

## DEFINITION OF THE WORD PROFESSIONAL

The word professional is a bit like NLP, confusing because everybody has their own definition. Most professions require at least 7 years of training to obtain the necessary qualifications and experience and then the “professional” is just at the beginning of their journey. On my web site when I use the word professional I use it in the sense of Grant and Cavanagh’s definition below.

Grant and Cavanagh (2004:3) have summarized, professional status as defined by several key criteria: (1) significant barriers to entry, (2) a shared common body of knowledge rather than proprietary systems, (3) formal qualifications at university level, (4) regulatory bodies with the power to admit, discipline and meaningfully sanction members, (5) an enforceable code of ethics, and (6) some form of state-sanctioned licensing or regulation for certain professions, or parts of professions

*Grant, A. M. & Cavanagh, M. J. (2004). Toward a profession of coaching: Sixty-five years of progress and challenges for the future. International Journal of Evidence-based Coaching and Mentoring, 2(1), 1-16.*

