

Course Fees

Clinical Year costs for 2021/2022 are £2784*. If you wish to pay in instalments, there is a three termly payment plan available (see table below).

Payment Option	Non Refundable Deposit	Lump sum payable by 2/09/21	Term 1 Payable by 2/09/21	Term 2 Payable by 5/1/22	Term 3 Payable by 15/4/22	Total
Option 1	£278	£2506	-	-	-	£2784
Option 2	£278	-	£962	£962	£682	£2884

***All figures above are inclusive of VAT** (anticipate VAT registration will be in place before the academic year starts)

(Please note on commencement of the course you are liable to pay the total course fee even if you do not finish the course)

Course fees normally increase by approximately the rate of inflation each year.

Therapist Fees

Over each year you are required to have ongoing therapy (a minimum of 40 sessions per year) .

For those planning to continue (or to keep their options open) to become UKCP Registered Psychotherapist, their personal therapist must be a UKCP registered psychotherapist with knowledge of TA, ideally qualified in TA (CTA, PTSTA, TTA, STA or TSTA). For those wanting to gain the Diploma in Counselling who *definitely* do not want to continue on to the Psychotherapy qualification you can see a counsellor who is not qualified in TA but has some knowledge of it and uses it in their practice. Costs vary from approx. £45 - £65 per session and attending a therapy group can be cheaper. Currently, for the Diploma in Counselling course, but not for the CTA qualification, some therapy hours can be accrued by attending a Group Therapy Marathon which the Link Centre offers once per year (50% of group therapy hours, to a maximum of 5 hours per year)

Counselling Skills Training

Over the Foundation Year, Advanced TA Clinical Year 1 and Advanced TA Clinical Year 2, you are required to accrue an **additional 90 hours of counselling skills training** in order to obtain the Diploma in Counselling. The Link Centre runs a 30 hour Counselling Skills training course every year in August/September. Cost for September 2021 is £480*. We may be able to count previous counselling skills training, from other providers, towards these 90 hours.

Supervision

In order to obtain the Link Centre Diploma in Counselling, you must have 150 placement hours. It is a requirement to have supervision at a ratio of 1:6 for the Counselling Diploma. You are likely to receive free Supervision in your placement and this can count for a maximum of 50% of the Supervision for the counselling Diploma. 50% must be with a TA Supervisor (PTSTA or TSTA).

For the CTA exam, where you must gain 750 hours of placement work, 75 hours of Supervision have to be with a TA Supervisor (PTSTA/STA/TSTA) at a ratio of 1:5. 40 hours of this must be with your Principal Supervisor who will support you through your exam.

The cost of supervision is likely to be £50- £70 per session. If you are in a small group (of 3) you can potentially count three hours supervision for this cost. This is the most cost effective way of doing it but you also need to consider your supervision needs.

Student Membership

It is likely that you will need to take out one or two **student memberships** of the following organisations. Please see below which memberships you will require:-

- **National Counselling Society** (www.nationalcounsellingsociety.org)
If you are wishing to gain The Link Centre Diploma in Counselling, or keep your options open to do this, then you must be a member of the National Counselling Society for the duration of your training. Current annual student membership (for those on an accredited training course) is £65.
- **UKATA** (<https://www.uka4ta.co.uk/>)
If you wish to qualify as a Psychotherapist, or keep your options open, then you must become a member of UKATA from the start of your Foundation Year and maintain that membership at least up until qualification. This will also give you automatic membership of EATA (European Association for Transactional Analysis) Current Basic Student Membership rate for 2020/2021 is £84.16 p/a.
- **ITAA (International Transactional Analysis Association)**
Membership to the ITAA gives access to TA Journal (really only relevant for students taking the CTA exam and even then not essential). Cost is \$90 (dollars).

Accreditation of Prior Learning

For students joining the Link Centre in Clinical Year 1 or 2, who wish to gain the Link Centre Diploma at the end of Clinical Year 2, it is necessary to go through the Accreditation of Prior Learning process. Two pieces of written work need to be submitted for each year of training that has been done at another college. The charge for this is £300*. If one or more of these pieces are deferred, following a discussion with the Link Centre tutors, students will be asked to submit new pieces of work which will also incur a fee in line with the original APL fee. For other students who are also eligible for the APL process (you will need to discuss this with us) this cost will also apply.

Exams Costs –

Diploma in Counselling - this is only relevant if you are planning to go on take our Counselling Diploma exam after at least 3 years training. Written Exam Submission £156* and Oral Exam £384*. Any further resubmission or retake is currently being reviewed.

CTA Psychotherapy exam – this is an external written and oral exam. In order to take the exam you need to have completed 2000 hours in total which includes training, supervision, therapy, other courses, conference attendance, and psychiatric placement hours. On completion of your four years training we anticipate that you will have a minimum of 50% of these hours accrued, this will vary depending on when you started your placement, how many clients hours you have done, supervision arrangements, extra therapy, attendance at other workshops, training and conferences. The remainder of the hours will be gained by continued clinical practice and CPD such as exam prep. The cost of the written exam is £375 and the oral exam is approximately £300. Full details are in The Link Centre handbook which is given to students each year.

CTA Psychotherapy Exam Prep – students who don't have a first degree are required to attend a series of "exam prep" sessions before taking their CTA Psychotherapy exam. These sessions take place over a period of a year, for which a sessional fee is payable. For other students this is optional.

Professional Liability Insurance

When students start seeing clients, usually in Clinical Year 1, they are required to take out professional liability insurance. As a student, this is normally in the order of about £75.

Additional Training Costs

Workshops: The Link Centre also provides a range of optional one and two day workshops throughout the year which you can sign up for – Approx £110 per day (depends on your interests and finances available).

Conferences: Optional conferences run by UKATA and regionalised TA Training groups.

Books: - Amount spent depends on your levels of reading and how you source your books eg Amazon, Ebay. Approximately £100 -£150 for key recommended books. The Link Centre has a library from which books can be borrowed at no cost.

FUNDING OPTIONS

Our course is not covered by the Government Student Finance or Career Development Loan scheme.

There are some bursary schemes available via UKATA and EATA, and you will need to be a member of UKATA to benefit from this scheme. The Link Centre also has a Matty Atty Bursary Scheme which individuals can apply to (students must have completed 1 year of training at the Link Centre before applying). Bursary funds are limited and, in the past, awards from these sources have ranged from £75 to £400. This source should not be relied upon to fund training.

Previous students have approached their employers and on occasions employers have contributed to the training costs.

*May 2021. (Please note: some of these costs are approximate and for guidance purposes only. We are currently in the process of registering for VAT for the 2021/2022 academic year. *Figures shown are inclusive of VAT)*

Therapy and Professional Membership Requirements – Version 2 (14/1/20)

Notes

- ¹ 40 hours per year for the duration of the training.
- ² someone who has a Diploma in Counselling using TA or an Integrative Diploma in Counselling where TA was one of the modalities studied.

