
Frequently Asked Questions

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How much does it cost to see a career development practitioner?

CDAA members work in a variety of situations with diverse client groups, and possess a range of qualifications and expertise, so fees charged do vary. Most charge a sessional rate - i.e. a fee for a consultation of a specified length of time. Some counsellors use a sliding scale which means they offer lesser fees to people on lower incomes. Some career counsellors offer a 'package' of work - i.e. a number of sessions which include a specified set of activities. In this case, fees are set for the whole package.

What qualifications can I expect from the career development practitioner I see?

Usually, CDAA members will possess a university degree along with specific experience in a related field. For example: Some have been teachers, human resource officers, psychologists or rehabilitation consultants. Professional members will also have qualifications or training in career development, or significant work experience in the field.

Membership of the Career Development Association of Australia should be well regarded.

What course can I take to become a career development practitioner?

For Professional membership candidates, an undergraduate degree plus a careers-related Graduate Certificate is an excellent option. New courses are currently being developed to equip people to become Associate members - these are generally equivalent to a Certificate IV in Career Development. In the interim, the [Australian Career Development Studies Program](#) is a good way to begin if you have no prior training.

What does a career development practitioner do?

They assist people who are dealing with the range of challenges in their work-life, whether that be making a career decision, finding a job, balancing work and family needs, or dealing with frustrations in the workplace. Many work in private practice, others work within organizations such as schools, universities, government or community bodies, and career management companies.

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