



Climate Aware Practitioner Network Application Guidelines

Introduction

Psychology for a Safe Climate has been working at the interface between the social, political, cultural, and psychological aspects of climate impacts and effective climate responses since 2012. Our central focus over the last eight years has been working with climate distress, grief and burnout with activists, community groups, climate professionals, scientists and researchers, mental health professionals and organisations from ENGOS through to local and state government groups. Our work is founded on offering emotional support to people to face the reality of climate change. PSC has developed a model for supporting people. We offer group workshops to process feelings about the climate and the ecological crisis. We have worked with climate activists, scientists, governmental organisations and members of the community who are concerned about the climate emergency. In 2020 we began working with mental health practitioners to help them understand the climate reality as a mental health issue that they can work on in their professional practice. In 2024 we are expanding CAP Network membership applications to include anyone already working professionally supporting other people (such as therapists, educators, facilitators, coaches, GPs, nurses, researchers etc.)

About the CAP Network

The Climate Aware Practitioners Network is a national network of climate engaged professionals who are proactive in building the psychosocial support and resilience of individuals and communities in systemic, connected and culturally appropriate ways.

PSC's aim in establishing and supporting the CAP Network is to:

- **Help grow awareness of the value and benefit of our work to the climate movement, the community and particularly to those working professionally supporting other people (such as therapists, educators, facilitators, coaches, GPs, nurses, researchers etc.) across Australia**
- **Share our experience so that others might take up this or similar work**
- **Support referrals to professionals who are sensitive to the impact of climate change on people's mental health**
- **Support collaboration and communication between climate engaged professionals all over Australia**

The CAP Network enhances capacity across Australia to respond to the growing numbers of individuals, groups and communities who are being impacted psychologically by the climate crisis. The CAP Directory available on PSC's website enables people who are seeking support around climate distress to find a CAP Network Member in their local area.

Practitioners who join the Network are suitably qualified people such as mental health professionals who provide (or wish to provide) individual or group mental health services related to climate distress, or General Practitioners or Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Health Workers with a strong interest in mental health and climate distress, other professionals such as facilitators, educators, coaches, researchers and community organisers who deliver workshops or other activities relating to climate distress may also be a part of the CAP Network if they have relevant training and experience.

CAP Network Membership Benefits

- ✓ Receive discounts on PSC event offerings
- ✓ Choose to be listed in the PSC CAP Network Online Directory
- ✓ Share and publicise your events to the PSC community
- ✓ Access CAP Network specific professional development offerings, including ongoing InterVision groups for therapists and facilitators (InterVision groups for educators coming soon)
Join a growing community of practice and find co-facilitators in your area through the CAP
- ✓ Network Community of Practice on the PSC Community Hub.

CAP Network application process

A. Check your eligibility. To be eligible to join PSC's CAP network, applicants must be:

1. Qualified professionals from one of the following backgrounds:

- Mental health professional
- General Practitioner
- Aboriginal & Torres Strait Mental Health Worker

OR

2. Other professionals who are trained and experienced as facilitators of activities or workshops which support people in climate distress (Other Professionals). This category may include:

- Retired mental health professionals
- Facilitators
- Educators
- Coaches
- Researchers
- Community Organisers

For details of the registration requirements for mental health professionals and the requirements for other professionals interested in joining the CAP Network, please see the [Appendix](#).

B. Apply to join the PSC CAP Network

(i) [Apply online](#) through the PSC Community Hub

(ii) Fill in the [CAP Attestation for New and Renewing CAP Network Members](#)

(iii) Pay the annual CAP Network Subscription fee

FAQs

What is the difference between being a standard PSC Member and a CAP Network Member of PSC?

Standard PSC Membership: costs \$100 annually. It gives access to the PSC Community Hub, and discounts on PSC offerings. It's a great way to support yourself with your own climate anxiety, help yourself and others to find constructive practices for hope and action and to really actively support the work that PSC does.

CAP Network Membership: those who already work professionally supporting other people (such as therapists, educators, facilitators, coaches, GPs, nurses, researchers etc.) are invited to join as CAP Network Members. CAP Network Membership costs \$160 annually. It gives you access to the PSC Community Hub, and the CAP Network Community of Practice, where you can meet, collaborate and share resources with other climate engaged professionals. CAP Network members can access CAP specific offerings like our InterVision groups and online group meetings ([see full list of benefits above](#)).

We deeply value all of our members and thank you for your participation in the PSC community and for your contribution to the work that PSC does.

I want to change from my standard PSC Membership to CAP Network Membership, is the process the same?

Yes, you still need to go through the steps outlined in part B of the CAP Network application process. Once you have applied, your PSC standard membership will be refunded on a pro-rata basis (within the following 10 days) and your new CAP membership will be fully charged to your nominated account and will begin from the date of your transfer. For example, if you began on a standard PSC membership in July 2023 and transferred to a CAP Network Membership in January 2024, you would be refunded for your standard PSC membership from January 2024-June 24. Your new renewal date would then be January 2025 (12 months from your transfer date).

What is the CAP Network Online Directory and do I have to be in it?

The CAP Network Online Directory is available on the PSC website [here](#). It is a directory that any member of the public can access who might be looking for direct one on one psychological support, or to access other services like seminars on climate distress, workshops etc.

The CAP Network Directory is not designed to endorse or certify professional standing or experience. We are providing a directory where CAP Network Members can be found, much like a directory for restaurants, that would not attest to the quality of the food at any given restaurant.

However, anyone listed in the directory will have signed our climate pledge which can be viewed [here](#) and recognises that the climate crisis is both a global threat to all life on Earth and a deeply personal threat to the mental and physical well-being—the sense of safety, meaning, and purpose—of each individual, family, and community on the planet.

As a CAP Network Member you can choose to be publicly listed in the directory, or you can choose to not have a directory profile, it is up to you.

How do I create my directory profile?

Our directory is in the process of being updated, currently only existing CAPs are listed on the old directory, we hope to have our new directory up and running by December and we will contact you with details about how you can create your directory profile before then.

Where can I list and publicise my events?

You can list and publicise your events on the PSC Community Hub, you can also submit information about your events using [this form](#). Please take into account that we have one part time administration officer, so allow for 1 week between submitting the form and your event appearing on the PSC website.

How do I join a CAP InterVision group?

In 2024 we have CAP InterVision groups across two streams:

1. Therapists InterVision
2. Facilitator InterVision

The first cohort of InterVision groups runs from February-June 2024 the second cohort runs from July-November 2024. You can register to be involved in either or both InterVision streams through our [events page](#).

After you have registered for the group you are interested in you will be granted access to the private InterVision group on the PSC Community Hub where you can access, Zoom links for the group, related resources, connect with other members of the InterVision group and start group discussions related to topics explored in the InterVision process.

Once a group has begun e.g. after February or after July, the group is closed and you have to wait until the next cohort to get involved. We hope to create an educators/researchers cohort toward the end of 2024. Our drop-in Climate Journey Stream is available every month to all CAPs who would like to attend, you can register through our [events page](#).

What is the CAP Network Community of Practice and how can I access it?

The CAP Network Community of Practice is a space for CAP Network Members only. Here you can access topic threads specific to different areas of climate engaged professional practice, find co-facilitators to collaborate with, and join InterVision groups.

You can only access the CAP Network Community of Practice if you are a CAP Network member. To find it you can head to the [PSC Community Hub](#), or click [here](#).

Appendix

Eligibility requirements for CAPs

1. Health and mental health professionals

Qualified professionals must be registered with the relevant professional body:

Profession	Requirements
Psychologists	Registration with Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency
Counsellor or Therapist	Registration with PACFA as a Provisional or Clinical Registrant OR Registration with Australian Counselling Association Membership with Australian Association of Family Therapy
Psychotherapists	Same requirements as for Counsellors or for other mental health professions (as applicable)
Psychiatrists	Registration as a specialist Psychiatrist with Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency
General Practitioners	Registration with Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency
Mental Health Nurses	Registration with Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency
Mental Health Social Workers	Member of the Australian Association of Social Workers (AASW)
Mental Health Occupational Therapists	Registration with Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency
Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Mental Health Workers	Registration with Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency as an ATSI Health Worker

2. Other professionals

PSC recognises that there are some other professionals who are highly trained and experienced in facilitating workshops and other activities to support people around climate distress. Applications in this category are considered individually, taking into account all relevant training and experience.