

Preparation for the AMHP training programme

Between completion of the Pre-AMHP Foundation course and entry onto the AMHP training programme there are a number of steps to take. Completion of the following steps will ensure that you are in a position to gain the maximum benefit from the programme.

1. Completion of the Pre-AMHP assignment including ward observations.
2. Undertaking a minimum of three (3) or five (5) shadowed assessments with a qualified AMHP. If your area of work and experience is NOT in the mental health service then a minimum of five (5) assessments will be needed. A written reflective account (Appendix A) needs to be included with your application for the AMHP training.
3. Liaison with the Lead AMHP for your locality to identify a placement and a Practice Assessor. This does not have to be in place before you apply for the programme. However, to undertake the AMHP programme you will need support from a Local Authority/Trust who will offer a statutory placement in a mental health setting which will provide the relevant experience to achieve the module learning outcomes and will also provide a practice learning educator (Practice Assessor) and a document (Appendix B) signed by the AMHP lead/manager advising as such will need to be included with the application.
4. Attendance at interview of the AMHP programme. Shadowing as many Mental Health Act Assessments as possible for the interview will be important as part of your preparation for the interview.
5. Preparation and presentation of a social circumstances report at a mental health tribunal (if possible) before the start of the AMHP training programme.
6. If you are not usually based within a Mental Health Team you may benefit from shadowing Mental Health Teams before the start of the AMHP training programme.
7. Complete and attach with your application a document (Appendix C) confirming you are in agreement for information about your grades, attendance and performance to be shared by the University with the employing authority and Practice Assessor.

It is noted that when completing the AMHP training programme application on the UH system it will normally first be sent automatically to the training and/or finance staff within your Local Authority/Trust before it goes to the University. For applicants who are self-employed (or not employed by a Local Authority/Trust) DBS and University Occupational Health clearances will be need and a copy of the enhanced DBS check will need to be included with the application. See the AMHP training programme Flyer/ Entry Requirements for further information.

Appendix A: Experience of shadowing at least 5 Mental Health Act Assessments (3 if you are based within a mental health team) prior to the start of the programme is required – a brief 500-1000 word reflective summary of which will need to be included with your application.

Reflective Summary of shadowed Mental Health Act Assessments

Name of student

Assessment dates

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Assessment locations (i.e. community, A+E, ward...)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Appendix A continued: Experience of shadowing at least 5 Mental Health Act Assessments (3 if you are based within a mental health team) prior to the start of the programme is required – a brief 500-1000 word reflective summary of which will need to be included with your application.

Reflections on assessments (i.e. identified relevant learning, thoughts and feelings shared, any noteworthy remarks concerning attitude and approach) 500 – 1000 words

Signature/student name

Date

Appendix B: Verification by Lead AMHP of the available learning opportunities within the placement:

As AMHP lead/manager, on behalf of the sponsoring Local Authority/Trust, I confirm the following:

- The Practice Placement Educator (Practice Assessor) will be identified for the AMHP student who will be a suitably qualified AMHP who has been working as an AMHP for at least two years before the start of the AMHP training programme and has the relevant knowledge, skills and experience to act as a Practice Assessor.
- The Practice Assessor will have attended training for the role in the last 3 years or will have agreed to undertake training for the role and will do so prior to being the PA for the trainee AMHP.
- The Practice Assessor will have confirmed their willingness to act in that capacity and to provide the required supervision and reports for the placement.
- A Practice placement will be identified and will be in a team and location which is away from the trainee AMHPs normal place of work and will not entail the trainee AMHP in any commitments associated with their normal place of work.
- There will be an adequate number of appropriately qualified, experienced and, where required, registered staff at the practice placement setting.
- The practice placement will provide a safe and supportive environment.
- Learning, teaching and supervision will encourage safe and effective practice, independent learning and professional conduct.
- A range of learning and teaching methods that respect the rights and needs of people with lived experience and colleagues will be in place throughout practice placements.
- The practice placement will provide the trainee AMHP with sufficient opportunities to achieve the competencies required by the AMHP training programme.
- The placement providers has equality and diversity policies in relation to students and this will be implemented and monitored.
- As the AMHP lead/ manager I undertake to discuss any concerns arising from the placement and to ensure a suitable alternative Practice Assessor/ placement is provided if this is required following University processes.

Name

Signature

Date

Appendix C: I am in agreement for information about my grades, attendance and performance to be shared by the University with my employing authority and Practice Assessor.

Name

Signature

Date