



**NORWICH  
MEDICAL  
SCHOOL**

**Doctoral Programme in Clinical Psychology  
Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences**



**Interested in hosting an International UEA Clinical  
Psychology Trainee?**



**The British  
Psychological Society**  
Accredited

**hcpc approved**

## **Specialist Placements for international Students**

Trainees undertake two specialist placements in their final year of training. For international trainees the specialist nature of these placements is undertaking a placement within organisations or services in their usual country of residence. This document highlights key information on Specialist placement provision and Supervision arrangements.

**For Full details see UEA Clinical Practice Handbook and international webpage.**

<http://www.uea.ac.uk/medicine/doctorate-in-clinical-psychology>

### **What do I need to know?**

In the UK, Clinical Psychology training is a three-year doctoral level training. It is very well regulated by external Professional organisations such as the UK Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) as well as the British Psychological Society (BPS). As such your trainee will be professional and ethical in all their dealings with services, organisations and of course individuals. This means that you will have an experienced, skilled and highly motivated new member joining your service. In the UK all trainees are expected to make a contribution to clinical services by carrying a caseload while they are training.

International Clinical Psychology (ClinPsyD) trainees at UEA have the option of completing up to two clinical practicums in their usual country of residence. This practicum option is only available where UEA can source, quality assure and monitor placement provision consistent with HCPC and BPS criteria. UEA ClinPsyD staff have a summary of criteria they can share with potential supervisors.

Supervisors will find the following information from the BPS very helpful in setting reasonable expectations for placement supervision.

<http://www.bps.org.uk/sites/beta.bps.org.uk/files/Accreditation/Guidelines%20on%20clinical%20supervision.pdf>

### **What do I need to do?**

In order to be eligible to provide supervision you will need to complete the UEA new supervisor's training. This professionally produced CPD is provided free and locally by UEA ClinPsyD staff. You will need to be registered with your relevant Clinical Psychology professional body in your own country.

In reality we operate a shared supervision model in order that all training experience is overseen by an HCPC registered Clinical Psychologist. Local supervisors will be expected to provide a minimum of one hour's formal, scheduled supervision each week, with total 'contact' time between supervisor(s) and trainee(s) expected to be at least three hours per week.

### ***Shared Supervision Arrangements***

For International specialist placements UEA will nominate a designated primary Supervisor who will take responsibility for the planning and coordination of that Trainee's placement, supervision, and liaison with the Programme Team. The local Supervisor maintains regular contact with the primary Supervisor.

The UEA University code of practice on placement learning and our Professional Statutory Regulatory Bodies (HCPC, BPS) requirements mean that we always expect arrangements for placements to be made at the institutional level rather than at the level of individuals. All trainees on placement will be placed with a local supervisor but the employer of that supervisor recognises and supports the supervisory role.

### **What are the Benefits of being a supervisor?**

By the time a trainee comes to your placement they will have accumulated a minimum of 224 days of supervised clinical practice (1792 hours). These figures are based on our minimum placement days and in most cases our trainees will complete many more days than this (over 2250 hours). As such your trainee will have successfully completed up to 4 placements working with older people, adults with mental health problems, children, young people and families, and people with Intellectual disabilities. You gain a competent new colleague in your service. Past supervisors have said this about UEA Clinical Psychology trainees:

*Motivated and enthusiastic!*

*UEA trainees bring energy and enthusiasm to our services.*

### **What do specialist placements look like?**

Specialist placements allow for greater flexibility of training options than core competence placements (which are completed in the first two years of training). At the stage a trainee starts specialist placements (in year three of their training) there is an expectation that there is a wider range of training experiences that a trainee will select as part of their own individual training pathway to competence as a Clinical Psychologist. Specialist placements can focus on the development of opportunities for leadership, enhanced research skill development, as well as working with specialist populations and services. As such there is greater flexibility in the structure of these final year specialist placements both in terms of the scope of work undertaken on placement and the expectations for clinical contact.

The “specialist “nature of the International placements is working in a different country and with a different system of healthcare from that of the UK. It is expected International Trainees will draw on their core competencies and continue to seek opportunities for applying transferable knowledge, skills and behaviours learned in UK practice settings into clinical practice and research in different cultural contexts and health care systems. By undertaking such placement opportunities we expect that the process of transitioning to working in local services (in the country of origin) will be enhanced, if students seek to work as Clinical Psychologists in their country or region of origin on completion of their training.

### **Pieces of work on placement and trainee time spent on placement**

Trainees are expected to be present on placement a minimum of three days a week, with a minimum one day a week set aside for self-directed study time. The rest of the time is spent on teaching related activity. The UEA ClinPsyD Programme team are responsible for teaching delivery. Trainees are required to meet UEA standard criteria for minimum placement days. This is the responsibility of the trainee to ensure this is adhered to.

For specialist placements in year three of the doctoral training in Clinical Psychology (ClinPsyD), trainees are expected to have *completed* a minimum number of 8 pieces of clinical work which can comprise individual cases or indirect consultative working or pieces of service development and service evaluation.

### **What do our international trainees say about the UEA Clin PsyD Programme?**

*I have no regret in pursuing my professional dream in the UK. It is one of the world's leading destinations for international students as UK universities unswervingly perform well in the world rankings. Besides the excellent teaching standards, the UEA programme provides opportunities for international trainees to either complete their final year specialist clinical placements and/or research locally or in their home country. This is a unique attribute that really sets this University apart from the rest.*

*As an international trainee I completed the first two years of training in the UK before returning to my home country where I am completing my two final placements. The transition worked very well and the opportunity to draw on experiences from different countries has provided me with an insight into the profession that has shaped the way I think, reflect and work as a psychologist.*



**For more details see our International webpages**

**<http://www.uea.ac.uk/medicine/doctorate-in-clinical-psychology>**

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