

The Link Centre Membership Pack

Information for members



Professional memberships

The Link Centre is an Organisational Member of the United Kingdom Council for Psychotherapy (UKCP) and is therefore able to offer a membership scheme. This is open to all our trainees, as well as qualified counsellors and psychotherapists who require professional membership of the UKCP.

Trainee Members of the Link Centre **will automatically be enrolled as a Link Centre trainee member**. The Link Centre provides all the membership requirements for trainees who are hoping to secure their UKCP registration on completion of their training. It is also an option to join UKCP independently (although this is not mandatory, it does offer extra benefits. Please see UKCP website for further details).

If you are a Link Centre trainee and intend to gain accreditation as a counsellor on completion of your Level 6 Diploma in counselling, then you will still need to be a trainee member of the National Counselling and Psychotherapy Society (NCPS) from Clinical Year 1 onwards- until you are qualified and registered with them.

Prior to the Link Centre becoming an Organisational Member of the UKCP, trainees were required to become members of UKATA. Our Link Centre membership scheme means that this is no longer necessary for trainees who wish to attain their psychotherapy qualification. However, UKATA membership is an excellent resource for those looking to specialise in Transactional Analysis. (Please see the UKATA website for further details.)

Desired training outcome	Link Centre qualification	Trainee membership with...
Registered counsellor	Level 6 diploma in counselling	▪ The Link Centre ▪ NCPS
Registered psychotherapist	Level 7 advanced clinical diploma	▪ The Link Centre
UKCP Accredited Psychotherapist	The Link Centre UKCP accreditation exam	▪ The Link Centre

Membership levels

Membership levels			Annual cost
Trainee member	Trainee Members of the Link Centre will automatically be enrolled as a Link Centre trainee member.	All of our trainees are required to become members at this level throughout core training. Membership includes all support and administration to complete training requirements including marking of assignments, pastoral support etc. It also includes access to the trainees' handbook, policies and procedures pertaining to training, and use of the library. Members will remain at this level of membership until such a time as they achieve endorsement to practice in voluntary placement	Free
Endorsed trainee member	Endorsed Trainee Members of the Link Centre will automatically be enrolled as a Link Centre trainee member.	This level of membership is for trainees who are in training and have been endorsed to practice in voluntary placement. As well as the other services detailed above, endorsed trainees members have access to TLC information and support concerning gaining a placement and access to The Link Centre Ethics and Professional Practice policies and procedures relating to their practice.	Free
Practising member	Practising Members working towards qualifying and registering with UKCP must be a member of The Link Centre. Once registered, practitioners can join UKCP as a full clinical member.	This level of membership is for trainees who have completed their formal training hours. Members are not in formal training but will be completing clinical hours, supervision hours and personal therapy hours, as well as completing any outstanding written work. Membership is also for graduates wanting to gain accreditation but needing to build up hours to fulfil the requirements for accreditation. Practising membership is required by anyone looking to qualify and gain UKCP registration by TLC. Membership includes access to the library, support from TLC Ethics and Professional Practice Committee covering TLC ethics and code of conduct, as well as access to the accreditation processes to achieve UKCP registration.	£70
Registered member	Registered members are required to be a member of UKCP which can be gained via The Link Centre. It is a requirement that they gain their UKCP registration via The Link Centre for the first-year post-qualification.	This level of membership is for practitioners when they gain UKCP registration or who are already accredited and wish to maintain registration with UKCP. Membership includes an annual CPD review including admin support, as well as support with the five-year reaccrreditation process. It also includes use of library and access to TLC Ethics and Professional Practice Committee.	£140

The Link Centre membership benefits

Benefits	
10% Discount on all of the Link Centre CPD events, short courses and weekend workshops.	Book directly with the Link Centre office (admin@thelinkcentre.co.uk) with your membership ID and receive a 10% discount
Access to the Link Centre Library	▪ Over 300 physical resources • Access to Wiley subscriptions for the Psychology and Psychotherapy: Theory, Research and Practice journals ▪ Access to the archive Transactional Analyst Journal
Support with UKCP Continual Professional Development (CPD) requirements	We process our member's CPD returns for the previous year at the beginning of every calendar year and make sure that UKCP CPD requirements are met by our members.
Support with UKCP requirements for re-accreditation and Five Years Peer Review	We provide guidelines on how to conduct five-year peer reviews and we process them at no extra cost for our members
Support with Complaints	We offer support and advice to our members in the unlikely event of a complaint being made against them under the new UKCP complaints system (Complaints and Conduct Process).

Renewals and cancellations

Renewal of membership

The Link Centre membership will be renewed annually from the 1st October through to 30th September. Members will be reminded when their membership is due to run out and will be required to make an online payment (if applicable) to renew. It is each member's responsibility to ensure they are at the correct level of membership for their requirements and also to inform the Link Centre of any changes to personal information held. Members will be given 14 days following the renewal date to renew their membership, after this they will need to complete a The Link Centre Members Rejoining Form

Cancellation of membership

Members should confirm in writing to the Link Centre memberships team (membership@thelinkcentre.co.uk), that they no longer wish to be an affiliated member.

Extra costs not included in membership

There may be situations or occasions where a trainee, graduate or practitioner requires extra support or services which are not included within their membership. On these occasions the member will be responsible for any extra costs incurred.

Please note this policy and The Link Centre membership fees are separate from UKCP Professional Body membership fees and costs incurred during accreditation or re-accreditation processes.

Should a past or current student, graduate or practitioner associated with The Link Centre but not a member wish to return for further training or request a service, they would be expected to pay for this service or support, and it may be more cost effective to become a member.



The Link Centre membership FAQS

What happens if I complete my core training but have not yet gained professional registration?

Some trainees will complete their formal training and then need additional time to complete their training requirements (e.g. client hours, supervision hours, personal therapy etc).

During this time, you must remain a member of the organisation/s who you are intending to gain professional registration with.

For example, if you complete your CY2 and require additional time to complete all the L6 portfolio requirements, you must remain a trainee member of the NCPS until you have secured your professional registration as a counsellor with them.

Likewise, if you complete your CY3 and require additional time to meet the requirements of your L7 Advanced Clinical Diploma and/or take the UKCP assessment process, you will need to remain a trainee member of the Link Centre throughout this period.

What happens if I take a year out of training?

If you wish to take any time out of your training, you will need to maintain your membership with the Link Centre throughout this period.

If you are hoping to gain registration as a counsellor with the NCPS on completion of your L6 training, then you must also remain a member of the NCPS during any time taken out of training.

What if I intend to do the CTA?

Once you are ready to start the CTA process, you will need to become a member of a TA associated organisation. There are several options available to you. We will be more than happy to provide further clarification and guidance at this stage, please get in touch at studentsupport@thelinkcentre.co.uk