

Welcome to the Best Interest Assessor Course 2026/27

Link to Apply <https://www.applycpd-herts.com/course?id=121963>

- ✓ Successfully Reapproved by SWE in January 2026
- ✓ Commended by SWE for its high-quality teaching and exceptional support
 - ✓ Recommended by employers and practitioners
- ✓ Competitive course fee to support practitioner and workforce development
- ✓ You can take this course as a standalone course or as part of a Postgraduate Qualification (MSc, PGDip or PGCert).

Why Choose This Course?

Our BIA course has been comprehensively updated to align with the new BIA Standards (July 2024). This means you will be supported within a high-quality learning environment designed to equip you with the essential knowledge and skills to become a registered Best Interests Assessor. The course offers a reflective, practice-focused curriculum aimed to meet your individual learning needs while supporting your work–study–life balance. It is delivered by a dedicated team of BIA experts, including experienced BIA practitioners, lecturers, and PWLE.

Course Aims

The course is designed to enable candidates to become registered Best Interest Assessors, meeting the requirements of the role as set out in relevant legislation and the six BIA Capabilities.

Course Content

This taught course enables students to develop comprehensive understanding of, and the ability to apply:

- Legislations, national and local policy guidance, adult safeguarding law and policies, relevant case law.
- The principles and processes involved in assessing an individual's capacity to make decisions.
- Concepts of risk and risk assessment in the context of deprivation of liberty
- The concept of 'best interest', the DoLS assessment process, and the role of key stakeholders such as the MH Assessor and IMCA,
- The scope of recommendations a BIA can make

Where is The Course Taught?

The course will be mainly delivered on-line, with optional group and one-to-one support sessions available in person at the University of Hertfordshire's campus sites.

When does this course run?

October 2026 intake

Lectures: 14, 21, 28 Oct and 4, 11 & 25 Nov 2026

Assignment Deadline: Jan 2027

April 2027 intake

Lectures: 15, 21, 28 Apr and 5, 12 & 26 May 2027

Assignment Deadline: Aug 2027

Assessment

1. Record of two observations - PASS/FAIL
2. 2000-word essay – Graded (100%)
3. Formative assessment - not graded (designed to support learning and preparation for the above assessment tasks)

Admission

To be considered for the course, applicants must:

- Have at least two years of post-qualified experience
- Be referred or/and approved by their employers
- Submit an online application form
- Provide a personal statement via the online application
- Complete a case study and then attend an interview
- Confirm the availability of two observation opportunities as a prerequisite for admission.

A typically successful application will demonstrate that the applicant has:

- Full registration with a relevant professional body (e.g. SWE, NMC, HCPC)
- A current enhanced DBS check
- The potential to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to meet the 6 BIA capabilities set out in Annex 1 of the BIA Education and Training Standards (July 2024).
- The potential to meet the eligibility criteria for the role set out in the relevant legislation governing BIA practice.
- And can demonstrate suitable prior experience.
- A robust level of legal literacy in appropriate legislative and policy areas.

Course Enquiries?

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Application Enquiries

Health CPD Team

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Cost

Fees: please contact us