

Announcement and Criteria

Registration of Professional Counsellors and Student Counsellors, by counselling Council of India, would be jointly with its Member Associations

Counsellor Council of India (CCI) was established on November 22, 2017 as an Apex body of Counsellors, by coming together of a large number of Professionals, Organizations/Institutions of Counsellors to work for the advancement of Counselling profession in various disciplines and for enhancing the image of counsellors in society, by focusing on quality and accountability of counsellors. Since 2004, we have worked to advance the development of counselling through practice, education, research, and advocacy initiatives. CCI advances the development of counselling in order to improve people's lives and well-being.

CCI has initiated the **Registration of Professional Counsellors, Student Counsellors**, jointly with the Member Associations on a voluntary basis.

Who is a Professional Counsellor: - A Professional Counsellor is one who has an approved Counselling qualification, continuously updates his skills and knowledge in his chosen Counselling specialization, follows and is bound by an Ethics Code formulated by his Peer Group.

The registration has following features:

1. **National Registers:** There will be separate National Registers for (i) Professional Counsellor (ii) Associate Professional Counsellor/Vocational Guidance Expert (iii) Apprentice Counsellors (iv) Student Counsellor. The Criteria for registration under each category are given in para 8 below.
2. There will be separate National Registers under each category for different Counselling fields/ disciplines: Guidance, Career Development, Rehabilitation, Personal/Social/ Marital/ Adolescent/ Sexual/ Spiritual/ Geriatric/ Child/ Industrial/ HIV& other diseases counselling, etc.
3. The National Registers will be uploaded on the website of CCI (and respective Member Association) so as to provide recognition to those whose names appear on the Registers.
4. **Board of Registration:** A Board of Registration with eminent Counsellors as members is being constituted to guide, oversee the process of registration and take final decision. National Committee may be set up for each field/discipline of Counselling for registering.
5. **Fee:** The initial registration fee will be Rs. 500 for professional Counsellor, Rs. 300 for VG Expert, Rs. 200 for Apprentice Counsellors and Rs 100 for Students. Fee is non-refundable. The registration is subject to renewal after 3 years.

6. **Approaching Client/employer organisations:** CCI and Member Associations would inform public bodies of central and state governments and local bodies regarding the National Registers of Counsellors and advise them to consider the registered Counsellors for enrolment on their Panels as well as for various jobs/assignments.

7. **Benefits of Registration to Counsellors:**

- (i) Better credibility and possibility to make use of the branding of CCI and concerned Member Associations, as the names would be listed on the website
- (ii) Can use the Certificate of Registration as Professional Counsellor in the National Register as a part of CV, and
- (iii) Better prospects for assignments/jobs after this is publicised to client/employer organisations.

8. **Criteria for registering as Professional Counsellor (PC):** The candidate

- i. Has a Master' Degree in Counselling / Psychology from a recognized university / institution or equivalent qualification as approved by the UGC / Government of India
- ii. Has relevant working experience of at least 1 years as a Counsellor.
- iii. Is of good character (has not been involved in any case of moral turpitude)
- iv. Is evaluated through written examination or interview, to be conducted by Counselling Council of India or its Member Associations
- v. Has maintained continued professional development since graduation at a satisfactory level
- vi. Undertakes to adhere to the Code of Ethics laid down by CCI.
- vii. Makes a formal application with prescribed fee to the CCI

Exemptions on Experience for PE

- viii. The candidate can be credited with 2 years of experience if he/she has obtained a Ph.D. from a recognized institution
- ix. The candidate can be credited with 1 years of experience if he/she has obtained a M.Phill. from a recognized institution.
- xi. Maximum exemption for higher education shall not exceed 3 years.

9. **Exemption of Examination/Interview:** For those having a total of 10 years of experience, of which at least 05 years is in responsible position- Those having 20 years' experience can be designated as senior professional Counsellors.

10. **Criteria for registering as Apprentice Counsellor (Ap.C.)** - As for Professional Counsellor above, with under working in any Institution/ Organization in the field of Counselling.

11. **Criteria for registering as Student Counsellor (SE)**-Enrolled as a student in Master Degree or Diploma in Counselling / Psychology in a recognized university / institution or equivalent qualification as approved by the UGC / Government of India.

For detailed information, forms etc, go to web site www.cci.org.in