



The Professional Board for Psychology

Training of Intern Counselling Psychologists:

**Information for Institutions that wish
to apply for Accreditation of Training
of Intern Counselling Psychologists**

February 2019

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1 RECOGNITION

Training can only be recognised if it takes place in an approved institution on a full-time basis (40 hours per week) over a minimum period of 12 months. Institutions that wish to apply for accreditation, for purposes of training intern Counselling Psychologists, must do so in writing.

1.1. Staff

1.1.1. Psychologists

Full information concerning the full-time and part-time post structure and the number of psychologists on the staff establishment of the institution must be furnished. Details must also be furnished regarding the categories in which the psychologists are registered, where they were trained and their experience since registration.

1.1.2. Other Professional Personnel

Information must be furnished regarding the full-time and part-time post structure and the number of other professional personnel who are employed by the institution.

1.2. Spectrum of Cases

A clear indication must be given of the nature of the counselling clients that are available on a continuous basis, with special reference to age and cultural groups.

An exposition of a full year's consultations will be much appreciated. If possible, the duration of contact with the clients should be indicated.

1.3. Facilities

Information must be furnished regarding the available testing facilities, group-discussion room, available psychometric tests, consulting rooms, test-library, audio-visual aids, etc.

1.4. Training Programme

A complete exposition of the proposed training programme for intern Counselling Psychologists must be given. The main fields of emphasis and an indication of the staff, who will be involved in the training, must be clearly indicated. The duration of each aspect of the programme must be stipulated.

The psychological tests listed in the internship programme have to comply with:

- The Board's policy on the classification of psychometric measuring devices, instruments, methods and techniques (Form 208); and
- The Board's list of tests classified as being psychological tests (Form 207).

Annual leave of 22 working days must be granted to intern Counselling Psychologists.

The following should serve as a guideline:

Activity	Description	Approximate portion of the internship
Psychological assessment of children, adolescents and adults.	This includes interviews and psychometric testing; psychometric scoring; and the accurate interpretation and integration of data from intake interviews, records, psychometric assessments and other sources for diagnosis, case conceptualisation, and recommendations. This also includes writing reports and the provision of verbal feedback. The use of psychometric assessment procedures must be in accordance with Form 207 and 208. The provision of career assessment and counselling is included in these activities.	20%
Counselling or psychotherapy of children, adolescents and adults	Application of counselling or psychotherapeutic interventions of a preventive, developmental and remedial nature, for children, adolescents and adults, within the scope of practice of counselling psychology. This may include individual, couple, family and group counselling and psychotherapy. Intern counselling psychologists must be provided with opportunities to work with people experiencing developmental and adjustment problems, psychological crises, trauma, mild-to-moderate mental and behavioural disorders, and people infected or affected by HIV.	35%

Psychoeducation or community and public health interventions or advocacy	This includes interventions designed for groups and communities to prevent or delay psychological problems, reduce the negative impact of these problems, and/or promote health and well-being. This may also include interventions to support and enable vulnerable groups to express their views and concerns, and access information and services, and to defend and promote their rights.	20%
Internship training programme and supervision	Personal moulding, mentoring and training to develop their knowledge, skills, and professional identity as counselling psychologists should be provided to intern counselling psychologists to ensure a sound theoretical and ethical underpinning for all their professional activities. Proper supervision of the work of intern Counselling Psychologists is essential and must be exercised by a registered Counselling Psychologist with at least three (3) years of experience. Quarterly feedback must be provided to the intern Counselling Psychologists and the supervising University. An intern Counselling Psychologist should exit the programme as a competent professional who can practice ethically in the South African context.	10%
Ethical and professional conduct	Relevant legislation, ethics and professionalism should be an integral part of the entire programme.	10%
Other professional activities	This can include additional exposure in assessment and / or intervention, or any other areas relevant to the practice of Counselling Psychology that the internship site is able to accommodate, including, but not limited to, practice management, psycho-legal work, research and / or consulting.	5%

1.5. Collaborating University Departments

An indication must be given (with supporting documents) of which University Department(s) will develop a programme for the training of intern Counselling Psychologists in collaboration with the institution concerned.

2 OBLIGATIONS

Institutions which wish to be considered for accreditation must declare themselves prepared to allow the Professional Board to inspect the institution's facilities for the training in loco or to have these inspected in terms of the Health Professions Act 56 of 1974, Section 60, both before and after recognition. The institution must also declare itself prepared to collaborate with the Psychology Departments of appointed Universities and to draw up a work programme for prospective intern Counselling Psychologists and to ensure that the programme is carried out. The institution must furthermore draw up progress reports on interns on a three-monthly basis and is expected to make these reports available to the Professional Board when requested.

Counselling Psychology internship programmes, progress reports on interns and the requirements set out by the Professional Board will form the basis of any inspection of facilities by the Board which may be held before or after recognition of the institution for intern Counselling Psychologist training. In addition, compliance with Form 160 (the policy regarding intern Counselling Psychologist training) is required.

3 CONTACT DETAILS

All applications for accreditation, together with the attached Checklist for Individualised Counselling Psychology Internship Programmes should be submitted to the Manager of the Professional Board of Psychology via email at psychology@hpcsa.co.za or sent to P.O. Box 205, Pretoria, 0001 for consideration by the Board.