

Your Practical Assessment

Diploma of Counselling AIPC CDC – CHC51015

Practical Assessment Timetable Brisbane 2023

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) Please remember the normal practical assessment fee of \$140 for each practical applies as outlined in the course enrolment form.

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. Please remember the normal assessment fee of \$140 for each video practical assessment applies.

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 are conducted externally via Skype or Zoom. Please remember the normal assessment fee of \$140 for each zoom practical assessment applies.

Please Note Important Information regarding Health and Wellness

In line with government and medical recommendations that vaccination is the best strategy to prevent and reduce the risk of COVID-19, we encourage students and staff to be vaccinated.

For the health and wellbeing of all of our students and staff if you have cold and or flu symptoms within 72 hours of your nominated practical assessment please notify us so we can support you and make alternative arrangements for assessment. Thank you for your support and understanding.



AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELLORS

Brisbane Support Centre

PO Box 425, Carina QLD 4152

brisstudentsupport@aipc.net.au

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:

CDC – CHC51015

Practical Component Title	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 understanding of the counselling relationship and processes. The first four practicals are completed in order. The fifth and sixth practicals can be completed out of sequence while the final three practicals (which explore more specialist counselling areas) 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 ongoing 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

Hobart 2023

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	Counselling Practical 1A Unit 1&2	Counselling Practical 2A Unit 3	Counselling Practical 3A Unit 4	Counselling Practical 4A Unit 5	Counselling Practical 5A Unit 7&8	Counselling Practical 6A Unit 9	Counselling Practical 7A Unit 10	Counselling Practical 8A Unit 11&12	Counselling Practical 9A Unit 13&14	Counselling Practical 10A Unit 16
Jan	21 st	21 st	21 st	21 st						
Feb					18 th	18 th	18 th	4 th	4 th	4 th
Mar					18 th	18 th	18 th			
Apr	29 th	29 th	29 th	29 th				22 nd	22 nd	22 nd
May	6 th	6 th	6 th	6 th	13 th	13 th	13 th	27 th	27 th	27 th
Jun	3 rd	3 rd	3 rd	3 rd	17 th	17 th	17 th			
Jul	8 th	8 th	8 th	8 th				22 nd	22 nd	22 nd
Aug					5 th	5 th	5 th	19 th	19 th	19 th
Sep	2 nd	2 nd	2 nd	2 nd				16 th	16 th	16 th
Oct	21 st	21 st	21 st	21 st	7 th	7 th	7 th			
Nov	25 th	25 th	25 th	25 th	4 th	4 th	4 th			
Dec	9 th	9 th	9 th	9 th				2 nd	2 nd	2 nd

Practical Assessment Venue

Pauline Enright's Private Practice: Unit 5/17 Margaret Street, Sandy Bay TAS 7005

Practical Assessment Times:

AM: Commences at 9am and will finish at approx 12:30pm

PM: Commences at 1pm and will finish at approx. 4:30pm

Please note that some practical assessment dates may change due to student demand. Please connect with us as you develop your practical assessment plan.

Lunch:

Morning Tea or 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. Refer to page 1 for further details.

*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. Fee for each practical assessment day is \$140.

Cancellation of attendance will be accepted up to 72 business hours before practical. Cancellation after this will incur the full assessment fee. For example, if attending a practical on a Sunday, cancellation is required by 9am the prior Wednesday. Provision of medical certificate accepted.

If a student's attendance is complimentary & cancellation is received after 72 hours, the normal assessment fee is charged.