

Frequently Asked Questions - Membership Registration 2026/27

Membership Types & Eligibility

Q: What are the different membership categories?

A:

- **Category A (Sports Therapy):** Includes Registered Members, Student Members, and Non-practicing Members (p. 1).
- **Category B (Non-Sports Therapy):** Open to Medical/Allied Health Professionals (e.g., Physiotherapists, Doctors) and other Professionals like Sports Scientists or Strength and Conditioning specialists (p. 1).

Q: Who can apply as a Registered Member?

A: Applicants should hold valid professional registration with recognized bodies such as the **SST (UK)**, **STO (UK)**, **BASRaT**, or be accredited by the **BOC** (p. 1).

If you did not register with the above professional bodies(PB), your current degree held must be accredited with the above PBs.

If your degree is not accredited with the above PBs, we will ask you for more information to map with the scope of practice published by the STAoHK, or any information to support your application.

Q: What documents do I need to submit at the time of application?

A: Depending on your membership category, here are the specific documents you will need to provide:

Category A: Sports Therapy Memberships

- **Registered & Non-practicing Members:**
 - A copy of your **Registered Member Certificate** from one of the recognized bodies (SST, STO, BASRaT, or BOC).
 - If you don't have a current membership with those bodies, you must provide **official academic transcripts and certificates** from an accredited sports therapy program.
- **Student Members:**
 - A copy of your **Student Identity Card** or an equivalent document confirming your current program of study.
 - *Note: The association may request additional documents to verify your current student status.*

Category B: Non-Sports Therapy Memberships

- **Medical & Allied Health Professional Members:**

- **No extra documents** are typically required. However, you must ensure the name on your application **matches exactly** with your related registration board (e.g., Physiotherapists Board, Medical Council).
- **Professional Members:**
 - A copy of your **academic diploma or degree** related to your professional field (e.g., Sports Science).
 - Optional: Any relevant **specialist certifications** you hold.

Important Notes for All Applicants

- **Insurance:** If you are a practicing Category A member, you must also complete an **underwriting questionnaire** to fulfill the insurance requirement.
- **Format:** All documents must be **uploaded digitally** via the official online application form.
- **Hard Copies:** If your application is successful and you want a physical hard copy of your certificate, there is an additional **HK\$40 administration fee**.

Application & Deadlines

Q: When can I apply for Category A membership?

A: The annual registration window is strictly open from **May 1st to June 30th**. Applications submitted outside this period incur a **HK\$200 surcharge** (p. 1).

Q: What about Category B memberships?

A: These applications are open **throughout the year**, with memberships commencing on the 1st day of each month (pp. 2, 4).

Fees & Payments

Q: How much does it cost to join?

A:

Membership Type	Annual Fee	Insurance Premium
Registered Member	HK\$400	HK\$750.75
Student Member	HK\$200	HK\$750.75
Category B Member	HK\$600	N/A
Non-practicing	HK\$400	Waived

Note: A HK\$200 surcharge applies to late Category A applications or late payments (pp. 1, 4).

Renewal & Maintenance

Q: What are the renewal requirements for Registered Members?

A: To maintain active status, you must:

2. Complete **32 hours** of continuing education in the past 12 months.
3. Hold a valid **First Aid & AED certificate** (with a practical component).
4. Submit an underwriting questionnaire for insurance.
5. Pay the annual renewal and insurance fees (p. 4).

Q: What happens if my membership lapses?

A:

- **Within 1 month:** Pay a HK\$200 administration fee to revive it.
- **Over 1 month:** You must provide proof of relevant work/academic experience and pay a **HK\$400 administration fee** (pp. 4-5).

Rights & Titles

Q: What professional titles can I use?

A:

- **Registered Members:** "Registered Sports Therapist" or "STAoHK-Reg" (p. 3).
- **Non-practicing:** "Registered Sports Therapist(NP)" or "STAoHK-Reg(NP)" (p. 5).
- **Student Members:** "Student Sports Therapist" or "STAoHK-Stu" (p. 3).

Q: Are there other benefits?

A: Yes, members receive discounts/privileges with collaborated partners and priority access to Association-hosted activities (pp. 5-6).

Special Circumstances

Q: I am graduating by the end of the year. However, the application window opens only from May 1 to June 30. Can I apply for Category A membership now?

A: Yes. You can apply for Category A - Student Member during the application period then convert your student member to register member by submission of an award transcript free of charge.

Q: I have registered as a student member already and recently graduated. Shall I apply to be a registered member?

A: If you have graduated during the validity period of the student member, you can submit your award of transcript for a free conversion of the current status to registered member. We will update your status with a new Certificate of Registration and a new membership number.

Q: I would like to renew or apply for both membership with STAoHK and SST, can I use the insurance evidence as a replacement of insurance requirements by SST?

A: Yes. Our Insurance Evidence can be used as a proof of insurance to fulfill the requirements of SST insured members.

For other professional bodies please contact the respective one for details.

Q: Which category of membership I should apply for if I hold both professional degrees, such as physiotherapy and sports therapy degree?

A: If you have more than one professional degree but yet to register with any statutory body, you can apply for Category A membership with a professional indemnity insurance. If you have successfully registered with any statutory body, you can choose to apply for Category A or B membership. However, we do not provide professional indemnity insurance for Category B memberships. You need to source suitable insurance by yourself.

Q: I have completed a BOC/BASRaT accredited programme but not yet to sit an exam. Can I apply to be a registered member?

A: Yes. However, we can only offer you a provisional registration for the first year and you have to pass the exam at the time of renewal or otherwise the renewal will not be allowed after the end date of the provisional registration. You have to rejoin the registration after you pass the exam.