



AUSTRALASIAN ASSOCIATION OF  
**YOGA THERAPISTS**  
Leadership • Education • Integrative Medicine  
Reg: A0050842W

## **GRANDFATHER CLAUSE: AUSTRALASIAN ASSOCIATION OF YOGA THERAPISTS**

### What is a Grandfather Clause?

It is common practice in the development of health professions to recognise those who have been leaders in the field, and those who have qualified in a therapeutic modality prior to new standards being introduced. In the case of the Australasian Association of Yoga Therapists, the new membership standards released in December 2014, have led to the need for a 'Grandfather Clause'.

### What is a Grandfathering Period?

A Grandfathering Period is a specific time period during which people whose education/training and commencement of practice occurred prior to the introduction of new standards, are considered eligible for professional standing based on different standards. For the stated period of time, these people are eligible for professional body membership under the earlier standards. At the end of the Grandfathering Period, all applicants for professional body membership are considered under the current standards.

For the Australasian Association of Yoga Therapists, the new standards for membership will be enforced as of 1 October 2015. Grandfathering will apply as follows:

- (1) Yoga Therapists who have completed their training in an AAYT accredited course prior to 30 September 2015 will have three years from that date within which to join the AAYT.
- (2) Trainees who have commenced their training in an AAYT accredited course prior to 30 September 2015 will have three years from their commencement date to complete training under the old standards according to the Grandfather Clause, and thereafter have up to 30 September 2018 to become a member of the AAYT.

### International Association of Yoga Therapists (IAYT) membership

For some Yoga Therapists, international professional body membership will be relevant. AAYT membership standards are designed to be world class and align with IAYT. However as different pre-requisites and training requirements apply (see the professional body websites for more details), proof of a minimum of 150 hours clinical practice or practicum as a yoga therapist is likely to be required for Australasian Yoga therapists seeking membership of IAYT.