

The Foundation 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 level 6 (Foundation year plus two further years) and/or those wanting to gain UKCP Registered Psychotherapy qualification level 7 (Foundation year plus three further years) or for those who want to gain training hours towards their CTA. It is important that you are aware of all the costs involved in the whole training process.

Course Fees

The **basic fee for the foundation year** is £2495 for full payment before the beginning of the course. There is also a termly and monthly payment scheme available which is detailed below:-

Payment Option	Non Refundable Deposit	Balance Lump sum payable by 29/09/22	Term 1 Payable by 29/09/22	Term 2 Payable by 10/1/23	Term 3 Payable by 10/4/23	Total
Option 1 Lump sum	£250	£2245	-	-	-	£2495
Option 2 Termly	£250	-	810	810	700	£2570
Option 3 Monthly	£250	1 monthly payment of £244 due by 29/9/22 followed by 9 monthly payments of £239 (due on 29 th of each month from Oct 22 to June 23 - to be set up by direct debit)				£2645
All figures above are inclusive of VAT where applicable						
Account Name: The Link Centre		Santander Bank		Sort Code: 09 01 50		Account No: 04365984
International Payment:		BIC/SWIFT – ABBYGB2Lxxx			IBAN – GB92ABBY09015004365984	
Payment Reference: Your name followed by FY2223						

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 Clinical Years 1, 2 and also Clinical Year 3 for the Psychotherapy qualification) are higher than the Foundation year fees. The 2022/2023 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.

Missed Training Hours

If you are absent for any core training day, you are required to make up the missed training hours. The topic can be different from the content that you have missed and can be met in a variety of ways eg monthly 1 hour online talks (free), online event talks (entry by donation), study skills, cpd training etc. For those pursuing the Diploma in Counselling/Psychotherapy course, if you do not **attend 80%** of the course you will be required to retake the training year (currently at a reduced rate).

Therapist Fees

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 30 sessions per year for the Diploma in Counselling or 40 sessions per year for Psychotherapy). 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. If you are not in the UK then the rules are slightly different and it is strongly recommended that you have regular ongoing personal therapy. 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. For those wanting to gain the Diploma in Counselling who *definitely* do not want to continue on to the Psychotherapy qualification you can see any qualified counsellor. Costs vary from approx. £40 - £65 per session and attending a therapy group can be cheaper. Currently, for the Diploma in Counselling course, some of the therapy hours can be accrued by attending a Group Therapy Marathon which the Link Centre usually offers once per year.

Student Membership Fees

It is likely that you will need to take out one or two **student memberships** of the following organisations depending on which qualification you are wanting. Please see below which memberships you will require and further information will be given at the start of the course:-

- **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. Annual student membership for September 2021 (for those on an accredited training course) is £25.
- **UKATA** (www.uktransactionalanalysis.co.uk)
If you wish to qualify as a UKCP Registered Psychotherapist, or keep your options open for this, 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 2021/2022 is £85.00 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).
- **EATA (European Association for Transactional Analysis)** for those aiming for CTA (Psychotherapy) you will need to be a member of EATA (or the ITAA). You cannot be a direct member of EATA but if you joins

a national association (UKATA in the UK, or your countries national association) then you can usually gain EATA membership via them. The costs of various national associations vary considerably.

Counselling Skills Training

For those aiming for the Diploma in Counselling and/or the Advanced Diploma in Psychotherapy you will also need to attend some extra 30 hours of counselling skills training. We run a range of courses and the total cost of this is likely to be in the region of £500 in total before you take your exam. We may be able to count previous counselling skills training.

Supervision Costs in subsequent years

This is not applicable for the Foundation Year but will need to be considered for Advanced 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 at least 50% of your supervision must be with a Link Centre registered Supervisor. For those wanting to gain the Advanced Diploma in Psychotherapy you would need 450 supervised practice hours at a ratio of 1:6 and for those wanting CTA exam they would need 750 supervised practice hours with a PTSTA or TSTA at a ratio of 1:5. Please note that the first 150 hours are usually voluntary but once you have gained a Diploma in Counselling most people then charge for their sessions while they build up their practice hours.

For those wanting to gain the CTA (Certified Transactional Analysis) qualification, 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 in the UK. 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.

Exam Prep for Diploma in Counselling and Psychotherapy

On completion of training, an Exam Prep group (6 days per year) is offered for those focusing on exam. If you do not have a degree then this is mandatory for those doing the Diploma in Psychotherapy or CTA qualification, and for others it is optional. Most students choose to attend this to get support in preparing for their exams. The 2021 cost for the exam prep group was £595 for all sessions.

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 £150 and Oral Exam £360. This fee is also payable in the event of resubmission or retake. The exam process is currently under review.

Advanced Diploma in Psychotherapy – This is under review

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 at least 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, attendance of

workshops etc. 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 Psychotherapy – On completion of training, an exam prep group (6 days per year) is offered for those focusing on exam. This is optional although many students choose to attend to get support in preparing for their exams. The 2021 cost for the exam prep group was £595.

Professional Liability Insurance

When students start seeing clients, usually in Clinical Year 1, if not covered by their placement then they will be required to take out professional liability insurance. As a student, this is normally in the order of about £80. This will vary if you are not in the UK.

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 £235.

Workshops: The Link Centre also provides a range of optional short courses throughout the year which you can sign up for if you choose. We also offer a wide range of two hour online workshops in collaboration with Onlinevents which students are welcome to join.

Conferences: Optional conferences locally, nationally and internationally.

Books: - Amount spent depends on your levels of reading and how you source your books eg Amazon, eBay. Approximately £150 -£200 for key recommended books. The Link Centre has a library from which books can be borrowed at no cost although this is only available to those who are local to the centre.

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, UKCP and EATA, and you will need to be a member of the organisation 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. If you are not in the UK there may be other bursaries available in your own country.

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

(Please note: some of these costs are approximate and for guidance purposes only. Figures will normally increase by the current rate of inflation)