The only awarding body
run *by* counsellors
for counsellors

2024 -2025

Specification
Level 6 Certificate in Therapeutic Counselling Supervision (TCSU-L6)

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Please note:

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1. Qualification Information

Purpose Statement

This qualification is designed to give learners the knowledge, skills and competencies to provide clinical supervision for counselling practitioners. It is aimed at counsellors who have acquired sufficient client work experience to contemplate the move into a clinical supervision role.

Participants will need to:

- Have both supervisees and supervisory supervision.
- Be working as counsellors under supervision.

This qualification is designed to lead to a role as a clinical counselling supervisor in a counselling agency or in independent practice. Supervision is an ongoing professional requirement for all practising counsellors and those with a recognised qualification are more likely to find employment.

Successful candidates will be able to work as counselling supervisors in a range of job and career opportunities, which include but are not limited to:

- A supervisor employed by an agency or organisation that offers individual counselling to adults
- A private supervisor working for an organisation such as a wellness/ mental health setting
- A supervisor in private practice
- With further training, a supervisor in an agency or organisation that offers counselling to couples or to children and young people

Funding

The qualification is eligible in England for Advanced Learner Loans (19+)

The link to the government website which provides details of funding for this qualification can be found here: ESFA: funding rules, rates and formula

Level

6[1]

Guided Learning Hours (GLH)

90 (minimum)

Total Qualification Time (TQT)

328

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[1]   Equivalent to European Qualification Framework (EQF) level 6.

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Credit Value	33
Minimum Age	19 years[2]. Please see <u>CPCAB Candidate Entry Requirements</u> .
Entry Requirements	Candidates must have achieved any of the following qualifications or their RPL (recognised prior learning) equivalent.
	• CPCAB Level 4 Diploma in Therapeutic Counselling **OR**
	• CPCAB Level 5 Diploma in Psychotherapeutic Counselling **OR**
	• CPCAB Level 5 Diploma in Cognitive Behavioural Therapeutic Skills and Theory
	AND have substantial practitioner experience[3]
	Please see:
	• <u>CPCAB Candidate Entry Requirements</u> for criteria considered important in selecting applicants for a programme leading to TCSU-L6.
	• CPCAB's <u>RPL Guidance.</u>
Assessment	Proficient (Pass)/Not Proficient (Fail)
	Candidates must be Proficient in internal assessment and meet all the qualification requirements including all placement hours to achieve the qualification.
	Internal assessment: tutor assessment of candidate portfolio evidencing minimum assessment requirements and verified by CPCAB.
	See CPCAB's <u>Minimum Assessment Requirements.</u>
Additional Qualification Requirements	**Supervision work**: minimum of 15 hours with supervisees
	Supervisory supervision: minimum of 5 hours supervisory supervision hours with a senior/experienced clinical supervisor. This can be either one-to-one or in a group.
	There should also be regular supervision of supervision groups as part of the training course.
Staffing and Resources	At least **two** tutor-assessors must be involved in all aspects of internal candidate assessment.
	See <u>Tutor-Assessor Qualifications and Experience</u> for further details of CPCAB requirements.

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[2]   This age requirement is linked to Ofqual's system for categorising qualifications.
[3]   CPCAB recommends a minimum of 450 practice hours in line with <u>BACP</u> individual accreditation requirements.

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Internal Quality Assurance (IQA)	Centres are required to have robust IQA (internal moderation and verification) processes that are verified by CPCAB. See Guide to Internal Moderation and Verification for Centres.
Progression	There is currently no further progression route within CPCAB qualifications. See CPCAB's Progression Route for details.
Candidate Registration Fee	£386
Centre Application for CPCAB Approval to Offer the Qualification	Centre application fee: £399 (one-off fee).[4] Centres are expected to design their own training programmes.[5] Sample schemes of work are available from CPCAB on request.
Online Delivery Options	This qualification is eligible for fully in-person, blended or online delivery. Please see how to run CPCAB's qualifications online for more information.

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[4]   In order for your application to be processed the application fee will need to accompany your application. This is non-refundable. Payment can be made by cheque payable to CPCAB or via Bacs payment. Please contact finance@cpcab.co.uk for more information.
[5]   All centre-designed courses must be approved by CPCAB before candidates can be registered. Although the delivery of courses may differ from centre to centre, all delivery must enable the candidates to achieve the learning outcomes of the qualification.

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2. Qualification Summary
Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria (TCSU-L6)

Learning outcomes (skills, knowledge, understanding) The learner will/will be able to:	Assessment criteria (to assess learning outcome) The learner can:
1. Model and supervise the professional framework	1.1 Work within an ethical and legal framework for supervision. 1.2 Work within own limits of proficiency. 1.3 Research and access appropriate personal and professional support. 1.4 Support and challenge counsellors to: - work within an ethical and legal framework - work within their limits of proficiency - manage referrals - research and access appropriate personal and professional support
2. Model and supervise the skilled use of the relationship	2.1 Establish and sustain the boundaries of the supervision relationship. 2.2 Manage the stages of the supervision relationship. 2.3 Use theory, research and skills to enhance the supervision relationship. 2.4 Support and challenge counsellors to: - establish and sustain the boundaries of the counselling relationship - manage the stages of the counselling relationship - use theory, research and skills to enhance the therapeutic relationship
3. Model and supervise the use of theory and research on diversity	3.1 Use theory and research on diversity to inform and enhance supervision work. 3.2 Support and challenge counsellors to: - use theory and research on diversity within counselling work - explore and challenge personal issues, fears and prejudices concerning working with diversity

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4. Model and supervise a user-centred approach to the work	4.1 Negotiate an agreement for supervision that meets the counsellor's needs.
	4.2 Maintain a focus on the counsellor's supervision needs.
	4.3 Support and challenge counsellors to:
	▪ use a coherent assessment strategy that meets the client's needs
	▪ work within a user-centred agreement
	▪ maintain a user-centred focus throughout the counselling work
5. Model and supervise the skilled use of the self	5.1 Use self-awareness in supervision work.
	5.2 Support and challenge counsellors to:
	▪ develop self- awareness and their use of self in counselling work.
	▪ manage the psychological impact of client material on their personal well-being and professional functioning.
6. Model and supervise the coherent use of theory, research and skills	6.1 Critically evaluate different approaches to supervision.
	6.2 Use a coherent theoretical framework within supervision work.
	6.3 Use research findings to inform and enhance supervision work.
	6.4 Use supervision skills and techniques associated with own theoretical approach to enhance supervision work.
	6.5 Support and challenge counsellors to:
	▪ work within a coherent framework of theory and skills
	▪ work effectively with common life problems and common mental health problems
7. Model and supervise the self-reflective practitioner	7.1 Reflect on and evaluate supervision work.
	7.2 Use appropriate professional support to monitor and enhance supervision.
	7.3 Manage own professional development as a counselling supervisor.
	7.4 Support counsellors to:
	▪ reflect on and evaluate their counselling practice
	▪ develop their use of supervision
	▪ manage their professional development

See the TCSU-L6 Tutor Guide for candidate guidance to criteria and notes for tutors.

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3. Minimum Assessment Requirements

To achieve the qualification, candidates must be internally assessed as **Proficient** in all 7 learning outcomes of the qualification.

Candidates must give **two** pieces of evidence for each criterion. In addition, the Candidate Learning Record (CLR), when complete, must include references to all three assessment methods (documents, tutor observation and testimony).

INTERNAL ASSESSMENT – must include all three methods of assessment		
Course activities	**Assessment method[7]**	**Types of evidence** (2 references for each assessment criterion)
• Professional discussion and workshops • Seminars, personal development workshops and group work • Projects and presentations • Review of skills and supervisory work • Review of learning • Tutorials	**Documents**	• Learning review [8] • Supervisee record (15 hours) • Supervisory supervision record – 5 hours • 2 written assignments (2,500 words) • Self-review[9] • Tutorial records (when written by the candidate)
• Assessed skills practice • Assessed case presentations • Workplace simulations • Group work • Group training supervision • Seminars and workshops • Tutorials	**Tutor observation**	• 2 tutor–observed supervision practice session • Two case presentation • Tutorial records (when written by the tutor)
• Workplace experience (15 hours) • Skills practice • Group work • Case presentations • Group training supervision (approx.10 hours) • Seminars and workshops	**Testimony**	• 2 supervisor's report • Peer feedback
MARKING SCHEME		
Internal assessment:	Candidates must achieve all seven learning outcomes and meet all the qualification requirements including all placement hours to be assessed as Proficient.	

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[7]   Proforma and guide sheets for internal assessment can be downloaded from the CPCAB Website.
[8]   This is an on-going review of learning during the course (also called a "learning journal").
[9]   Self-review of learning, progress, and completion of the learning tasks (criteria). Template available on the CPCAB website.

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4. Tutor-Assessor Qualifications and Experience

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	Minimum qualification	Personal therapy + professional association membership	On-going Continuing Professional Development (CPD)	Minimum practice experience	Minimum experience as tutor
Core Tutor *two required if teaching separately	420 hours therapeutic counselling qualification at level 4 and above e.g. TC-L4 And 90 hours clinical supervision qualification or training at level 6 or above. e.g. TCSU-L6	Minimum 10 hours personal therapeutic counselling And Member of a professional association for counselling or psychotherapy	30 hours per year CPD activities	2 years supervised counselling practice or minimum 450 counselling hours And 2 years' experience of providing supervision to groups and individuals in a counselling setting	Teaching qualification And 2 years teaching and assessing at level 3 and 4 or above
Additional tutor(s) *relevant if co-tutoring with core tutor	420 hours therapeutic counselling qualification at level 4 and above. e.g. TC-L4	Minimum 10 hours personal therapeutic counselling And Member of a professional association for counselling or psychotherapy	30 hours per year CPD activities	1- year post-qualifying supervised counselling practice And Experience of providing supervision to groups and individuals in a counselling setting	Teaching qualification or be working towards one And 1 year teaching and assessing at level 3 and 4 or above

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5. Candidate Entry Requirements

This qualification is not suitable for those who are currently in a state of severe emotional difficulty and/or severe psychological distress. Centres need to ensure that all potential candidates are made aware of the nature of the course, and in particular that the course involves experiential elements that will involve some personal disclosure and associated personal developmental activities.

Title	Age	Entry requirements/ RPL	Criteria considered important for selecting candidates
TCSU-L6	19 or over	TC-L4 or PC-L5 or CBT-L5 (or equivalent/ RPL) Plus recommended minimum of 450 supervised client hours[10]	✓ Provide references ✓ Academically and emotionally able to cope with this level of training. ✓ Ability to work with difference and diversity. ✓ Possess personal qualities of imagination, intuition, openness and ability to benefit from self-development. ✓ Possess the qualities appropriate for a supervision relationship. ✓ Have self-awareness, insight, honesty and integrity ✓ Emotional stability and the absence of personality disturbance. ✓ Ability to challenge and be challenged. ✓ Ability to respond sensitively and empathically to others. ✓ Ability to model professional attitudes and behaviour.

We recommend that tutors carry out a face to face individual interview to ascertain a candidate's suitability for this level of training.

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[10] This is in line with BACP counsellor accreditation requirements.

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6. Fit for Purpose

This qualification leads to being a qualified supervisor for counselling practitioners and fulfils the requirements of a range of professional association registers. It also maps to a range of competency frameworks. This section is intended to help learners make informed choices about the qualifications they wish to study and how they will enable them to reach their personal and professional goals.

As a learner continues their journey with the **CPCAB Level 6 Certificate in Therapeutic Counselling Supervision,** they are progressing into post-practitioner training which enables them to develop further skills, knowledge when providing clinical supervision. This improves employment opportunities to work as a supervisor in services which offer counselling and also in independent practice.

CPCAB qualifications are designed to build upon each other, ensuring that the required skills and knowledge are developed alongside the personal growth of the learner. This qualification is based on current research and adheres to the CPCAB's model for practitioner development, ensuring that training meets the highest professional standards.

Learners will receive live teaching either in-person or in an online classroom, which will include real-time interaction with peers and tutor(s). They will practice what they are learning, receive feedback on their use of supervisory skills, and gain insights about themselves through their engagement with others. This live human connection is considered essential when training in an area such as counselling and supervision.

Counselling and Psychotherapy Career Progression

The TCSU-L6, in addition to core training, enables learners to register as a supervisor with the following counselling professional association registers, which are accredited by the Professional Standards Authority (PSA):

- ✓ BACP – British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy
- ✓ NCPS – National Counselling and Psychotherapy Society
- ✓ COSCA – Counselling and Psychotherapy in Scotland
- ✓ ACC – Association of Christians in Counselling and Linked Professions

This qualification meets a range of the core competencies from the following framework:

- ✓ BACP Supervision competence framework

This qualification is mapped to:
- ✓ BACP Counselling and Psychotherapy Supervision Training Curriculum

This alignment ensures that this qualification is not only comprehensive but also up-to-date with the latest practices in counselling, psychotherapy and other linked professions.

The assessment strategy maintains a focus on practitioner skills and qualities as well as on written evidence. The combination of tutor assessment and separate external verification by CPCAB values both objective independent scrutiny and the relational knowledge of the candidate and their work. The qualification is reviewed annually to ensure it remains fit-for-purpose.

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Centres have to meet robust centre approval requirements before they can deliver this qualification. All tutors are approved and standardised by CPCAB and centres are visited twice a year by a CPCAB external verifier.

7. Progression Routes

There is currently no further progression route beyond TCSU-L6 within CPCAB qualifications.

Level 2 Award in Understanding Substance Misuse (USM-L2)

Level 2 Award in Introduction to Counselling Skills (ICSK-L2)

Eligible for centre funding

Level 2 Award in Effective Listening Skills (ELSK-L2)

Level 2 Certificate in Counselling Skills (CSK-L2)

Eligible for centre funding

Level 3 Certificate in Applied Counselling Studies (CAST-L3)

Eligible for centre funding

Level 3 Certificate in Counselling Studies (CST-L3)

Level 3 Certificate in Life Coaching Studies (LCS-L3)

Level 4 Diploma in Therapeutic Counselling – BACP Approved Practitioner Qualification (TC-L4)

Level 4 Diploma in Therapeutic Counselling (TC-L4)

Eligible for centre funding

Level 4 Diploma in Life Coaching (LC-L4)

Eligible for centre funding

Open University Foundation Degree in Counselling

Level 5 Diploma in Psychotherapeutic Counselling (PC-L5)

Eligible for centre funding

Level 5 Diploma in Cognitive Behavioural Therapeutic Skills and Theory (CBT-L5)

Eligible for centre funding

Level 5 Diploma in Counselling Children and Young People (CYP-L5)

Eligible for centre funding

Level 6 Certificate in Therapeutic Counselling Supervision (TCSU-L6)

Eligible for centre funding

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