

Postgraduate Diploma in Clinical Psychology

*Te Kura Mahi ā-Hirikapo |
School of Psychology, Speech and Hearing*



Information and Instructions for Applicants

Prior to applying

Consult the Postgraduate Diploma in Clinical Psychology (PGDipClinPsc) [Clinical Handbook](#) and [regulations](#).

Review the admission requirements. You may submit an application while completing admission criteria, provided you will meet all admission requirements by the course start dates.

If you have any questions, please contact clinicalpsychology@canterbury.ac.nz prior to application.

Overseas applicants and qualifications gained outside New Zealand universities:

Applicants who gained their academic qualifications at a university outside New Zealand or any tertiary institution which is not a university in New Zealand, must meet the criteria for admission to the University of Canterbury BEFORE applying. Please see: <https://www.canterbury.ac.nz/enrol/>

International applicants are encouraged to start this process well in advance of the application deadline as late applications will not be accepted.

How to apply

Applications are completed in [myUC](#). In myUC:

- Upload certified transcripts of your previous academic record if you have completed academic qualifications elsewhere. You do not need to supply transcripts for studies completed at UC.
- Upload a curriculum vitae (CV). Ensure this includes any work experience (paid or volunteer) that may be relevant to training as a clinical psychologist.
- Upload a completed and signed Additional Information Form.
 - The Postgraduate Study Intentions section in myUC is not reviewed by the PGDipClinPsc selections committee.
- Enter the contact name, email, and role/relationship for three referees.
 - **Do not include unsolicited testimonials.**
 - You should separately contact your referees to ensure they are available to complete the reference before the application closing date.
 - Referees are sent a link to complete a confidential evaluation of your suitability for clinical psychology training. If you apply to both PGDipClinPsc and PGDipChFamPsc their reference will be shared to remove the need for your referee to complete two references.
 - Late referee evaluations will only be accepted for 3 working days after the application closing date.

Application documentation will not be returned. Documentation may be maintained in myUC in accordance with myUC data retention policies. Successful applicants' documentation will be maintained on the students' file within the School of Psychology Speech and Hearing.

Application deadline

The closing date for applications is **19 September 2025, 23:59 NZST** for the February 2026 intake. The closing date for referee reports is 24 September 2025, 23:59 NZST. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed or shortlisted.

Applications will only be acknowledged once all three referees' reports have been received. If you have not received an acknowledgement within 28 days of sending your application, please enquire by email at clinicalpsychology@canterbury.ac.nz

Interviews and Selections

After the application closing date, applicants are shortlisted on the basis of information provided. As soon as possible after applications close, applicants will be notified via myUC of whether or not they are shortlisted to be interviewed.

Shortlisted applicants are expected to attend interviews in person and may bring a support person or whānau member.

The tentative date for selection interviews is 12 November 2025.

Shortlisted applicants will be interviewed by staff from the clinical psychology programme and community representatives from Ara Poutama Aotearoa, Purapura Whetu, Te Whatu Ora | Waitaha, or other community partners. Additionally, interviews will be conducted with panels of students currently enrolled in the PGDipClinPsyc qualification. Student panellists will not have access to any application documentation. Applicants who are interviewed will be notified of the outcome when the official University examination results are released, in early December.

Due to the nature of the selection process, we regret that we cannot discuss the details of the shortlisting decisions. All decisions are final. Additional information about the Application & Selection Process is available on our webpage.

Checklist – Prior to applying.

- ☐ General requirements for postgraduate study have been met.
- ☐ As a minimum academic requirement, have fulfilled the requirements for the BA(Hons), or Master of Arts (Part I), or BSc(Hons), or Master of Science (Part I) – all of which must be in a discipline of Psychology.
- ☐ Currently enrolled in, or have completed UC PSYC335 Introduction to Clinical Psychology, or PSYC379 Introduction to Psychopathology, or an approved equivalent course.
- ☐ Currently enrolled in, or have completed an approved 400 or 600-level course in research methods (i.e., UC PSYC460 Advanced Research Methods and Statistics).

If you are unsure of the equivalence of a course you have completed email clinicalpsychology@canterbury.ac.nz allowing at least 5 working days prior to the application closing date for confirmation of equivalence.

Checklist – Application.

By the closing date:

- ☐ Confirmation that admission to UC has been approved (*for overseas applicants/qualifications only*)
- ☐ Complete, sign and upload the PGDipClinPsyc Additional Information Form to myUC.
- ☐ Upload CV to myUC.
- ☐ Upload certified transcript to myUC (*for all qualifications not obtained at UC*).
- ☐ Contact details for three referees are entered in myUC (*remind your referees, to complete their evaluation prior to the closing date*).

Additional Information Form

Applications for the February 2026 intake must be finalised in myUC by 19 September 2025 23:59 NZST.

Full name:			
Preferred name:			
Date of Birth:		UC Student ID:	
Email:			
Phone:			
Ethnicity:			
Citizenship Status:			

<p>Please provide the course code or qualification, and the year, you have been or will be credited with the following admission requirements. If you are currently enrolled in the course or qualification, please check the 'ENR' box.</p>		
PSYC335, PSYC379, or approved equivalent:		ENR <input type="checkbox"/>
Approved 400-level or 600-level course in research methods, or PhD:		ENR <input type="checkbox"/>
Qualification in a discipline of Psychology you have fulfilled the requirements for: i.e., minimum of BA(Hons), or Master of Arts (Part I), or BSc(Hons), or Master of Science (Part I).		ENR <input type="checkbox"/>

If you answer 'YES' to any of the following questions, please provide details in a separate document marked 'CONFIDENTIAL' and email this to clinicalpsychology@canterbury.ac.nz . DO NOT upload the separate document to myUC.		
Have you ever suffered any major physical disorder?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Have you ever suffered any psychiatric or psychological disorder?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have a neurodivergence or neurodevelopmental disorder (e.g. ADHD, autism, specific learning disorders)?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Have you ever been convicted of an offence or been the subject of a negotiated agreement with the Human Rights Commission? <i>A criminal conviction during the course of training will result in enrolment being reviewed and may lead to termination.</i>	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Any application document marked 'CONFIDENTIAL' and emailed to clinicalpsychology@canterbury.ac.nz is filed unopened within a secure selections file for each applicant. Confidential statements are only reviewed by the programme staff involved in the selection decision meeting. If the confidential statement warrants consideration of the students' learning needs after selection into the programme, this information may be disclosed to other clinical psychology staff to ensure appropriate supports are in place. Students will be informed if this occurs.</i>		

Questions 1 – 4: Limit response to the textbox provided, no smaller than 10-point font. **DO NOT** attach additional pages.

1. Please describe what you have learned from the work-related experiences you have had that might be relevant to your training as a clinical psychologist.

2. Please give a brief account of your reasons for wishing to undergo clinical psychology training.

3. Describe your research experiences and research interests.

4. Describe any cultural experiences that may be relevant to your training as a clinical psychologist.

I understand that the selection panel reserves the right to communicate with staff, such as supervisors from the School of Psychology, Speech and Hearing, or Psychology Departments/Schools in other universities who know me and are not listed as referees.

I understand that the programme may conduct searches of publicly available information, including online sources, to assess my suitability for acceptance into the training programme.

I understand that the withholding of any information relevant to my suitability for clinical training may result in the termination of my enrolment in the programme.

I understand that entry into the clinical psychology programme is contingent upon my acceptance as an honorary staff member by placement providers. If honorary staff status is withdrawn during the course of training, my enrolment will be terminated.

I understand that some employers/placement sites within the training programme may have vaccination or health and safety policies that recommend or require workers to be vaccinated against Vaccine Preventable Diseases. Vaccine Preventable Diseases are infectious diseases for which an effective vaccine exists that can modify the risks of catching and transmitting the disease and reduce the severity of infection. I understand that students admitted into this qualification must comply with all vaccination mandates or employer requirements and supply evidence of their vaccination status to UC before starting placements or as requested. Clinical psychology programme placements may be restricted for students who are not fully vaccinated against Vaccine Preventable Diseases.

I understand that by submitting this application I consent to [Police Vetting](#).

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information I have provided in this application is correct.

Signature:

Date:
