



# International Federation of Aromatherapists

## BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

By joining the IFA you are reassuring the public that you uphold high professional standards of practice in your work, as well as receiving a wide range of additional benefits to develop your practice. The benefits for each category of membership include:

Brief Description	Full	Peot	Associate	Carer	Friend
<p><b>Professional Status &amp; Recognition</b></p> <p>GPs refer patients to practitioners on accredited registers like the IFA. The IFA verify applicants for the Complementary and Natural Healthcare Council (CNHC) who is approved by the Professional Standards Authority for Health and Social Care, a body accountable to Parliament. By becoming an IFA member you are demonstrating to the public that you have met the national standards of professional practice, which builds trust and confidence with clients, the public and healthcare providers.</p>	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
<p><b>Professional Certification &amp; Use of Suffix</b></p> <p>Including the IFA professional sealed certificate, use of suffix after your name, membership card and enamel badge (tailored to your category of membership).</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
<p><b>Use of Quality Mark</b></p> <p>Exclusive use of the IFA's Quality Mark (tailored to each category of membership) is only extended to those registered as a postgraduate member, for use on their websites and promotional material.</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
<p><b>Employment Advantages</b></p> <p>As the first governing body for aromatherapy, the IFA has a long-standing reputation in the field as the symbol of professionalism. Employers are increasingly aware of the advantages of receiving a treatment from an IFA registered aromatherapist, having pioneered aromatherapy in the NHS in the 80's. The IFA register of therapists is referred to by various other charities, organisations, hospitals, hospices, books, national and local newspapers and other healthcare professionals. The IFA regularly posts details of job opportunities for its registered members.</p>	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
<p><b>Private Healthcare Cash Plans</b></p>	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗



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IFA registration is recognised for reimbursement with Health Shield and Westfield Health private health cash plans, which allows clients who are members of the relevant plans to reclaim the cost of their treatment with an IFA registered aromatherapist.

## Special Treatment Licensing Exemption

IFA registered members who wish to open new premises to operate their business are exempt from paying the special treatment license fee in various boroughs of London and surrounding areas, [click here](#) for a list of boroughs.

✓ ✓ ✓ x x

## Discounted Insurance Package

IFA registered members can take advantage of our exclusive insurance cover package (50% off) with the Chartered insurance broker the Alan Boswell Group. £53 per annum for postgraduate members and £33 for students including cover for a range of additional therapies [for more information click here](#).

✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ x

## Listing on an Accredited National Register

IFA registered postgraduate members appear on our accredited national register, assuring the public and potential employees you conform to IFA's standards in your practice, as well as driving more business to you and your website. Last year, the IFA's searchable register was viewed more than 40,000 times. \* Please note IFA registered members also receive a free listing on a number of additional directories including a free trial on Therapy Directory.

✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ x

## Business Support

IFA registered postgraduate members have access to a range of useful resources including free templates and downloads for personalised leaflets, CV's, client follow up forms, appointment cards, business plan formation notes, template letters to approach your local GP, client consultations forms etc.

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Discounts off merchandise, chip & pin machines, cleaning services and more. We provide registered members with useful guidance in relation to HMRC guidelines, compliance with GDPR, advertising and legislation affecting aromatherapists.



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## Marketing Support

IFA registered postgraduate members can download template posters, press releases, follow up letters, social media and blog tips. Members are extended the opportunity to provide taster treatments to the public at exhibitions and publicity events attended by the IFA - to raise the profile of the profession and role of the IFA and also to help our members gain more clients. A list of registered members are provided to the public at all events attended by the IFA. Budding authors may also apply to write articles on behalf of the IFA published in numerous journals and periodicals, participate in radio and television interviews and provide talks on various international platforms as a registered member.

✓      ✓      ✓      ✘      ✘

## Representing our members interests

The IFA stand up for the interests of its member's before decision-making bodies such the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), the Charities Commission and also before international government bodies. We ensure that the information provided about our registrants and aromatherapy helps service users to make informed decisions.

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## Quarterly Magazine (s)

Members receive TWO quarterly journals free of charge: The *Aromatherapy Times*, the official journal of the IFA registered with the British Library - an informative professional publication covering developments in the world of aromatherapy both in the public and private sector and a free digital copy of *Holistic Therapist Magazine*, which contains a range of articles to support practitioners with running a successful practice.

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## Regional Meetings, Conferences and Networking

Access to networking events and support meetings. We currently have regional groups across the country and online for those in remote areas. Some of the groups offer evening group sessions, breakfast meetings, organise trips to distilleries and herb gardens etc. In the members area of our website we have a forum for our members to discuss issues affecting their work for mutual support and encouragement an annual conferences to meet with fellow members.

✓      ✓      ✓      ✓      ✓



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## Discounted Supplies

IFA registered members can get a wide range of discounts off 40 top brand suppliers to support their practice. Brands include Micheline Arcier, Tisserand Aromatherapy, Base Formula, Majestic Towels, Couch Rolls, Beautelle and many more click here for more details.

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*Limitations may apply*

## Industry News & Newsletters

All IFA members receive our bi-monthly newsletters by email, containing topics such as CAM, NICE and NHS campaign updates, member success stories, charity project updates, hot topics and brain teasers.

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## Research Search Filter

IFA registered members can gain access to our easy to use search facility where you can find links to filtered clinical trials and research papers by essential oil, carrier oil, medical condition, ailment and/or by a natural progression in the body to assist our members to locate the information they require quickly.

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## Aromatherapy Awareness Week hosted by the IFA

Every year the IFA hosts its registered national Aromatherapy Awareness Week in the second week of June. The week is scheduled with various activities bringing more press coverage to the profession, the work of the IFA and our registered members. Each year we have a set theme, which is published in local and national publications and our members are granted the opportunity to give 10% off treatments to the public during this week. All registered members are provided with template press releases, posters, leaflets (free of charge), statistics and information to promote their practice during this week.

✓   ✓   ✓   ✓   ✓

## Seminars, Workshops & CPD

IFA registered members gain discount to various CPD events, seminars, workshops and first aid courses to keep them up to date with the latest techniques and advancements in the profession. All members are afforded priority tickets to the IFA's International Conferences with world renowned speakers. Members can also get free entry to a variety of exhibitions and automatically receive free entry to the IFA's

✓   ✓   ✓   ✓   ✓



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## Entry into Competitions & Chance to win prizes

The IFA regularly run competitions to win free days out, treatments, products and hampers, entry exclusive to registered members only.

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## Awards & Certificates of Excellence

IFA registered members can enter our annual awards which acknowledge the unsung heroes of the profession, selected from the membership, and are also provided opportunities to enter additional external awards afforded to IFA registrants.

The IFA issue certificates of excellence when a postgraduate member has been registered for 10, 20 and 25 years in acknowledgement of their dedication to the profession and continuation of high standards of practice.

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## Resources

IFA registered members have access to the member's area which provides links to a host of additional resources, specialist databases, case histories, videos and articles of interest.

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## Opportunity to Serve your Profession

IFA registered members can download case study, reflective practice and research templates and guidelines to add to the IFA's bank of evidence which we put forward when approaching insurers and GP's for recognition. Members are invited to complete questionnaires and surveys to shape future policy and inform our work. Registered Full and PEOT members may also apply to serve on the board of directors.

Being a director is immensely rewarding, providing both expected and unexpected opportunities for personal development and while you bring your skills and energy to the running of the charity, you will also find you are gaining new experience and knowledge.

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## Social Media Presence

The IFA is active on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Pinterest.