

Through certification, you will distinguish yourself professionally with a meaningful credential. Think of certification as an investment in your career.

In today's increasingly complex and specialized field of rehabilitation, certification is becoming important for all members of the health care team.

Do you have any questions? We'll be glad to answer them! Visit our website at: www.thaaa.ca or email us at therapyassistantaa@gmail.com



www.thaaa.ca



Therapy
Assistant
Association
of Alberta

2012
Are you ready?

**Therapy Assistant
Certification Information**

What are we doing?

One of the goals of the Association is to lead the profession toward professional health regulation. We have now embarked on the first step towards this goal; certification.

Do you have a desire to challenge your skill level and knowledge base, a commitment to personal growth and continuous learning and a desire to prepare for increasingly responsible positions as a therapy assistant? If you do, then consider certification.

Belonging to a professional association that grants certification, you identify yourself as a professional partner in healthcare.

Your real-world experience is acknowledged. Assistants who have integral, on the job training are candidates for certification. The ThAAA recognizes your ability to apply your skills pragmatically.

The standards to earn and maintain your status as a Certified Member, will demonstrate a commitment to clients, your career and the field of rehabilitation.

Why?

The ThAAA believes that voluntary certification will provide a much more visible, specific and recognizable endorsement of the certified member's credentials.

By becoming certified you are;

- Validating through recognized credentials, that you meet the certification requirements set out by the ThAAA
- Demonstrating a formalized commitment to quality of service and excellence in your profession
- Staying current in your field and improving your practice through continuing education

ThAAA certification helps employers by:

- Establishing a standard to assist in hiring competent staff
- Providing assistants with the knowledge to support current best practices
- Demonstrating their commitment to supporting a standard of excellence in practice that supports optimal client outcomes and effective use of health care resources

Individuals who have previously wished to be part of the ThAAA as full members but did not meet the criteria for "Full Member", will now be able to join the ThAAA as non certified, practicing members and be part of the future of the profession.

How?

In the broad field of rehabilitation that demands many skills, the association's certification process recognizes specialization in several disciplines.

To become certified by ThAAA, a member in good standing must present credentials that:

- 1) Provide evidence of graduation from a recognized therapy (therapist)/rehabilitation assistant training program of at least two full academic years and that evidence clearly identifies proficiency in at least one of the following:
 - a) Occupational Therapy
 - b) Physical Therapy
 - c) Speech and Language Pathology
 - d) Recreational Therapy

AND/OR
- 2) Provide documentation that a member in good standing has been continuously employed as a therapy assistant for at least 3000 hours in at least one of the four disciplines noted above.

All certified therapy assistants will be expected to undertake documented competency development each membership year to maintain certification status.

Documented evidence of your professional achievement leads to recognition and respect for your abilities as a therapy assistant.