

Applying for Registration



A Registered O&M Specialist in Australasia (ROMSA) is an ordinary member of the OMAA who is fully qualified, internationally certified, and publicly registered on the OMAA website. Professionals and members of the public can search the OMAA directory in confidence that a Registered member meets both local and international standards for an entry-level O&M Specialist.

1. A ROMSA:

- has completed a comprehensive O&M qualification covering the full O&M body of knowledge defined by the COMS program <https://www.acvrep.org/certifications/coms> •
- has experienced at least 80 hours learning to travel independently in the community and participate competently in everyday activities with simulated blindness (60+ hours) and low vision (20+ hours)
- has completed a 350 hour internship or equivalent period of supervised workplace experience as an O&M Specialist
- has passed the international exam to become a Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist (COMS)
- is committed to continuous professional development towards recertification every five years
- maintains financial membership with the OMAA, with mandatory declarations to –
 - uphold the OMAA Code of Ethics and standards of professional practice and –
 - maintain recency of practice (at least three months full-time equivalent in the past five years)
 - maintain current professional indemnity insurance (employer or independent)
 - comply with local laws and requirements
 - maintain fitness to practice (not the subject of conduct, performance or health proceedings)

2. Applying for Registration

A ROMSA applicant needs to:

1. Maintain current ordinary OMAA membership, pay fees annually, make mandatory declarations, update professional profile and contact details, and
2. Send evidence of COMS status (a scan/photo of COMS certificate or ACVREP portal showing COMS certification date and number) to standards@omaaustralasia.com. The OMAA registrar will upgrade the applicant's membership status from ordinary to registered in the directory on the OMAA website, then issue the registration certificate.

When registration is confirmed, the applicant can use ROMSA in email signatures, business cards and resume, along with other credentials.

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