

## Talking Therapies – Volunteer Counsellor Role FAQs

### What is the eligibility criteria?

- Applicants must have or be in an accredited (BACP, UKCP, COSRT etc.) therapeutic training.
- We welcome volunteer counsellors from any BACP approved modalities
- Students must provide; Fitness to Practice, 4way agreement and/or supervision agreement, or equivalent.
- **Qualified applicants must have an evidence of membership from their awarding body, and Supervision contract, to evidence that they are in receipt of clinical supervision**

*\*Tips: More details can be found within the [Role Profile](#)*

### How do I apply to volunteer?

You do not need to send us your CV or email showing your interest. All you need to do is to fill our [Volunteering Application Form](#) after reading the [Role Profile](#)

Please be reminded that we receive high numbers of applicants, therefore, it is very important to answer the questions with as much detail as possible. Mostly, we are looking to see how your skills, experience, and training contribute to you being a counsellor and what you can offer to our team.

*\*Tips: Avoid listing skills and training without explanation and reflection*

### Do you pay supervision costs?

**Student Volunteers:** If your education provider is not supplying the supervisor, we make £10/per month contribution towards your clinical supervision.

**Qualified Volunteers:** If you are seeing clients outside of LGBT Foundation, we make £10/per month contribution towards your clinical supervision

If LGBT Foundation is the only client delivery role you have, we cover the full cost of the supervision cost (1 session per month).

### When can I start my placement?

From the date the applications are closed, we expect volunteers to start seeing clients after 6 weeks. This is also, subject to how fast the training is completed

### **What level of DBS check do I need?**

Enhanced Adult & Child Workforce

### **Do I need to provide my own DBS check?**

It is better if you can. If you have one that is Enhanced Adult & Child Workforce, covering adults and children's barred lists and is either issued in the last 12 months or on the DBS update service, we can accept it. If not, we can issue one for you.

### **How do I know if my DBS check is on the update service?**

You would need to have added it yourself in the 30 days following the issue of your certificate

### **How many references do you collect?**

2

### **Who can I use as my referees?**

Ideally, at least one should be your course tutor or clinical supervisor.

Your referees could also be current or former employers, teachers or academic supervisors (if you are in or have recently been in education), support workers, community leaders or someone else who could provide a character reference, such a previous volunteering supervisor. Referees should not be friends or relatives.

### **Do you pay travel expenses?**

Yes, we pay reasonable travel expenses

### **How many clients can I see?**

We can only guarantee 2 clients at a time. This number can be higher, depending on availability and demand.

### **Are sessions offered face to face or online?**

Our service is offered both Face to Face and Online, however, we prioritise students who needs to complete face to face placement hours, when it comes to allocations of face to face clients. Please be reminded that we cannot guarantee that all face to face hours for placement can be delivered within our services.