

Your Practical Assessment

Diploma of Counselling AIPC CDC – CHC51015

Practical Assessment Timetable Brisbane 2020

To complete your Diploma of Counselling you will need to undertake several practical elements, each of which forms a part of a Unit or Units. As you work through your course you will notice that a number of your workbooks include a reference to a “Practical Component”. Whenever you see this reference, a practical component must be completed as a part of that unit.

The practical components of your course form an important part of your skill development as a Professional Counsellor and are designed to give you the opportunity to apply the theory in counselling practice.

You have three choices for completing each of the practical components.

Option 1: Practical Assessment Attendance (with small group)

Attendance at practical assessment (with small student group) is the most popular method of completing the course practical components. At each assessment you will work with fellow students whilst you practice and refine your counselling skills in a supportive environment under the guidance of a qualified counsellor. These assessments are regularly scheduled throughout each year; a timetable for the upcoming assessments is included below. You can book by either phoning or email your student support centre (see details below) or posting on our local FB group (Aipc Carina) The normal attendance fee of \$140 per day as outlined on your course enrolment form applies. Please note that pre-requisites apply before you can book attendance.

Students who are unable to attend these small group sessions due to distance, disability or family or work commitments have the choice of either of the “Alternative Assessment” options below.

Option 2: Alternative Assessment – Record a Demonstration of your Counselling Skills

If you are unable to attend the practical assessment this alternative requires you to record yourself conducting a series of activities where you demonstrate practical counselling skills. You’ll require the assistance of someone to play the ‘client’ during your role plays.

Option 3: Alternative Assessment – Practical Assessment of Counselling Skills with a Private Assessor

This alternative to working with other students allows you to complete your practical assessment on an individual basis with an Institute private assessor. The assessor will watch you while you work with a friend/s conducting a series of activities demonstrating practical counselling skills. The Private Assessor Assessments can be completed either in person or by distance via Skype. Please note there is an additional \$20 fee to complete assessment by this option.

Note: Whilst the Institute has private assessors in rural areas of Australia. If you live in a particularly remote location or overseas please contact your Support Centre to discuss whether this option will be viable for you.

**AUSTRALIAN
INSTITUTE OF
PROFESSIONAL
COUNSELLORS**



Brisbane Support Centre
PO Box 425
Carina QLD 4152

Phone: 07 3843 2772
Freecall: 1800 353 643

Practical Component Pre-requisites

Each of the practical components relates very closely to the practical application of the theory that you complete in your workbooks. So that you can derive maximum benefit from your practical components, you must have already completed the relevant theory and have been marked competent before applying it in practice. To ensure you have covered the relevant theory before you complete a practical element there are pre-requisites that you must first meet. Each of the practical elements can be completed by attendance at a practical assessment or either of the two alternative assessment options. Each practical is referred to by a topic name.

These are the Workbooks that you must have received back as “Competent” before you can complete each of the practical components:

Practical Component Title	(CDC – CHC51015)	Pre-requisite
Counselling Practical 1A		Assessment Books 1 & 2
Counselling Practical 2A		Assessment Book 3 + Counselling Practical 1A
Counselling Practical 3A		Assessment Book 4 + Counselling Practical 2A
Counselling Practical 4A		Assessment Book 5 + Counselling Practical 3A
Counselling Practical 5A		Assessment Books 7 & 8 + Counselling Practical 4A
Counselling Practical 6A		Assessment Book 9 + Counselling Practical 4A
Counselling Practical 7A		Assessment Book 10 + Counselling Practical 5A & 6A
Counselling Practical 8A		Assessment Books 11 & 12 + Counselling Practical 7A
Counselling Practical 9A		Assessment Books 13 & 14 + Counselling Practical 7A
Counselling Practical 10A		Assessment Book 16 + Counselling Practical 7A

Here's what you'll learn in each of the Practical Assessments

The Practical Assessments are designed to provide students with an opportunity to practise and demonstrate the knowledge and skills required to conduct a range of key counselling tasks and fulfil the requirements for the Diploma of Counselling. In order to help students develop the skills required for effective counselling practice, students will engage in a number of different role-plays with three different ‘clients’ during the first seven practicals of the course. By simulating counselling with these three ‘clients’ over a number of different role-plays students will gain a better understand the counselling relationship and processes. These first seven practicals need to become completed in order. The final three practicals will explore more specific areas of counselling practice and can be completed in any order as long as the pre-requisite assessment books are complete.

Counselling Practical 1A - Counselling Practical 1A provides students with the opportunity to practise and demonstrate the knowledge and skills required to conduct an introductory counselling session with one ‘client’ and utilise appropriate communication skills to establish the counselling relationship. Students will apply skills in building rapport, contracting, developing counselling plans, and assisting the client in decision-making processes.

Counselling Practical 2A - In Counselling Practical 2A students will build upon the skills they developed in Counselling Practical 1A. Because these skills are fundamental to effective counselling practice, students will be provided with an opportunity to explore different techniques for meeting these fundamental counselling requirements and demonstrate these skills in additional role-plays with two more ‘clients’.

Counselling Practical 3A - Counselling Practical 3A provides students with the opportunity to practise and demonstrate the knowledge and skills required to continue the counselling relationship and process with two of their ‘clients’. Students will apply skills in building the therapeutic relationship, drawing out the client’s story, and developing case conceptualisations based on various counselling, personality, and development theories.

Counselling Practical 4A - In Counselling Practical 4A students will build upon the skills that they have developed in earlier practicals and be provided with an opportunity to apply middle phase counselling skills such as continuing the counselling relationship and developing behavioural change programs that can meet a client’s specific counselling goals.

Counselling Practical 5A - Counselling Practical 5A provides students with the opportunity to practise and demonstrate the knowledge and skills required to use two of the most commonly used approaches in counselling – cognitive behavioural therapy and solution focused therapy. Students will apply techniques from each of these approaches to their on-going counselling work with two of their ‘clients’.

Counselling Practical 6A - Counselling Practical 6A provides students with the opportunity to practise and demonstrate the knowledge and skills required to use another commonly used approach in counselling – acceptance and commitment therapy. Students will apply techniques from acceptance and commitment therapy to their on-going counselling work with one of their ‘clients’.

Counselling Practical 7A - In Counselling Practical 7A students will practise and demonstrate the knowledge and skills required to bring the counselling process to an end, or to re-contract as appropriate, with their three ‘clients’.

Counselling Practical 8A - Counselling Practical 8A provides students with the opportunity to demonstrate skills in more specific areas of counselling practice including providing brief interventions and providing loss and grief support.

Counselling Practical 9A - Counselling Practical 9A provides students with the opportunity to demonstrate skills in more specific areas of counselling practice including providing individualised support to a client as part of a larger case management plan and providing appropriate support to a client experiencing mental health issues.

Counselling Practical 10A - Counselling Practical 10A provides students with the opportunity to demonstrate skills in more specific areas of counselling practice including responding effectively to clients who are in a state of crisis.

Practical Assessment Timetable

Brisbane 2020

Diploma of Counselling AIPC – CHC51015

	Counselling Practical 1A	Counselling Practical 2A	Counselling Practical 3A	Counselling Practical 4A	Counselling Practical 5A	Counselling Practical 6A	Counselling Practical 7A	Counselling Practical 8A	Counselling Practical 9A	Counselling Practical 10A
	Unit 1&2	Unit 3	Unit 4	Unit 5	Unit 7&8	Unit 9	Unit 10	Unit 11&12	Unit 13&14	Unit 16
Jan		16	23				18 & 19	30	30	
Feb	1, 21	8	13	15	23 & 24	9	27 & 28		14	6
Mar	13	7	12	5	28 & 29	8	29 & 30	21	14	
Apr	2, 24	9	18	5, 23	29 & 30	16		26		4
May	8	16	23	28		28	7 & 8		9	29
Jun	4, 20	12	18	25	6 & 7	28	11 & 12	13	26	
Jul	4, 31	9	2, 18	23	30 & 31			25		10
Aug	27	8	20	29	30 & 31	6	7 & 8		15	
Sep	19	3, 24	10		26 & 27		17 & 18	12		4
Oct	15, 31	29	10	1, 22		8	29 & 30		2	22
Nov	20	29	12	14	5 & 6	26		7	26	
Dec	10		17		3 & 4		3 & 4	4		10

Practical Assessment Venue

Brisbane Support Centre:

336 Stanley Road, Carina, 4152 (Cnr Stanley Rd and Malthus St) Free Parking is available 100m from the Centre.

Practical Assessment Times:

Registration is from 8.45 a.m. for a 9.00 a.m. start and will finish at approx 3.30 p.m. (finish time can vary depending on class size).

Assessment days are normally held on Saturday, Sunday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday.

Lunch:

You will need to provide your own lunch. There is a fridge, microwave and oven available to keep, reheat and cook food. There are no shops within walking distance however Carindale Shopping Centre is just 3 minutes drive away. Morning and Afternoon Tea is provided.

How to Register for the Practical Assessment:

Simply select the practical assessment you wish to attend and either call our Student Support Centre on 07 38432772 or email brisstudentsupport@aipc.net.au or post a message on our local Facebook group 'Aipc Carina'. Please note that practical assessment fees apply to attendance of all practical assessments as confirmed in your course enrolment.

*Important points to remember!

Practical Assessment nominations will only be accepted once a student has met the required pre-requisite. Please refer to page 2 of this handout to confirm required pre-requisites.

Students are required to pay for the practical assessment upon booking their place. **Each practical assessment day is \$140. For a private assessment please add \$20 for booking fee. Payment is required at the time of booking.** Cancellations can be 48 hours prior to the assessment. There will be no refund of fees paid if cancellation is made after this time.