

Approved by: Registration Committee

Date: January 31, 2019

Program Definition Policy

Purpose

The [Registration Regulation](#) lists multiple options for demonstrating that an applicant has met the educational requirement for the regular route. They can complete a recognized program, a program deemed substantially equivalent to a recognized program, or have a combination of training that is deemed substantially equivalent to a recognized program.

The last option is outlined in Section 6(1)(1)(iv):

1. *The applicant must,*

- i. have such other education and training, which must include one or more programs in psychotherapy, together with any further education or training, or combination of education and training, that when taken together evidences, in the opinion of the Registration Committee, successful completion of a program that is substantially equivalent to a program referred to in subparagraph i or ii.*

This policy sets out the Registration Committee's interpretation of the word "program" as used in Section 6(1)(1)(iv) of the Regulation.

This policy is intended to provide potential applicants with a way to assess for themselves whether they have completed sufficient training in psychotherapy prior to submitting an application for registration.

This policy is also intended to aid staff and panels of the Registration Committee in deciding whether applicants have met the education requirements for registration.

Policy

To meet the education requirements for registration, applicants must have successfully completed at least one program with the following characteristics:

- Structured;
- Organized;
- Housed in or offered by an institution that purports to train psychotherapists;
- Following a specified curriculum aimed at developing core skills and entry-to-practice competencies;
- Containing evaluative components;
- Conferring a certificate, diploma, or degree upon successful completion;
- Minimum six months in duration;
- Minimum 360 classroom/didactic hours (not including independent study, direct client contact, clinical supervision, or other hours of clinical experience completed as part of a clinical or field placement or practicum)¹;

¹ If the applicant completed multiple programs, the majority of the 360 hours must have occurred in a single program.

- Taught at the graduate level; and
- Requiring completion of a bachelor's degree or equivalent for admission.

Note: applicants may submit an application to CRPO for registration in the Qualifying category when they are in the final semester of their program, have completed 90% of the program, or have completed the program with the exception of a thesis. Qualifying members are required to submit a transcript confirming that their degree has been conferred prior to writing the Registration Examination.