

PSYCHOLOGICAL WORK CONTENT OF PLACEMENT POSITIONS**Limited placement rule**

The Board has for some time been monitoring the specific work content of placement positions. Its concern has been that many positions do not contain work experience of a type that would fit but the widest understanding of “psychological work”, and/or are so narrow as to provide but a limited range of experience on which supervision might be based. In particular, there is frequently very little by way of direct one-on-one client contact providing a service that would normally or reasonably be seen as involving counselling or intervention to address an individual’s psychological problems.

Applications for provisional registration or changes in supervision plans containing placements that the Board consider lack the necessary breadth and/or width of psychological content but do contain significant psychological work may be approved. However, such placements can only be used to comprise a maximum of 12 of the 24 months of supervised placement required for full registration. In these circumstances, it will be necessary to find further work to bring the work experience up to the required level, either across the two year supervision period, or in the second year. This might be done through voluntary work at work places where a wider range of psychological work is available. The Board will consider concurrent placements where the second placement meets the breadth and width requirements.

Applicants will be advised of the Board’s determination in relation to their placement/s and will be required to inform the Board in advance how they would propose to fulfil the remainder of their supervised placements. Failure to do so will mean an applicant will not be able to fulfil the requirements for full registration.

Naturally, an intern would not be able to complete two placements that had been assessed as lacking the necessary breadth and width of psychological content and fulfil the two year period of provisional registration. Only 12 months of these limited placements can be counted towards the placement requirements.

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