



What is the Specialist Research Physiotherapist Distinguished Pathway?

The Distinguished Pathway has been designed to recognise eminent physiotherapists with a proven record of expert-level research achievement and honours their significant contribution to the physiotherapy profession.

This pathway awards the *Specialist Research Physiotherapist* credential by the Australian College of Physiotherapists (ACP).

The *Specialist Research Physiotherapist* credential not only recognises professional excellence, but also grants Fellowship of the Australian College of Physiotherapists and use of the FACP post-nominal.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible, the applicant must meet the following criteria:

1. AHPRA Registration

Must hold a current general registration (without restriction) with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA)

2. APA Membership

Must be a current member of the Australian Physiotherapy Association

3. Awarded at least one of the following:

- Fellowship of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences (FAAHMS)
- NHMRC Investigator Grant (Leadership Levels 1-3)
- NHMRC Centres of Research Excellence as Chief Investigator-A

Application Process

- There are no fees associated with this pathway
- The online [Specialist Research Physiotherapist – Distinguished Pathway Application form](#) must be completed, with the required evidence uploaded where specified
- The Research Pathway Advisory Panel will review nominations and, if eligibility criteria are met, will make a recommendation to the ACP College Council to ratify the award the *Specialist Research Physiotherapist* credential
- Following consideration by College Council, applicants will be notified of the outcome via email,
- Successful applicants will be invited to attend the ACP Graduation Ceremony, held biannually during the APA Scientific Conference, where the 'Fellowship by Specialisation' certificate will be conferred as formal recognition of the award