

Guide to Certificate in TA Theory (Foundation Years) Costs (2021/2022)

The Certificate in TA theory year can either be taken as a standalone course or as the first year of The Link Centre Diploma in Counselling course which involves 3 years of classroom training, extending to a 4th year for those wanting to do the CTA Psychotherapy qualification. It is important that you are aware of all the costs involved in the whole training process.

Course Fees

Course Costs

The **basic fee for the foundation year** is £2340 (inclusive of VAT) for full payment before the beginning of the course. There is a termly payment scheme available which is detailed below:-

Payment Option	Non Refundable Deposit	Lump sum payable by 30/09/21	Term 1 Payable by 30/09/21	Term 2 Payable by 15/1/22	Term 3 Payable by 15/4/22	Total
Option 1	£240	£2100	-	-	-	£2340
Option 2	£240	-	£800	£800	£600	£2440

*On acceptance of your place, an invoice will be issued for the deposit and thereafter invoices for each payment that is required to be made. **All figures above are inclusive of VAT***

Please note that on commencement of the course, you are liable for the full cost of the years training, irrespective of which payment method you choose. If a student withdraws from the course part way through the year, the full fee is still payable.

The course fees for subsequent years (Advanced TA Clinical Years 1, 2 and also Clinical Year 3 for the Psychotherapy qualification) are higher than the Foundation year fees. The 2021/2022 course fees for the Clinical Year 1, 2 and 3 counselling/psychotherapy training is £2784* per year and this normally increases by approximately the rate of inflation each year. (*inclusive of VAT)

Therapist Fees (see Therapy Flow Chart on page 4)

To gain the best from the foundation year AND if you are planning or thinking about continuing with the course into subsequent years you are required to have ongoing **personal therapy** (min 40 sessions per year). If you are not going to continue after the Foundation Year and do not want to attend personal therapy, then please discuss this with us. 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)

Student Membership Fees

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. If you are unsure if you want to continue after the Foundation Year, then you can decide later and join at the start of the next training year. Current annual student membership (for those on an accredited training course) is £65.
- **UKATA** (www.uktransactionalanalysis.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).

Further information will be given out regarding memberships when you join.

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 Costs in subsequent years

This is not applicable for the Foundation Year but will need to be considered for Advanced TA Clinical Years training. In order to obtain the 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/TSTA) at a ratio of 1:5. 40 hours of this need to 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. Further information would be given later on in the course.

Exams Costs

Diploma in Counselling - this is only relevant if you are planning to go on to take our Counselling Diploma exam after at least 3 years training. The current fees are set at Written Exam Submission £130** and Oral Exam £320**. This fee is also payable in the event of resubmission or retake. (** it is likely that VAT will be added to these figures)

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 approximate cost of the written exam is £375 and approximately £300 for the oral exam. Full details are in The Link Centre handbook which is given to students each year.

Exam Prep for Diploma in Counselling and CTA Psychotherapy – On completion of training, an exam prep group (6 days per year) is offered for those focusing on exam. Students who don't have a first degree must attend these sessions before taking their CTA Psychotherapy exam. For other students this is optional. The 2020 cost for the exam prep group was £465**. (**it is likely that VAT will be added to this figure)

Professional Liability Insurance

When students start seeing clients, usually in Clinical Year 1, they may be required to take out professional liability insurance. As a student, this is normally in the order of about £80.

Additional Training Costs

TA101: A pre-requisite to the Foundation Year is attendance on a **TA101 (Introduction to Transactional Analysis) course**. The cost of the course is £220*. (*inclusive of VAT from September 2021)

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

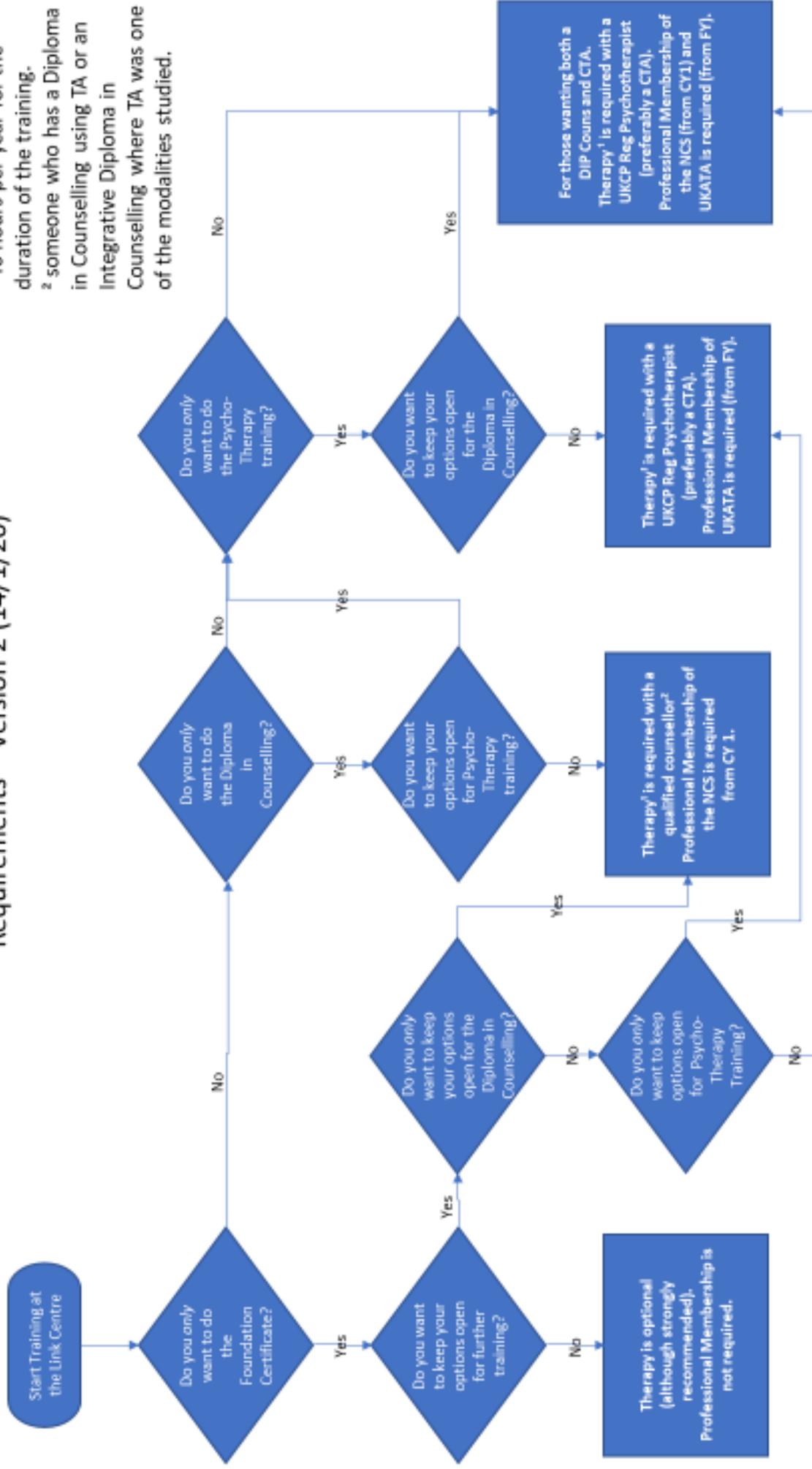
Our course is not covered by the Government Student Finance or Career Development Loan scheme.

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 but this is not applicable for the foundation year of training. 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.

April 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)

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.