

I. Applications for Registration

During the first three years from the opening of the Alexander Technique Teaching (ATT) register there will be a process, widely known as 'grandparenting', by which existing teachers, and those who qualify as teachers during that period, can join it.

There are three ways in which an application for registration can be processed during this period. Which way you go will depend on your training, teaching experience, and whether you are a member of a Professional Association (PA) recognised by the Complementary and Natural Healthcare Council (CNHC). These ways are described below.

There will be just one application form to submit. Your application will be routed according to the information you supply on the form.

After the three year period, in general, only teachers qualified from accredited UK training courses will normally be eligible for registration; although it will be possible for overseas trained teachers who become resident in the UK to register through Accreditation of Prior and Experiential Learning (APEL). They may be required to do further training. APEL will also operate during the grandparenting period with a wider scope which is explained below.

Standard Applications

Your application will be treated as standard if you:

1. are currently a teaching member of, or have qualified from a course approved by, a recognised PA
2. have been in continuous practice in the UK for three of the past five years, or since qualifying, whichever is the shorter period

If you meet both requirements you will normally be registered without further investigation of your application and without having to meet any further requirements.

Non-Standard Applications

Your application will be treated as non-standard if you meet one but not both of the requirements above. This means that it will be referred to the ATT Profession Specific Board of the CNHC. You may be asked to provide a portfolio of evidence (described below) to show that you are teaching to the National Occupational Standards for the profession. If you are unable to provide satisfactory evidence, you may have to demonstrate your teaching skills in person.

Accreditation of Prior and Experiential Learning (APEL)

If you do not meet either of the standard requirements, your application will be considered for Accreditation of Prior and Experiential Learning (APEL). This means that you will have to demonstrate your teaching skills in person, and you will be required to provide a portfolio of evidence (described below) of your teaching practice and experience. You may be asked to undergo further training to qualify for registration.

Recognised Professional Associations

Alexander Technique International (ATI)

Interactive Teaching Method Teachers Association (ITM)

Professional Association of Alexander Teachers (PAAT)

Society of Teachers of the Alexander Technique (STAT)

Portfolio of Evidence

The portfolio of evidence for Non-standard and APEL applications may include:

- references from registered teachers of the Alexander Technique
- references from a training provider
- descriptions of lessons provided to learners
- signed testimonials from past and current learners
- case studies drawn from your teaching experience
- records of contracts of employment for teaching the Alexander Technique.

Refusal of Application

If your application is refused you may:

1. reapply at any time after a period six months has elapsed or, in exceptional circumstances, when a shorter period is agreed
2. have the right of appeal.

You will be able to appeal on grounds that the assessor(s)/panel misinterpreted or misapplied the assessment criteria or that the assessor(s)/panel misinterpreted the evidence they were presented with. You will have 28 days in which to appeal the decision

What is 'continuous practice'?

Continuous practice does not necessarily mean that you are in full-time practice. It means that you are teaching on a regular basis. Normally this would be at least weekly, although it could be less frequently if, for instance, you regularly teach intensively for periods with breaks in between.

The requirement that you have been in continuous practice for three of the last five years means that you can have taken a break from teaching for up to a total of two years in that five. This two-year period does not have to be in a single block; you could, for instance, have had two one-year breaks in that time.

