



Guidelines for applicants for the BSc (Hons) Integrative Counselling

Matrix is committed to opposing discrimination and all applicants who fulfil the following criteria will be invited for interview.

Applicants are interviewed by two senior members of staff. There is no appeal against a selection decision.

Group size is restricted to 15. Successful applicants will be offered a place in a group on receipt of the deposit and signed contact

1.0 Criteria for admission to the programme

We acknowledge that counselling training attracts learners who may not have formal academic qualifications. Completion of two sections (each 500 words) required on the application form will demonstrate academic writing level. This assessed by the interviewers using the assessment of literacy criteria.

Counselling training is demanding both personally and academically.

Admission to the programme is based on the following criteria:

- Ability to reflect on strengths and personal quality as well as negative characteristic which may impede your learning
- Ability to articulate your motivation for training
- Demonstration of a motivation and commitment to learning and self-development and an awareness of their defensive processes
- Must be able to show evidence of and understanding of the qualities of empathy, congruence and unconditional positive regard and be aware of any difficulties with these
- Must demonstrate an ability to cope with both the academic and experiential components of the course
- Must show an awareness of the social context within which counselling takes place and show an open attitude to issues of race, class, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation

- Must be able to demonstrate personal readiness for the demands of the training

Entry point for Year 1

- Age 23 plus years old
- Completion of application form
- Two satisfactory character references

Entry point for Year 2 is based on the following criteria:

- Age 23 plus years old
- Completion of application form (see above guidelines)
- Fulfil requirement of the APL policy for entry into Year Two
- Two character references describing the applicant's suitability for entry to this level of training

Entry point for Year 3 is based on the following criteria:

- Age 23 plus years old
- Completion of application form (see above guidelines)
- Fulfil requirement of the APL policy for entry into Year Three
- Two character references describing the applicant's suitability for entry to this level of training

2.0 Group dynamics

To ensure the best possible environment for learning we will not knowingly allow siblings, couples, or family members or relations into the same year group.

3.0 English language entry requirements

For applicants whose first language is not English, we require evidence of English language proficiency as part of the application to study with us.

This should be in the form of an English Language Test. We accept:

- IELTS with minimum grade 6.0 (with 5.5 in all components)
- Cambridge Proficiency Certificate with minimum grade C
- Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English with minimum grade B

4.0 Matrix application procedure

Step 1: Download and fully complete Matrix College's course application form (using the guidelines to help you).

Step 2: Ensure you fully complete the two self-reflective personal statements required. Also ensure that any gaps in employment or training are explained.

Step 3: Email your application form to nikkita@matrix-training.org making sure that it is accompanied with attachments of the following supporting documents:

- Two references;
- A head and shoulder photograph;
- APL information;
- The signed declaration form

Step 2: Your application will be acknowledged and then read by the Head of Training and/or Assessing Tutor to ensure that basic entry requirements have been met.

Step 4: Once you have submitted the above your application will be assessed. If you meet all the criteria you will be invited to a personal interview.

Please note: We cannot process your application if there are no references, or if other required pieces are not included. Therefore, do make sure that a full application is submitted for us to process your application as quickly as possible.

5.0 Interview process

The final interview process takes approximately 1 hour and involves an individual interview with the Head of Training and a senior tutor. Interviews take place over April, May, June and July. You will receive confirmation of an offered place by email within 2 weeks of your interview.

6.0 Your data

If you are unsuccessful your application form and any other paperwork will be destroyed in August prior to the academic year.

If you are offered a place your paperwork will be retained for the duration of your Matrix membership