

THE SEVERNSIDE INSTITUTE FOR PSYCHOTHERAPY

NOTES FOR APPLICANTS TO CLINICAL TRAINING IN PSYCHOANALYTIC PSYCHOTHERAPY

A) Requirements

1. Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy

Applicants must be in three times a week therapy with an approved Training Therapist for at least 18 months prior to the start of the clinical training course. Any variation on this would need to be considered by the Training Committee on a case-by-case basis. The current list of training therapists and training supervisors names may be obtained from the Training Coordinator or the Administrator and, if so desired, a consultation can be offered regarding choice of therapist. (Trainees are required to remain in a minimum of thrice weekly therapy until qualification).

2. Pre-clinical Learning and Experience

- a. Relevant experience of psychodynamically or psychoanalytically oriented clinical work with individuals, gained either professionally or in an honorary or voluntary placement (for example, alongside undertaking the Pre-Clinical Courses).
- b. Psychiatric experience, gained either professionally or through a psychiatric placement; (see SIP's Pre-Clinical Courses guidelines for more details).
- c. Completion of SIP's Pre-Clinical Courses: Infant Observation, Work Discussion and Classical Theory, or equivalent. Applicants need to have completed, or be in the process of completing, the written papers for Infant Observation and Work Discussion.

The application papers give detailed guidance on assembling a pre-clinical portfolio to demonstrate pre-clinical learning and experience, including guidance on gaining clinical experience through an honorary or voluntary placement.

Where an applicant wishes alternative pre-clinical learning to be accredited as equivalent to SIP's pre-Clinical Courses, they should be aware that each case will be assessed individually. They may expect that a decision regarding equivalence of any particular course of learning will be made on the basis of the course length, content, psychoanalytic focus and accreditation of those delivering it, as well as the applicant's successful completion of the course.

Students registered on SIP's Pre-Clinical Courses are strongly advised to discuss their ongoing learning with their Personal Tutor.

All applicants are strongly advised to discuss their readiness to apply with the Admissions Advisor at an early stage.

3. Professional or academic qualification or equivalent

4. Suitable personal qualities to undertake training in and sustain intensive psychotherapeutic work with adults

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B) Applying for the course

- Application should be made through completion of the three- part application form, including personal information, personal statements and a portfolio evidencing pre-clinical learning and experience. **The closing date for applications is 31st March of any academic year, in order to join the training in the following autumn.** Applications will be welcomed any time before that date. Late applications will be considered if circumstances allow. SIP requests that all application papers be submitted electronically, by email to training@sipsychotherapy.org and password protected, with the password passed on to the Training Coordinator by separate email. If an applicant cannot submit these papers electronically, then they must submit **seven** printed copies to the Training Manager, The Severnside Institute for Psychotherapy, 11 Orchard Street, Bristol BS1 5EH.
- All applicants should send a hard copy of the first part of the application, duly signed, together with the application fee of £160 (cheque payable to the Severnside Institute for Psychotherapy) to the Administrator, 11 Orchard Street Bristol BS1 5EH.
- On receipt of an application:
 - the application will be checked to ensure the basic requirements are met and the pre-clinical portfolio is complete or on schedule to be completed before the start of training.
 - if the application is in order, then references will be taken up and two interviews will be arranged during the Spring term.
- Selection for a place will be made on the basis of the two interviews, the references and the application forms. If necessary, the applicant may be asked to attend a third interview. Ordinarily, applicants can expect to be informed of the outcome of interviews by the end of May.
- Where an applicant will not have completed the required pre-clinical learning and experience until after the selection process, a conditional offer of a place may be made, subject to the applicant satisfactorily completing the relevant learning and/or experience and providing the necessary evidence of having done so.

C) Successful Applicants

- Please note that acceptance onto the course does not imply qualification or that registration is guaranteed.
- Acceptance of a place on the course includes a financial commitment to pay fees. Fee information will be sent to you by SIP.
- SIP may have to postpone a course if there are insufficient successful applicants.