

Health Fund Requirements Comparison

Minimum education and registration requirements for Acupuncture practitioners — Australian private health funds

HEALTH FUND	REQUIRED QUALIFICATION	AHPRA	KEY NOTES
ARHG	Bachelor Degree in Acupuncture	Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members must have at least a Bachelor level qualification in Acupuncture from an Australian higher education provider, with at least 200 hours of supervised clinical practice included in this program before graduation.
Australian Unity	Advanced Diploma (Minimum)	Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No additional requirements listed
Bupa	Four Year Bachelor Degree in Acupuncture	Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any educational qualifications attained by distance/online/external modes will not be recognised. For overseas graduates, the qualifications must be at least equivalent to an Australian bachelor's degree. All degree programs must conform to the current Australian Guidelines for Traditional Chinese Medicine Education, especially with regard to curriculum content, overall duration of the course, mode of delivery, and extent of supervised clinical practice. Applicants who completed their studies in a non-English language must supply evidence of their fluency in English language competence as set by the Chinese Medicine Board of Australia (CMBA). Bupa requires the IELTS (International English Language Testing System) certificate as evidence of this.
CBHS	Advanced Diploma (Minimum)	Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No additional requirements listed
HCF	Bachelor of Health Science (Acupuncture or Chinese Medicine)	Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No additional requirements listed
Medibank / AHM	Minimum Three Year Bachelor Degree	Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed, at minimum, a three year full time or equivalent (approx. 2000 hours) Bachelor degree course Hold and maintain current registration in Acupuncture with the Chinese Medicine Board of Australia as administered by AHPRA

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possession of current Professional Indemnity Insurance of \$5 million minimum, per claim plus minimum \$10 million public liability. The professional indemnity insurance policy must cover each practice and each modality. • Providers must demonstrate completion of a minimum of 20 hours per year of Continuing Professional Development and CPD must be relevant to practice modality. • Courses accepted by Medibank: refer to AHPRA recognised list
NIB	Advanced Diploma (Minimum)	Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No additional requirements listed

Legend **Required** AHPRA registration explicitly required Not stated Not explicitly specified in fund documentation **Shaded rows** Funds with additional requirements
Important: Meeting ATMS membership requirements does not automatically guarantee recognition by private health funds.