



Australian
Library and
Information
Association

Professional Development FAQs

What is Professional Development (PD) ?

PD is the participation in an activity which will enhance and/or increase our knowledge, skills and abilities in relation to our work.

But why do I need to do PD?

Our initial education provides us with our base skill set (our professional qualification), engaging in PD is about increasing and enhancing that base skill set.

How will PD benefit me?

As a participant in the PD Scheme you are showing a commitment to your professional growth. Recognition within the profession by the entitlement to use post nominals CP (Certified Practitioner) and by gaining the distinction of 'Associate Fellow' after 5 years of compliance in the PD Scheme.

Does it benefit my employer?

Yes. Keeping our skills up to date and keeping abreast of new and changing technology not only benefits us but gives our employer a staff member with expansive skills and experience.

Is PD compulsory in our industry?

No – As an unregulated industry there is no requirement to register in a PD scheme to retain our qualifications.

ALIA's PD Scheme

Who is eligible for the ALIA PD Scheme?

Only personal 'Associate' and 'Library Technician' members are able to join ALIA's PD Scheme. Registration in the PD Scheme is a benefit of your personal ALIA membership.

When can I register in the PD Scheme?

Eligible members may register at any time members registering after the 30th June of any year will record their PD activities between 1st July (that same year) to the 30th June (the following year) as their first PD year.

Members registering before the 1st July of any year will record their PD activities starting at the previous 1st July.

I am the ALIA Institutional Representative at my work place; can I register in the PD Scheme?

No. Participation in the PD Scheme is limited to personal Associate and Library Technician members only.

How long is the PD period?

The full PD period is one triennium (3 years) – recorded from 1st July to the 30th June of each year. The PD year is also aligned with the ALIA membership year.

How do I accumulate points?

Points for PD activities may be determined on the type of activity and/or the duration. Refer to the 'Summary of Activities' sheet for details.

How many points do I need to accumulate?

A minimum of 30 per year . A minimum of 120 over the triennium (3 year period).

How do I record my PD activities?

The ALIA PD Scheme contains a simple and effective recording system through the online – personal tracking database, the 'Annual PD Summary Record Sheet' and the ALIA Record of Learning Activity Sheet'.

How do I decide which category to record my activity against?

PD activities can fall under a number of categories refer to the 'Summary of Activities Sheet'

<http://www.alia.org.au/members-only/education/pd/userguide.html>

Will I be audited?

Each year approximately 10% of those members registered in the PD Scheme are selected for audit (to be checked that they are complying with the scheme) details of the audit process are located at

<http://www.alia.org.au/education/pd/scheme/audit.html>

What is compliance?

Although participation in the ALIA PD Scheme is not compulsory, once registering there are a number of requirements that must be met. This is compliance.

What do I do if I take a break from work such as maternity leave or long service leave? Do I have to start again?

No, you do not have to start again – you may apply for an extension of the PD period by contacting ALIA's PD officer.

I only work part time, is the PD Scheme still relevant for me?

Yes – keeping our skills current and relevant to our work environment is important for everyone.

Who can I talk to about the PD Scheme or a PD query?

Contact the ALIA PD Officer
By phone on **02 6215 8216** or
by email pd@alia.org.au

