

# Student membership information and application form



The ASA is the peak body and leading voice for sonographers with over 3,000 members. Our purpose is to advocate on behalf of all sonographers and continue to pursue high standards within the practice of medical sonography.

## Our core objectives are to:

- provide continuing education for sonographers
- promote best practice in sonography
- advocate members' interests and raise the profile of the profession
- provide a forum for communication
- provide member services and benefits.

When you join the ASA you join over 3,000 members who are committed to raising the profile of the profession through promoting best practice, contributing to policy development and upholding professional standards through continuing professional development.

## Ten reasons to join the ASA

1. **Membership is free** to eligible sonography students.
2. You'll receive access to education and significant **member discounts** on all ASA meetings and events including Annual National Conferences, SIG Seminars, Travelling Workshops, ASA Masterclasses and Webinars.
3. You'll have access to **information, education and resources** to support you in your study including up-to-date information on developments in the practice of sonography via our quarterly education publication **soundeffects** and e-newsletters *e-mode* and Advocacy Alert.
4. You'll have access to the **member-only section of the ASA** website including ASA Discussion Forum, online CPD tests, **soundeffects** education articles, policies and guidelines relating to clinical practice.
5. You'll be eligible to use the designation of **ASA Certified Student Sonographer** making a powerful statement to peers, employers, regulators and patients about your commitment to clinical and professional excellence.
6. You can accelerate **your professional advancement** by presenting original or clinical research and/or case studies at Branch and Sub-branch education meetings and ASA events including the ASA Annual National Conferences and SIG Seminars.
7. You'll be entitled to apply for a range of **scholarships, grants and prizes** offered by the ASA.
8. You can **build your professional networks** by attending Branch and Sub-branch meetings or becoming a volunteer on one of many committees and working groups supported by the ASA.
9. You'll be eligible to be nominated for the **ASA Awards of Excellence** which seek to recognise exceptional contributions to our profession including Graduate of the Year.
10. You have the option to apply for the ASA's **Professional indemnity, legal benefits and public liability insurance** which is tailored specifically to meet the needs of sonographers.

## Professional indemnity, legal benefits and public liability insurance

Sonographers, like any other medical profession, may be exposed to accusations of negligence, by error or omission, or malpractice. This may result in having to defend themselves against a claim which could result in substantial legal costs and expenses.

Hence, in response to concerns from members, insurance cover tailored to sonographers is offered to all Ordinary and Student members.

The purpose of our professional indemnity/malpractice, legal benefits and public liability policy is to provide sonographers with protection and peace of mind when acting in their professional capacity as a sonographer. Cover is also extended to like professions such as radiography, nuclear medicine and nursing as long as your primary profession is sonography.

The ASA strongly recommends all sonographers protect themselves against risks by holding cover independent of the cover held by their employer. Run-off cover is available, provided that the Association's policy remains in force and a level of membership to the ASA is retained. Undergraduate students should check with their university regarding insurance while undertaking clinical placements. Please contact the ASA National Office for more information.

## Professional indemnity and malpractice insurance

### Scope of policy

- \$10 million for each and every claim, \$20 million in the aggregate for the insurance period.
- Excess: \$250 each and every claim.
- Underwritten by CGU Professional Risk Insurance, brokered by Gamman Insurance Brokers Pty Ltd.
- Provides cover to bodily injury, mental injury, illness, disease or death of any patient caused by any negligent act, error or omission, committed by the insured in or about the conduct of the insured member's professional duties or good samaritan acts.

### Extensions to the policy are:

- Teachers Liability
- Libel and Slander
- Loss of Documents.

An added benefit to the policy is 'Run Off Cover' which will provide cover for any previous incidents, prior to retirement or leaving the profession provided that the Association's policy remains in force and a level of membership to the ASA is retained. Costs and expenses incurred with insurers/underwriters written consent in defence or settlement of any claim which falls within the insurance policy period are covered by the Professional Indemnity Policy, current at the time.

## Legal benefits cover

### Legal benefits cover (i)

- \$100,000 in the aggregate across all members for the insured period
- Excess \$1,000.

### Provides cover towards:

- Representation before registration boards, tribunals and coronial enquiries
- Advanced legal costs for conduct allegedly committed by the member carrying out their professional services.

### Legal benefits cover (ii)

- \$100,000 in the aggregate across all members for the insured period
- Excess \$1,000.

### Provides cover towards:

- Representation for defence costs for disciplinary hearings into sexual molestation.

## Public liability

### Scope of policy

- \$20 million in the aggregate across all members for the insured period.

### Who is covered?

All financial Ordinary and Student members are eligible for professional indemnity, legal benefits and public liability insurance. As well as covering them in their professional capacity as a sonographer as outlined in the ASA's Code of Professional Conduct, this cover extends to radiography, nursing and like duties.

Geographic coverage is worldwide – jurisdiction is Australia & New Zealand.

It should be noted that the policy is a claims made policy and when a claim is actually reported, it is imperative that the insurance is current and notification is provided before any legal proceedings commence. Further to this, the policy wordings are subject to terms and conditions, which can be further clarified if you contact our office.

# Student membership application form



Membership is offered in accordance with the Constitution of the Association.

A person eligible to be a Student member is one who is enrolled in a course accredited by the Australasian Sonographer Accreditation Registry (ASAR).

## Student declaration:

I declare that I am currently studying towards a postgraduate qualification in sonography (please circle). Yes / No

I further declare that the anticipated year of completion of this course is: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Tertiary qualifications, if relevant (enclose a copy): \_\_\_\_\_

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_ Year completed \_\_\_\_\_

Accredited ultrasound course details: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_ Year commenced \_\_\_\_\_

(A letter of enrolment/acceptance must be supplied to fulfil application criteria)

**ASA membership year covers the period 1 July to 30 June.**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Suburb: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Suburb: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send my correspondence to:  Business Address  Home Address Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Phone (B/H): \_\_\_\_\_ (A/H): \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Accreditation through Australasian Sonographer Accreditation Registry:

Approved Please provide ASS No. \_\_\_\_\_

Pending  Not applied for  Not applicable

## Member declarations

### DECLARATION IN RESPECT TO THE AUSTRALIAN SONOGRAPHERS ASSOCIATION LTD ('the company'):

All new members must sign:

I HEREBY UNDERTAKE to contribute to the assets of the Company in the event of it being wound up while I am a member or within one year after I cease to become a member for:

- Payment of the debts and liabilities of the Company in the event of it being wound up while I am a member or within one year after I cease to become a member
- The costs, charges and expenses of winding up; and
- Adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves

such amount as may be required not exceeding twenty dollars (\$20.00).

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of application: \_\_\_\_\_

### CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT DECLARATION:

I declare that I fulfil and abide by the ASA membership terms and conditions (available at [www.a-s-a.com.au](http://www.a-s-a.com.au)), including the Code of Professional Conduct.

Yes Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## Student membership application form

### What area(s) of sonography are you interested in?

- Abdominal    Breast    Cardiac    General    Gynaecology    Musculoskeletal  
 Obstetrics    Paediatric    Small Parts    Urology    Vascular

### How did you find out about membership:

- ASA website    Colleague    Employer    University

Other \_\_\_\_\_

## Student members optional insurance

The ASA strongly recommends all sonographers protect themselves against risks by holding the professional indemnity, legal benefits and public liability insurance, independent of the cover held by their employer. Run-off cover is available, provided that the Association's policy remains in force and a level of membership to the ASA is retained. Please complete the optional insurance application below or contact the ASA National Office for more information.

Professional indemnity, legal benefits and public liability insurance for 2011/12 financial year are as follows (please tick the appropriate category):

- TYPE A Student:** All employees, including professional indemnity, legal benefits and public liability insurance, includes cover for nuclear medicine technologist activities. **\$120**
- TYPE B Student:** Self-employed contractor with anticipated earnings of up to \$150,000 per annum in gross fees. **\$280**
- TYPE C Student:** Self-employed contractor or Pty Ltd earning in excess of \$150,000 in gross fees per annum, and/or owning their own equipment. Your premium will be assessed individually by our insurance broker on completion of your membership application. **POA**

### INSURANCE DECLARATION: All new members requiring insurance must sign:

Has there been, or are you aware of, any circumstance which has already occurred that may give rise to a negligent act, error, omission or malpractice claim being lodged against you?

Yes    No   Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## Optional insurance payment method

- Cheque    Money Order    MasterCard    Visa

Card no: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_   Expiry date: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

CVV number: (the last 3 digits on the back of the card above the signature panel): \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Australian Sonographers Association Ltd ABN: 64 991 983 051 All prices quoted are in Australian dollars and include 10% GST.

### Please forward your completed application form, together with a copy of your qualification to:

Australian Sonographers Association  
PO Box 709  
Moorabbin VIC 3189  
F: 03 9585 2331  
E: members@a-s-a.com.au