Extra Information on Requirements for Sites and Supervisors for Gender Identity Healthcare Professional Certificates

To help those who may be planning to apply for a Gender Identity Healthcare Professional Certificate, detail about approved sites and supervisory arrangements follow.

“Approved site or network”
Each learner will need to be registered with an approved gender identity centre (GIC) or an approved network of clinical provision which provides sufficiently comprehensive gender identity clinical services for gender diverse adults to enable learners to gain the clinical practice experience and expertise necessary to meet the learning outcomes required for the certificate. Some GICs or networks of clinical provision may not yet be approved. As part of the development, we will be running a certification process for approving a GIC or network of clinical provision to ensure that learners can gain the necessary clinical exposure to enable them to successfully complete professional certificates. The certification process will be running from September 2023. If you represent a GIC or network of clinical provision and would like more information about the approval process, please contact credential@rcp.ac.uk and request to be kept updated with the certification process.

“Certificate supervisor”
The approved GIC or network of clinical provision will provide the workplace-based supervision, coaching and assessment of certificate learners registered with their GIC or network of clinical provision.

To provide supervision, support and assessment in the workplace, learners will be assigned a named certificate supervisor and a group of workplace supervisors and assessors.

A certificate supervisor must be a registered healthcare professional who has completed a minimum of 3 years’ whole-time clinical practice, or part-time equivalent, in adult specialist gender identity healthcare or achieved the Postgraduate Certificate or Diploma in Gender Identity Healthcare Practice. Please note this does not include the Theoretical Foundations Postgraduate Certificate award.

Certificate supervisors must have successfully completed suitable supervision training e.g., an Educational Supervisor course or equivalent. If you have completed supervision training for other purposes, you will not need to undertake further supervision training prior to becoming a certificate supervisor.

Anticipated time commitment: One PA per week for oversight of up to five registered learners and the workplace supervisors/assessors they need, liaison with the RCP credential team and participation, as necessary, in the central certification processes (e.g., moderation, external review, complaints and appeals).

The main duties and responsibilities of the certificate supervisor are to:
• Meet with the learner at least four times during the programme to review and assess the learner’s capabilities and learning throughout the certificate (initial, 1st interim, 2nd interim and end of programme)
• Complete a report at the end of the programme confirming the learner has met the requirements of the certificate
• Source suitable workplace supervisors and assessors to aid in teaching, coaching and assessing learners in the workplace
• Identify appropriate clinical experience and facilitate learning to help the learner to meet the learning outcomes
• Support the learner in completing online learning activities for the self-study component of the certificate
• Provide clinical guidance as appropriate to the learner’s level and experience
• Provide regular feedback that is clear, focussed and aimed at enabling the learner to improve specific aspects of the learner’s knowledge or performance.

“Workplace supervisor”
Alongside Certificate supervisors sit Workplace supervisors. Workplace supervisors will be responsible for teaching, coaching and assessing the learner in the workplace and inform the Certificate supervisor of the learner’s progress. The Workplace supervisor should support the Certificate supervisor and learner to develop and execute action plans to support successful completion of the certificate.

The role of workplace supervisor may be distributed across several experienced clinicians within the GIC or network of clinical provision. Each workplace supervisor will contribute a small amount of time alongside their usual professional duties. We estimate that the cumulative contribution of the workplace supervisors/assessors will be up to one PA a week for up to five registered learners. It is possible for a named individual to be both a Certificate supervisor and a Workplace supervisor.

If you wish to discuss this in more detail with our team, please email credential@rcp.ac.uk