

## **GUIDELINES FOR LAPSING OF CLINICAL FAMILY THERAPIST MEMBERSHIP and REINSTATEMENT UNDER SPECIAL CONSIDERATION**

From time to time AAFT is asked to consider the renewal of Clinical Family Therapist Memberships where the Clinical Family Therapist Member has for various reasons allowed their membership to lapse.

If a member fails to pay two consecutive years of fees then Clinical Family Therapist Membership will consider to be lapsed. E.G. If a member fails to pay 2018 and 2019 fees by the 30th January, 2019, then their membership will be considered to have lapsed after that date.

In these circumstances a number of options for renewal may apply:

### **Option 1. (Lapsed membership up to 2 years)**

The Clinical Family Therapist Member may elect to pay all outstanding fees owing, plus additional administrative costs and in choosing this option will be considered to have continuous Clinical Family Therapist Membership from the date that their application was approved. The member needs to put in writing the reasons as to why their membership lapsed.

### **Option 2. (Lapsed membership up to 3 years)**

The Clinical Family Therapist Member may apply under the Special Consideration Clause for a continuance of their Clinical Family Therapist Membership due to unforeseen circumstances which at the time did not enable them to continue payment of their membership. Under these conditions the Clinical Family Therapist Member would need to demonstrate to the Accreditation Sub-Committee that their reinstatement would be warranted.

Documented evidence from their immediate Manager, Supervisor or equivalent, verifying that a) supervision in Family Therapy has continued for the time of their lapsed membership and b) verifying that they have in fact continued to practice Family Therapy and in what capacity since the lapsed date. Also the current years Membership to AAFT plus additional administration costs may be expected to be paid. This documentation would be forwarded to the Accreditation Sub-Committee for assessment. If this option is approved, clinical Family Therapist Membership would deem to recommence from the newly approved date along with Clinical Family Therapist Membership entitlements.

**Note: that during the period of lapsed Clinical Family Therapist membership, all recognitions and entitlements of Clinical Family Therapist membership will cease until reinstatement.**

### **Other Conditions:**

\*Suspension of Clinical Family Therapist Membership at half the membership rate for a period of a year MAY be granted upon application to the Accreditation Sub-Committee in the case of extenuating circumstances i.e. Overseas Travel, Carers Leave, Maternity/Paternity Leave or other validated reasons. The Accreditation Sub-Committee will adjudge and assess the request on its merit.

\* If a Clinical Family Therapist Member wishes to alter their status at any time by electing to take up General Membership due to a range of circumstances, they will be welcome to do this upon application to the Accreditation Sub-committee stating the reasons why. This arrangement can remain for a period of no more than two years. If after this time reinstatement to Clinical Family Therapist Membership is again sought then supporting documentation may be required in order to once again be approved as a Clinical Family Therapist Member. The period of Professional Member (Associate) Membership will not be counted as continuous in terms of their Supervisor/Referee status i.e. the Clinical Family Therapist Membership tenure will cease from the date they move to Professional Member (Associate) Membership until such time as they return.