



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CATA REGISTRATION PROCESS

1. Why would I want to be registered with CATA?

Registration with an accredited professional association is increasingly being requested for employment. Registration indicates you have received additional training in your profession, received clinical supervision beyond graduation, and are experienced working with a variety of clients.

2. Who qualifies for Registration with CATA?

You must be a professional member of CATA for six (6) months and have secured (post graduation) 50 hours of art therapy supervision by a registered art therapist based on 1,000 client contact hours.

3. What does the CATA Registration Application require?

The application document can be found on the website at www.canadianarttherapy.org under Membership. The criteria requires the art therapist to have an undergraduate degree or more; graduated from an accredited art therapy training program in Canada; be a Professional member of CATA for six (6) months prior to making an application for Registration; and after graduation gained 50 hours of art therapy supervision from a Registered Art Therapist based on 1,000 client contact hours.

4. What counts as client contact hours?

Client contact hours are face-to-face art therapy. A client contact hour does not include note-taking or set-up/take-down of a session. It also does not include meetings. Only face-to-face art therapy contact counts towards your client contact and supervision hours.

5. Who can provide art therapy supervision?

You may choose to work with a local registered art therapist or you may choose to work with one at a distance using technology. Art therapists who are recognized by CATA have either received their registration from the Canadian Art Therapy Association (RCAT); the

Art Therapy Credential Board (ATR); the Ontario Art Therapy Association (OATR); or British Columbia Art Therapy Association (BCATR).

6. Can I use supervision from a non-art therapist towards my Registration Application?

No. Only art therapy supervision from a Registered Art Therapist is accepted towards the 50 hours of clinical art therapy supervision required for registration with CATA.

7. Can I use supervision and client hours from my training towards my application for Registration?

No. Supervised art therapy hours for registration begins once you have completed all the academic, practica, supervision, thesis approval, and any other requirement in your program to be considered graduated from the training program you have attended.

8. Can I count supervision and client contact hours if I have completed all my course work but haven't completed my thesis and am working as an Art Therapist?

No. Graduation from an accredited art therapy training program is a requirement for registration with CATA. Supervised art therapy and client contact hours are not eligible to be counted towards registration until the student art therapist has completed all the academic, practica, supervision, thesis approval and any other requirement your training program requires for graduation and must be able to provide proof of graduation.

9. Are exceptions made for art therapists who live in remote areas to have supervision from non- art therapists and can these hours count towards art therapy supervision?

No. At one time, before the advancement of technology (e.g. Skype; email; digital cameras), there were exceptions made for art therapists living in remote areas or who did not have reasonable access to a Registered Art Therapist. Location is no longer considered a barrier to accessing the required clinical supervision.

10. Can I receive supervision from a non-Art Therapist because of my specialization and these hours count towards the 50 hours of clinical Art Therapy supervision?

No. It is expected that art therapists will be engaged in ongoing professional development to further their expertise and knowledge, but these hours will not be counted towards the required art therapy supervision for registration with CATA.

11. Can I count my employment supervision from my on-site supervisor towards my 50 hours of Art Therapy supervision for registration?

If the employment supervisor is not a Registered Art Therapist then you cannot count these supervision hours towards your registration hours with CATA.

12. Can I be supervised by an art therapist who is not Registered with CATA, BCATA, OATA or AATA and have these hours count towards my 50 hours of clinical supervision hours for registration?

No. Art therapy supervision must be received from a Registered Art Therapist to be eligible to make application for registration from CATA. You may be supervised by an art therapist, but may not use the supervision to count towards your registration clinical hours.

13. Do I have to complete all the forms in the CATA Registration Application?

Yes.

14. What is the cost to process my application?

Not at this time.

15. What is the cost for Registration Membership with CATA?

Registration membership dues are \$120 CAD per year.

16. What happens if I don't submit a complete Registration Application?

If the applicant meets the criteria for registration, the Registrar will outline the omissions and will request these to be scanned and emailed as soon as possible. If the application does not meet the criteria for registration, the Registrar will inform the applicant how to become eligible and return the application.

17. Do I have to scan a completed Registration Application including all the documentation in one (1) email to the CATA Registration Chair by either September 30; January 31; April 30?

Yes. Without all the appropriate documentation, the application is considered incomplete and can be returned to the applicant to complete and resubmit.

18. Will the CATA Registrar accept mailed copies of all the Registration Application and documents?

No. The applicant must scan and send all documents in one (1) email to the Registration Chair cataregistrar@gmail.com . This is a requirement of application.

19. Who can I contact if I have questions about the Registration Application?

You can ask your Registered Art Therapy Supervisor who has experience with the registration process. You may also email the Registrar at cataregistrar@gmail.com.

20. How do I complete the Verification of Art Therapy Employment Form if I have been a private contractor working with many different agencies and private clients?

You do not need to complete this form. You will need to complete the Professional Employment form, making sure you capture all the contracts and private practice client hours. These hours will be measured against your clinical supervision hours ensuring that you have secured the 1,000 client contact hours and 50 hours of clinical art therapy supervision.

21. If I am not supervised by an Art Therapist in my employment, will this be a problem?

No. However, ensure that you attach a copy of the supervisor's resume when completing the Professional Employment Form. When completing the Verification of Art Therapy Employment form, you will have it completed by someone in authority at the agency such as a supervisor, manager, Executive Director or Director (or if an art therapist, if they were your supervisor) that is willing to confirm your employment, number of hours worked, your job and duties, and are willing to recommend you for registration. Their signature and copy of their resume are required. It is important to recognize that the supervised hours provided at your place of employment cannot count towards your clinical art therapy supervision hours unless the supervisor is a Registered Art Therapist. To secure and count your clinical supervision hours based on your employment, the applicant must work with a Registered Art Therapist and pay for these services.

22. Who completes my Verification of Internship or Student Practicum?

Contact the Director of the art therapy training program and ask if they will complete and sign the form. Transcripts are not required.

23. Who completes the Professional Employment Form?

You, the applicant, can complete the form, or you can have your supervisor or Director complete the form. The form is to document who supervised you and the hours you worked at that place of employment. If you had several places of employment to accumulate your client contact hours for registration, then you will require as many professional employment forms. This is one of the ways you demonstrate you met the 1,000 client contact hours. It does not require a signature because we trust as a professional you are going to complete the form accurately. If you have or had

supervisors in your professional employment that were not art therapists, then you must attach their full complete resumé (not partial). If you were supervised by an art therapist, you will not need to attach their resumé. If the art therapist was registered, then you can also have them complete your Verification of Art Therapy Supervision Form.

24. Can I count the hours of supervision at my place of employment towards my art therapy registration?

Only if the supervisor is a Registered Art Therapist. Otherwise you may not. You must also attach a copy of your supervisor's resume to your Professional Employment Form to demonstrate the supervisor's educational/professional competency. Registration requires 1,000 client contact hours and CATA is ensuring that you have met this requirement and received:

- a) clinical art therapy supervision from a Registered Art Therapist; and/or
- b) if you had a supervisor who is not an art therapist, that they have the competency to support your work.

25. Do I have to complete the full Registration Application with CATA when I am already registered with another art therapy association?

No. If you are registered with the British Columbia Art Therapy Association, the Ontario Art Therapy Association or through the Art Therapy Credentials Board (or the international art therapy associations BAAT; ANZATA) you may complete the Short Application.

26. What is the Registration Application process?

Once your application has been received by the due date, the Registration Committee will review your application and advise you if anything is missing. Once the Committee has approved you, our office will invoice you the \$85 (Application Fee-\$60 + Membership Upgrade-\$25). Once that is paid in full, you will be notified by email of your approval and your certificate will be sent.

27. What will happen if my application is incomplete?

Depending on the reasons for an incomplete application, the Registration Committee Chair may contact you and request the additional information, or your application may be returned. Returning an application is often decided when the time to secure the additional requirements or documentations extends beyond a brief period. It is expected that members submit a completed registration application.

28. Can I apply for registration membership with CATA if I have graduated from

an international art therapy program?

You may qualify for CATA professional membership if you have graduated from an international accredited art therapy training program. To determine if your international art therapy training program is accredited, please check with the national art therapy association where your program resides such as the United Kingdom - BAAT; New Zealand or Australia - ANZATA; or United States of America – AATA with the Art Therapy Credential Board (ATCB). You can find the CATA Membership criteria and application on the CATA website, www.canadianarttherapy.org. You may scan or mail your proof of graduation along with the completed membership application. Do not pay for membership fees online first and then apply. You must apply and be approved before paying membership fees. Once approved, you will then be asked pay your fees. Professional members may not make application for registration until they have been a member for more than six (6) months.

29. How do I know if the international art therapy program I have graduated is accredited by CATA?

The most important factor is whether the program you have graduated is accredited by the national art therapy association in the country that your program is located, such as ANZATA (NZ/AU), BAAT (UK), or ATCB (US and international). CATA does not recognize art therapy programs that are not accredited by a national art therapy association, domestically or internationally.

30. Can I make application for CATA registration if I received art therapy training and graduated in a country outside of Canada?

No. You must first determine whether you are eligible for Professional membership with CATA based on whether the program you graduated is accredited by the national art therapy association in the country where you took your studies. CATA often, but not always, recognizes accredited international programs because the educational standards are similar. You cannot apply and pay for CATA membership online. You must complete the membership application and provide all the documentation required, and then forward to CATA Membership. You can contact CATA Membership at any time to ask questions catamembership@gmail.com. If your program is accredited by the national association, then you will be required to apply for Professional level membership. All Professional members must wait six (6) months before applying for registration.

31. How do I know if I have graduated from an accredited art therapy program in Canada?

Not all art therapy training programs in Canada (or other countries) are accredited. You can check whether the Canadian program you are considering is accredited on the CATA

website page called "Training" at www.canadianarttherapy.org.

32. Do I have to have an undergraduate degree to qualify for registration with CATA? Will a diploma or certificate be acceptable instead of an undergraduate degree?

Unfortunately, to qualify for enrollment into an accredited art therapy training in Canada, you must have an undergraduate degree. If you happen to be accepted into an art therapy training program in Canada without an undergraduate degree, you will find it difficult to become registered with CATA. The standard for CATA Registered membership is an undergraduate degree. However, you will qualify for CATA Professional membership. Please see the points required for registration in the CATA Registration Application at www.canadianarttherapy.org. Many Canadian provinces are setting professional educational standards for counseling in all modalities. The minimum standard is becoming a Master Degree either within a humanities discipline with a diploma in art therapy, or as a Master Degree in Art Therapy or speciality in art therapy. Those professionals without an undergraduate degree will be shut out of many professional associations if they are not grandfathered. If you find yourself in this situation, upgrade your credentials to an undergraduate, preferably to a graduate degree. For more information on educational standards in counseling and art therapy, feel free to contact the CATA Registration or Membership Chairs at cataregistrar@gmail.com or catamembership@gmail.com.