



Q. How will this amalgamation benefit members?

A. Members will benefit from a broader range of professional development opportunities, enhanced advocacy efforts and a larger, more diverse network of professionals.

In addition, ACAud is currently recruiting for our new full-time CEO. This is an opportunity for the two Boards to choose the new CEO together. Both ACAud and HAASA directors will be part of the recruitment panel.

Q. What will be the name of the united organisations?

A: Australian College of Audiology incorporating Hearing Aid Audiology Society of Australia (ACAud incorporating HAASA) will be the initial trading name, with further name development and branding consultation to take place over the coming months.

Q. When will the amalgamation officially take place?

A. The amalgamation is scheduled to be completed by 30th June 2024 with integration processes occurring throughout 2024.

Q. Were HAASA & AcAud members consulted in the decision-making process?

A: The HAASA Board & AcAud Board made the decision in the best interests of ensuring our members could be supported and protected into the future. We felt there was no benefit to be obtained in a protracted public discussion. Our boards have worked together to conduct this process with optimism for our shared future and the difference we can make for our members and ultimately for Australians living with hearing difficulties.

Q. What will happen to HAASA Board members?

A: Two current HAASA board members will join the ACAud board and all current HAASA directors will join their choice of ACAud sub-committees. Three ACAud directors will step down at the AGM in November 2024 and one position will be open for nominations from across the combined membership.

Q. What will happen to the HAASA office/administration officer?

A: This position will transfer to become an employee of the ACAud Inc HAASA Secretariat and will continue to support HAASA members in the united organisation. The HAASA phone number and email contact details will be redirected to the ACAud office as part of combining resources in the transition process.

For further information, members can reach out to the Secretariats at:

Email: acaud@acaud.org or phone: (07) 3839 1622

Email: haasa@haasa.org.au or phone: 0401 517 952



Q. What will happen to current HAASA Associates?

A: They will complete their internship under the existing HAASA curriculum and will also be able to access resources and training available to ACAud Interns/Associates. Supervisors and Examiners will continue as they have been.

Q. What about my member number?

A: All HAASA members can keep their current HAASA membership number, or if you are a dual member or former member with ACAud, you can revert to your ACAud member number if preferred. Current AcAud member numbers will remain the same if you are not a dual member.

Q. What will happen with CEP?

A: Both organisations run slightly different CEP protocols, these will be realigned to a common system in time. No member will be adversely affected. We will consolidate the event calendars to reduce overlaps and provide a richer variety of events

Q. Will the HAASA CEP days cease?

A: No - both Boards are looking to grow the CEP program and provide more opportunities for members.

Q. Can HAASA members attend the 2024 Cairns Congress at member rates now?

A: Although the shared membership will not be in full transition until July 1, 2024, ACAud welcomes HAASA members to register for the ACAud Congress at current membership rates.

Q: I'm a HAASA member who has already registered for the Congress and paid as a non-member. Can I get a refund?

A: ACAud will refund the difference back to HAASA members who have already registered. Please send an email to the Congress Coordinator at congress@acaud.org

Q. Will we have to pay higher membership fees?

A. Early bird registration for ACAud Inc HAASA membership fees will be \$525.60. Membership fees are designed to be both affordable and fair reflecting our commitment to providing exceptional value while ensuring the sustainability of our services.

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Q. How will membership renewal work this year?

A: The two Membership systems will be merged, and all members will receive a renewal notice in May 2024. In order to renew, you will be required to sign into the portal to update your details and complete the mandatory membership and competency declaration.

Q. How will the longstanding history of HAASA be preserved?

A: HAASA's history has been respectfully documented and will feature in many ACAud Inc HAASA promotions and events.

Q. As a HAASA member will there be changes to the way I access member resources online?

A. Yes, ACAud will integrate HAASA online resources into a single, user-friendly platform. HAASA members will receive detailed instructions on how to access the system including any changes to login procedures.

Q. How will members be kept informed about the amalgamation process?

A. We will provide regular updates via email, our websites and special webinars dedicated to amalgamation updates. We also plan to have a dedicated section on our website for amalgamation information.

Q. How can members get involved in shaping the future direction of the amalgamated association?

A. All members are encouraged to participate in surveys and to join committees. Additionally providing written feedback on proposed initiatives are excellent ways to contribute.

Q. What are the immediate next steps for members as the amalgamation progresses?

A. Stay informed by reading updates, provide feedback when possible and prepare for the renewal under the new structure as communicated. Your engagement and support are crucial during this transition to ensure a smooth joining that benefits all members and the profession.

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