

Association for Psychological Accreditation

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Home of The International Psychological Standards & Accreditation Council

APA's International Psychological Standards & Accreditation Council



The International Psychological Standards & Accreditation Council

The **International Psychological Standards & Accreditation Council (IPSAC)**, under the umbrella of the Association for Psychological Association (APA), represents a global commitment to quality, integrity and excellence in psychological education, training and practice. Building on APA's longstanding mission to promote high standards in Positive Mental Health and Psychological Awareness for all, IPSAC extends these principles to an international context, fostering consistency, credibility and public protection across borders.

International endorsement through IPSAC ensures that psychology programmes, institutions and training providers meet rigorous, evidence-based benchmarks that reflect both scientific rigour and professional competence. By harmonising internationally recognised standards, the Council supports psychologists and organisations in demonstrating the quality of their training, enhancing professional mobility and fostering trust among professionals, students, regulators and the public.

At its core, IPSAC champions:

- **Excellence in education and training**, ensuring programmes are structured to cultivate ethical, effective and science-informed practice.
- **Public protection**, by assuring that accredited pathways produce practitioners equipped to deliver safe, competent psychological services.
- **Global relevance and collaboration**, enabling cross-border recognition of standards that support international mobility and mutual respect within the profession.

Aligned with APA's ethos, the International Psychological Standards & Accreditation Council embodies a shared vision: to elevate the quality and impact of psychological practice worldwide, safeguard the public interest, and uphold the integrity of psychology as both a science and a profession.



The Evaluation Process

The International Psychological Standards & Accreditation Council (IPSAC) invites organisations worldwide to benefit from global collaboration that promotes shared learning, professional development, and enhanced operational effectiveness.

Organisations seeking international recognition participate in a structured evaluation process consisting of 3 Phases:

- **Phase 1 - Three-Part Audit**

- A comprehensive review of organisational standards, governance, and professional practices.

- **Phase 2 - Digital Presence Review**

- An assessment of online communications, public information, and digital professionalism.

- **Phase 3 - Organisational Presentation to the IPSAC Panel**

- A formal presentation demonstrating service quality, ethical frameworks, and commitment to professional excellence.

Through this process, IPSAC fosters international cooperation, strengthens professional credibility, and supports organisations in demonstrating their commitment to delivering ethical, high-quality psychological services.



Why IPSAC Matters

The International Psychological Standards & Accreditation Council (IPSAC) evaluates organisations on their individual merits. There is no requirement for organisations to demonstrate “mutual alignment” with other bodies, ensuring that each assessment remains fair, independent, and context sensitive.

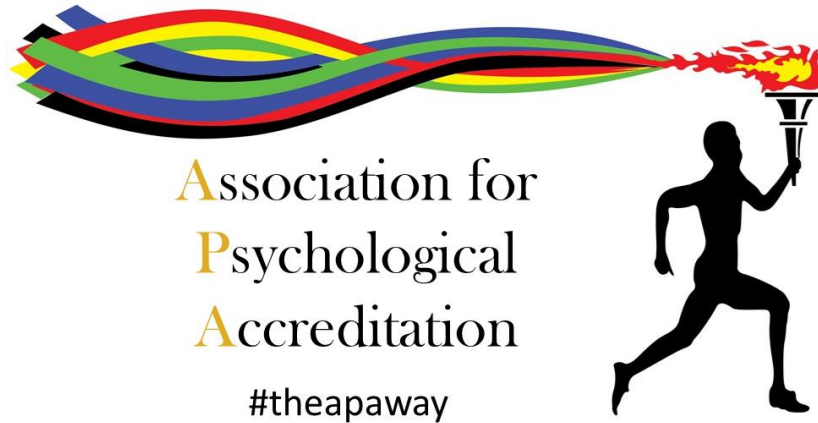
For decades, statutory and voluntary bodies around the world have shaped the delivery of psychological services with limited sector-wide oversight. IPSAC provides a consistent and reliable international benchmark, enabling such organisations to achieve global recognition as providers of excellence in ethical psychological services.

The IPSAC Panel is committed to fostering collaborative growth through the sharing of knowledge, experience, and professional insight. This approach enables organisations worldwide to showcase their dedication to ethical psychological support and the protection of both professionals and those in need of services.

Upon completion of the three-part assessment process, the IPSAC Panel submits a formal recommendation to the APA Executive Board for approval. All communications between an organisation and the IPSAC Panel during the audit process are treated as confidential and form part of the formal IPSAC recommendation.

In the interest of transparency and public trust, IPSAC will publicly confirm when an assessment has been requested and will also publish the final outcome. The Council reserves the right to share information regarding assessment results as part of its commitment to openness and accountability. This helps the public to increase the Trust, understanding and Belief in the infrastructure of the whole Psychological Framework.

A new approach for new results



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