



Irish Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy

08.05.2020

Rationale

As per IACP requirements for First Time Accreditation, applications for First Time Accreditation may be accepted between the period of 1 year and 5 years following the successful completion of a core course*. In special circumstances an applicant may apply in writing to have their application for Accreditation considered where more than 5 years have elapsed, but this will be at the discretion of the Accreditation Committee to approve such application.

For Counsellors and Psychotherapists who are working towards accreditation but do not meet the above requirement as are outside of the 5 years' time-frame and have not been given a discretion on their application from the IACP Accreditation Committee, an additional training is required to be completed in order to be deemed eligible for First Time Accreditation with the IACP.

Refresher Course Minimum Criteria Ratified by the IACP Board:

Such training, called a Refresher Course, is a CPD training that must include the following minimum requirements in order to be considered by the IACP as an appropriate "refresher" training:

- Selection process- Interview by course staff is required to assess eligibility
- Length – minimum of one academic year
- Overall minimum class contact hours: 75
- Personal therapy hours: minimum 15 with the letter of attendance from the therapist to be submitted to the college

- Minimum 50 hours of client work is required, which must be supervised by an IACP, BACP or IAHIP Accredited Supervisor in a ratio 1:5 with the report to the college

Refresher course must be a blend of skills, theory and clinical practice training:

Theory Training

Minimum 25 hours

It would involve attending weekly/monthly lectures on Counselling and Psychotherapy theory, engaging in class participation, debate, discussion, group work etc. Again, in order to evidence the learning outcomes have been attained, the applicant would need to complete the same assignment that current students are completing.

Clinical Practice Training

Minimum 25 hours

This would involve preparation for returning to client work. A focus on ethics, assessment (especially recent developments such as use of monitoring tools), note taking, supervision etc. The college would need to be certain that the person is ready to return to clinical work and has refreshed their clinical skills around areas of practice.

Skills Training

Minimum 25 hours

The learner would engage in lectures and experiential triad practice as part of this module. Learners would receive formative feedback on their skills practice and would complete a summative assessment to evidence the requisite learning outcomes. Formal, summative assessment of the learner's ability to evidence acquisition of the skills required.

*See core course requirements

<https://iacp.ie/first-time-accreditation>