationship Therapists

Accredited  
Membership  
Requirements and  
Information



COSRT's Accredited Membership is a senior status which recognises a therapist's advanced skills and experience. It is awarded through a comprehensive process which includes rigorous assessment. Accredited Membership provides a range of significant benefits:

- Permission to use AccCOSRT post-nominal letters
- The ability to use COSRT's logo and advertise as "Accredited Member of..."
- A certificate indicating your Membership and Accredited status
- A place on the COSRT Register with Accredited status visible
- Access to accredited EMDR practitioner training
- The chance to advertise on Counsellor Directory
- A direct pathway to Senior Accredited Status
- All issues of the Journal of Sexual and Relationship Therapy
- Full digital access to two other Taylor and Francis journals
- Discounts including COSRT training, insurance and Routledge books

To be eligible for Accredited Membership you must meet the following criteria.

## Supervised Practice Requirements

You must be currently active as a Psychosexual / Relationship Therapist and have:

- Been practicing in that role post-qualification for at least three years<sup>1</sup>
- Completed 250 hours supervised practice post-qualification, supervised at a ratio of 1:10<sup>2</sup>
- Professional indemnity insurance at a minimum value of £2,000,000

## Supervision Requirements

You must have:

- A current contract for supervision for at least 1.5 hours per month

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<sup>1</sup> Note that these years do not have to be successive.

<sup>2</sup> These 250 hours must have been accumulated over at least three, and at most five years which need not be successive.

## Register Status Requirements

Accredited status is part of the career pathway, demonstrating ongoing development and progression.

To become an Accredited Member of COSRT you must therefore either be:

- A COSRT Registered Member, and have held that status for at least one year; or
- An Accredited-level Registrant on a psychotherapy-related PSA Register; or
- An HCPC Practitioner Psychologist

## Specialist Qualification Requirements

To be eligible for Accreditation you must have completed and graduated from a suitable specialist practitioner training course. The course should meet the following criteria:

- Ofqual RQF level seven (Master's Degree or equivalent)
- Minimum 450 hours of direct teaching
- Supervised placement with at least 200 client contact hours focused on psychosexual / relationship therapy, supervised at a ratio of 1:6
- Meet COSRT's Theoretical Knowledge and Clinical Competence requirements

If your specialist qualification is RQF level 5 or 6 (Diploma of Higher Education or Full degree), you can apply for Accreditation if you can evidence supplementary training and qualifications<sup>3</sup>. Decisions on whether you meet Ofqual RQF Level 7 standards will be taken on an individual basis.

## Training and Development Requirements

You must also be able to demonstrate that you have:

- Undertaken 30 hours CPD per year since achieving 'Register status', of which 16 per year were on psychosexual / relationship therapy<sup>4</sup>
- Completed at least 80 hours personal therapy prior to applying for Accreditation<sup>5</sup>.

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<sup>3</sup> Eligible additional training excludes short-format CPD, courses that offer a certificate of attendance, achievement or completion without any assessment. Courses must lead to a qualification through assessment. Decisions on whether you meet Ofqual RQF Level 7 standards will be taken on an individual basis.

<sup>4</sup> Eligible CPD activities are conferences, training courses and events, and self-access courses.

<sup>5</sup> These hours can include time spent prior to and during training but must be relevant to enabling the development of self-reflection and reflexive practice, the integration of theory and practice, and the exploration of personal prejudices and attitudes.

## Assessment Requirements

To become an Accredited Member of COSRT you also must successfully pass an assessment of your specialist skills and knowledge. This is integrated into the application process and is subject to assessment against a set of common marking criteria.

## Ongoing commitments

To retain Accredited Member status you must continue to:

- Have supervision at a minimum of 1.5 hours per month
- Undertake at least 30 hours CPD per year, with a minimum of 16 being focused on psychosexual / relationship therapy
- Hold professional indemnity insurance with a minimum value of £2,000,000
- Have active service users for psychosexual / relationship therapy on an ongoing basis

## Application Process

Applications for Accredited Membership should be sent via email to [memberships@cosrt.org.uk](mailto:memberships@cosrt.org.uk).

Applications take between two and six months to be reviewed by assessors. During the assessment process you may be contacted for additional information at any time.

Confirmation of your application outcome will be sent to you electronically. If your application is accepted by COSRT, your subscription fee will be taken via Direct Debit or bank transfer. If the subscription fee is not received within three months, your application will lapse and you must reapply. Your membership will be valid immediately from the date on which payment is received by COSRT in cleared funds.

COSRT reserves the right to request an applicant to attend an interview with representatives of COSRT to discuss their application. The applicant would be expected to meet their own travel costs to attend the interview.

The provision of misleading information or an incomplete declaration may lead to refusal of entry to membership or withdrawal of membership at a future date. Membership of COSRT does not

commence until the annual subscription has been received (subject to COSRT's confirmation to you of a successful application outcome).

Accredited Membership of the College for Sexual and Relationship Therapists is not a qualification and must not be represented as such.

Applicants may appeal a decision concerning their application in accordance with clause 3.9 of the Terms and Conditions of Membership and Accreditation and the Guidelines for Reapplication and Appeal.

In applying for and subsequently holding Accredited Membership you agree to abide by and be subject to the Terms and Conditions of Membership and Accreditation, Terms and Conditions of Registers and all the criteria, procedures, protocols, policies, guidelines and other documents listed therein, including in particular (without limitation) the COSRT Code of Ethics and Practice, the COSRT Conduct Procedure and Sanctions Protocol and the other Governing Documents of COSRT.