How do I apply?

To apply, you need to submit an application, payment and an Evidence Based Record. For the relevant forms and further information, go to www.acmhn.org and follow the links on the Credentialing menu. Once your application is received by the ACMHN, it is checked to ensure it is complete. When all components are present, the application is sent for peer review and assessed by other Credentialed Mental Health Nurses.

When can I submit an application?

Applications are received continuously throughout the year. Complete applications take 6 to 8 weeks to be processed.

What nurses say

“The credential identifies me as having advanced skills, and recognises my ongoing commitment to education and learning.”

“I am recognised as a credible, skilled and experienced clinician.”

“Doctors, consumers and carers feel safe knowing that they are receiving quality care from a Credentialed Mental Health Nurse™.”

“This recognition broadens my range of employment opportunities.”

“The credentialing process was fast and hassle free.”

Help is available

There are guidelines and FAQs on the ACMHN’s website which explain each question on the application form.

Credentialing application packages and membership information are available at www.acmhn.org or by calling 1300 667 079 or +61 2 6285 1078.
What is a Credentialed Mental Health Nurse™?

A Credentialed Mental Health Nurse™ is a specialist nurse who has demonstrated the Australian College of Mental Health Nurses criteria which includes:
• Specialist mental health nursing qualifications
• Practical experience
• Continuing professional development
• Professional integrity.

Why become credentialed?

Credentialing validates registered nurses as specialist mental health nurses.

Being awarded a mental health nursing credential demonstrates to employers, professional colleagues, consumers and others the achievement of professional standards for practice in mental health nursing.

How do I become credentialed?

To become a Credentialed Mental Health Nurse™, you must demonstrate that you:
• hold a current licence to practise as a registered nurse in Australia
• hold a recognised specialist/postgraduate mental health nursing qualification
• have had at least 12 months experience since completing specialist/postgraduate qualification or 3 years experience as a registered nurse working in mental health
• have been practising within the last 3 years
• have undertaken continuing professional development for education and practice
• are supported by two professional referees
• have completed a professional declaration agreeing to uphold the standards of the profession.

Do you want to …

• be recognised as a specialist mental health nurse?
• enhance your professional credibility?
• take the next step in your career?
• work as an independent mental health nurse in primary care, or under the Mental Health Nurse Incentive Program?

If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, become a Credentialed Mental Health Nurse™ today!

Professional recognition

Being a Credentialed Mental Health Nurse™ is the only way to be recognised as a specialist MHN in Australia.

The Credential for Practice Program (CPP) is an initiative of the Australian College of Mental Health Nurses and was developed in line with the Standards of Practice for Australian Mental Health Nurses.

More information?

Detailed information regarding criteria, as well as guidelines, is available on the ACMHN website at www.acmhn.org