

Become a certified academic advisor

The Academic Advising Professional Development Programme (AAPD) offers a Short Learning Programme (SLP) that certifies professional advisors in the South African higher education sector. This programme allows participants to adopt a standard of excellence in their advising profession and practice.

What is the AAPD?

The Academic Advising Professional Development Programme is a Short Learning Programme (SLP) equipping academic advisors in South Africa with the necessary theoretical, knowledge, and skills to develop an intentional advising practice at their institutions or departments and enhance their professional advising skills.

Duration of the programme

The AAPD is presented on various occasions throughout the year. Participants attend a four-day (online or face-to-face), after which they complete an assessment, and receive certification. Each contact session is reserved for a maximum of 30 participants, allowing for interactive learning.

Dates for 2023

Date	Place		Price
3 - 6 July 2023	Bloemfontein	Individual applications	R6 000
2 - 5 October 2023	Johannesburg	Per invitation only	R3000

Benefits of Certification

- Expand your knowledge of advising as a practice
- Advance in your professional qualification and credibility
- Provide your students with the best possible advising experience
- Connect with a national network of professional academic advisors
- Distinguish yourself in a competitive job market by enhancing your resume
- Develop a successful and intentional advising approach in your institution

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How do I become a certified professional academic advisor through the AAPD?

After attending the four-day short learning programme, advisors complete a portfolio of evidence, which serves as an assessment for this course. Participants have to pass the Portfolio of Evidence for certification.

What units are covered in the AAPD?

The AAPD provides insight into the five components of advising, namely the conceptual, informational, relational, technological and professional components. Each unit provides advisors with the necessary theoretical foundation and skills to practice professional academic advising in their institution. Below is an overview of the units.

UNIT 1:

Conceptual component

- Conceptual understanding of advising
- Advising theories
- Advising approaches

UNIT 2:

Informational component

- Information advisors need to know and disseminate to students

UNIT 3:

Relational component

- Advising in action
- Academic advising practices
- Advising models
- Student referrals
- Advising administration
- Ethical dilemmas in advising

UNIT 4:

Technological Component

- Technology in advising
- The digital profile of the student
- Advising technologies
- Global trends in advising technology

UNIT 5:

Professional Component

- Self-knowledge as advisor
- Cultural competence and awareness
- Self-Care
- Advisor etiquette
- Further professional development

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