

Introduction to the Master of Clinical Psychology (Post Registration) Degree

Thank you for taking the time to consider placement opportunities for students of The Cairnmillar Institute as part of their Master of Clinical Psychology (Post-Registration) degree program.

The Cairnmillar Institute and staff wish to facilitate an enjoyable and rewarding professional journey for our students and placement partners. Our courses are delivered by experienced practitioners and the Institute's approach to teaching is based firmly on practice with an emphasis on skills development. This letter aims to provide information on this new, and innovative degree program to establish a successful placement partnership.

About the course

The Cairnmillar Institute Master of Clinical Psychology (Post Registration) degree is conditionally accredited by the Australian Psychological Accreditation Council (APAC) as a standalone AQF level 9 one-year program leading to professional competencies in clinical psychology. This course is designed for psychologists who hold general registration with the Psychology Board of Australia (PsyBA) and who wish to gain a qualification in clinical psychology. Entrants into the course are required to demonstrate:

- no conditions on their registration record,
- twelve months practice experience post gaining general registration,
- successful completion of a four-year, or three-year plus a fourth year, APAC-accredited sequence in psychology, and
- they meet APAC level three professional competencies assessed during the interview process and referee check.

All students are required to hold current psychology registration, a working with children check (names differ across states) and a police check (renewed annually). Students enrolled in the course will be covered by the Cairnmillar Institute's professional indemnity insurance for approved educational activities (e.g., placements). Upon successful completion of this course, graduates will be eligible for the PsyBA registrar program in clinical psychology.

The coursework of this degree is:

- Clinical Psychology: Theory and Practice
- Advanced Assessment for Clinical Psychologists
- Psychopathology and Intervention for Adults
- Psychopathology and Intervention for Children and Youth (which must be completed prior to or concurrently with any child placement).

About placements

Placements at Cairnmillar are a key component required for the successful completion of the degree. They are seen as learning opportunities for students to gain experience integrating theory and practice and developing graduate level professional competencies safely and ethically.

Dandenong

Unit 5, 118 David Street
Dandenong Victoria 3175
Phone +61 3 9813 3400
Fax +61 3 9804 3333

Hawthorn East

391-393 Tooronga Road
Hawthorn East Victoria 3123
Phone +61 3 9813 3400
Fax +61 3 9804 3333

Melbourne CBD

Mingary-Cairnmillar Clinic
Level 2, St Michael's Place
120 Collins Street
Melbourne Victoria 3000
Phone +61 3 9654 5120
Fax +61 3 9317 3655

North Melbourne

Level 1, 13 Errol Street
North Melbourne Victoria 3051
Phone +61 3 9317 0622
Fax +61 3 9317 3655

During the program, students will undertake at least three external field placements, and gain a minimum 750 hours of placement experience. Each placement aims to maximise the students' exposure to a diverse range of clinical psychology experiences. Students will be expected to engage in direct clinical psychological work with a variety of client presentations across the lifespan, in both acute and community settings.

Students in this program have the option to source their placements and supervisors independently through the self-sourcing stream and are encouraged to proactively identify potential placement opportunities and supervisors. All placements are assessed for suitability as clinical psychology placements within this accredited program. To ensure that placements provide the required learning opportunities, various guidelines have been developed by the Cairnmillar, APAC and the PsyBA.

Placement requirements

The following outlines the hours, supervision, and assessment requirements for placements.

1. Hours

In total, students are required to complete a **minimum of 750 placement hours across all placement settings which includes at least 300 direct client contact hours**. The following briefly outlines the requirements for each placement:

- **Placement I** (CLP661/CLP671) is approximately 27 days in length (total 200 hours) and students require a minimum of 60 direct client contact hours. Placements must occur for a maximum of 22.5 hours a week.
- **Placements II & III** (CLP662/CLP672 and CPL663/CLP673) are each approximately 36 days in length (275 hours each) and students require a minimum of 120 direct client contact hours in each placement. Placements must occur for a maximum of 22.5 hours a week.

2. Supervision

Students are also required to receive a minimum of one hour of supervision per day (7.5 hours) of placement for the first placement (Placement I). For Placement II and III supervision is a minimum of 1 hour per 2 days (15 hours) of placement. Supervision should be provided by a clinical psychologist approved by the PsyBA as a supervisor. A minimum of 50% is required to be individual supervision and up to 50% can be in group supervision format.

3. Assessment tasks

In addition to the above requirements, the following tasks are required to be completed in each placement.

All Placements	Placement 1	Placements II & III
• Placement/supervisor agreement • 3 x supervisor observations • 2 x supervisor sightings of case notes • Mid and end of placement reviews • Signed logbooks	• 4 x mental status examinations • 4 x formulations	• 2 x assessment / intervention case reports

Thank you for taking the time to consider this placement opportunity. We hope that this information, alongside your discussions with our students, is helpful in supporting successful placement opportunities. We wish you an enjoyable and rewarding placement partnership.



Professor Jon Mason
Course Coordinator
Master of Clinical Psychology (Post Registration)



Professor Louise Roufeil
Head of School