



# DClinPsy Open Day 2025

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Careers in the NHS :

# Clinical Psychologist

Clinical Psychologist  
in training



works in settings that involve  
mental health, the brain or  
behaviour

Has skills in :

- ★ specialist assessment
- ★ "formulation"
- ★ psychological interventions
- ★ research & audit skills
- ★ consultation & training

making sense or  
analysing someone's  
difficulties

e.g. therapy

& so much more!



QUEEN'S  
UNIVERSITY  
BELFAST



# Skills acquired through studying psychology at undergraduate level



Knowledge and understanding of human behaviour



Analytical problem solving



Effective communication



Teamwork



Scientific method and reasoning

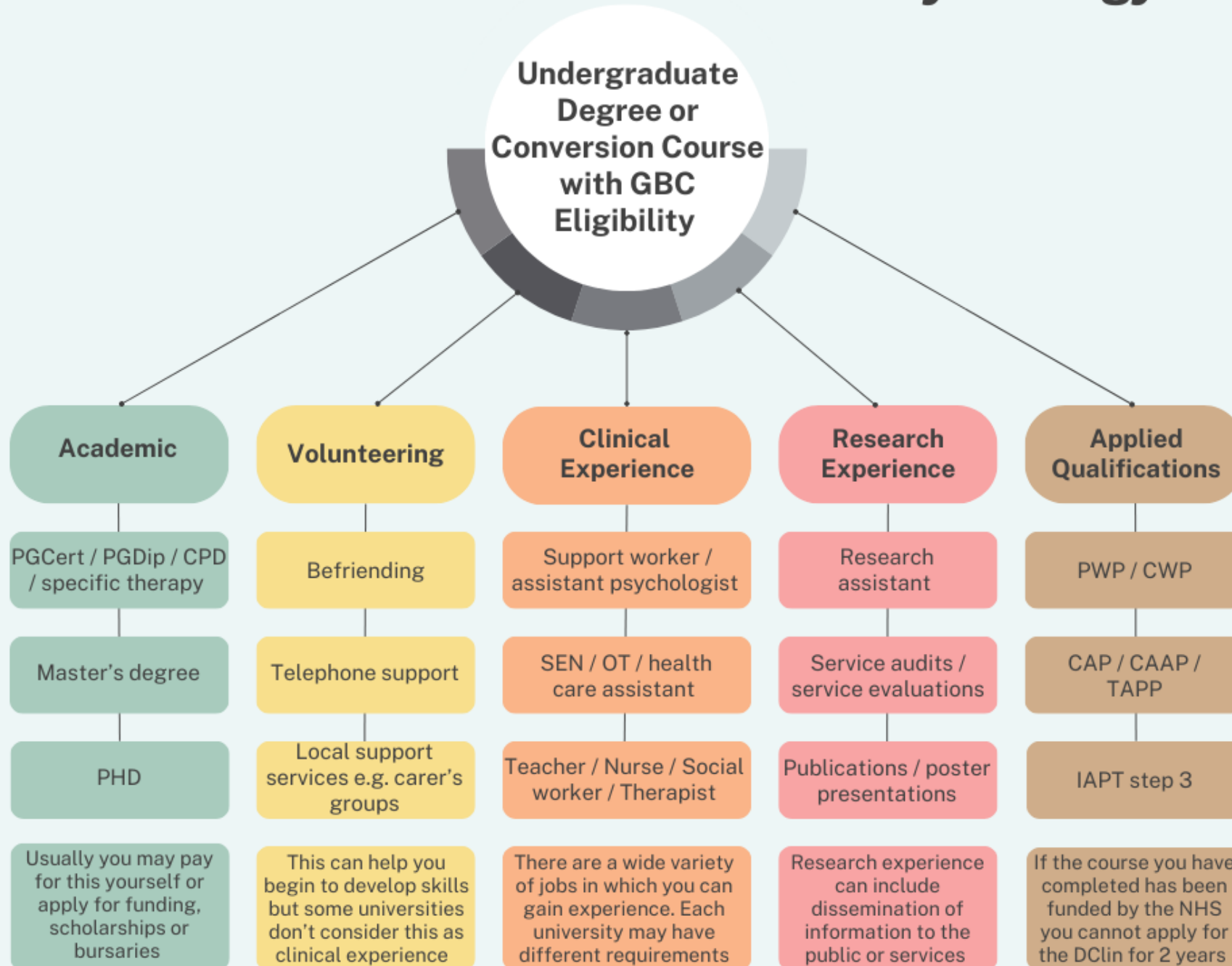


Critical thinking



Ethical judgement

# Potential Routes into Clinical Psychology



PSYCH-APPLI-CAN  
BE THE CRITICAL APPLICANT



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UNIVERSITY  
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# Clinical Psychology training



Doctorate in Clinical Psychology (DClinPsy) is the primary route to becoming a clinical psychologist.



The programme typically takes three years and combines academic learning with practical placements in various clinical settings.



Institutions like Trinity College Dublin, University College Dublin, and University College Cork offer accredited DClinPsy programmes in ROI.



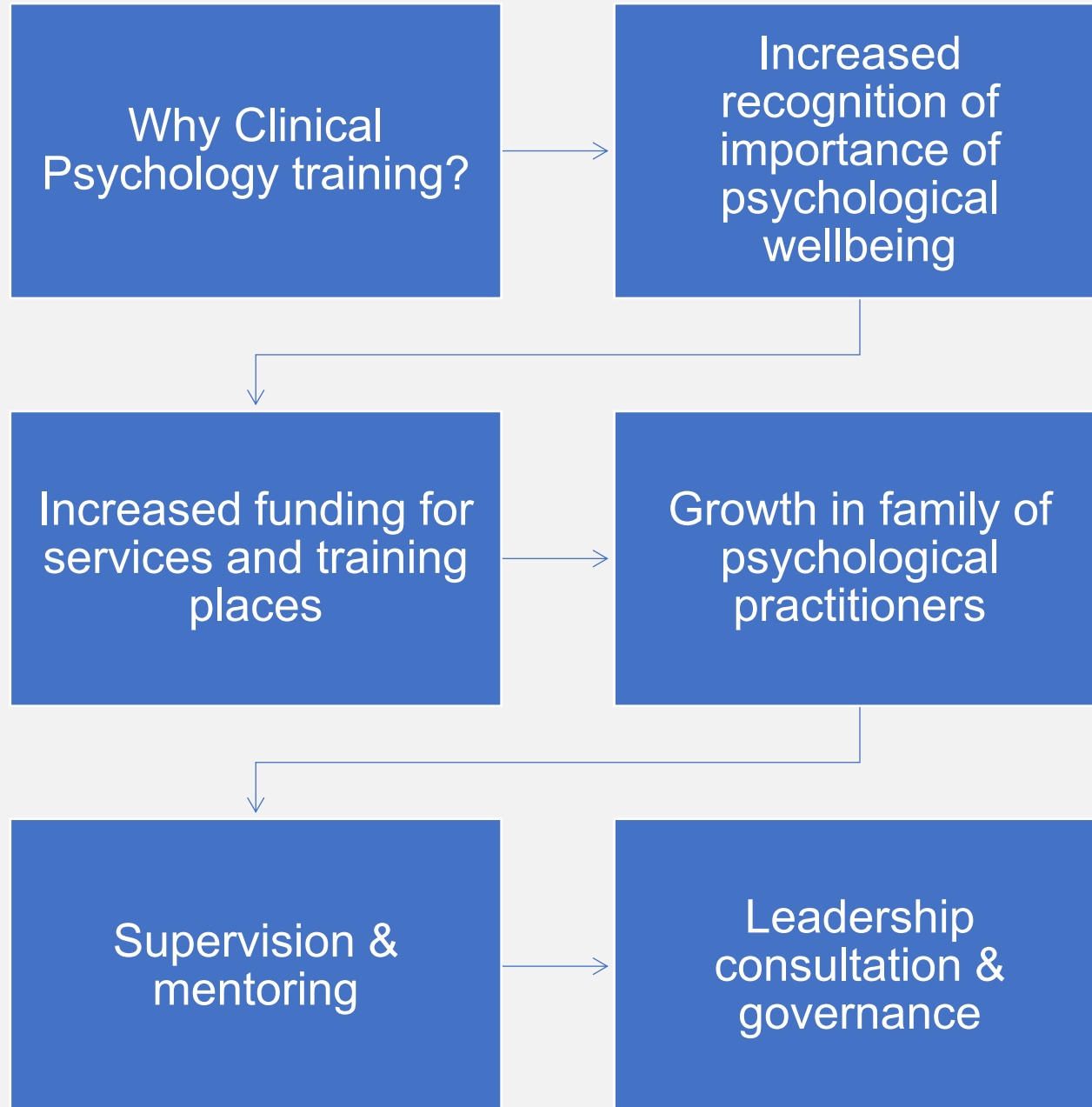
Queens University Belfast delivers Clinical Psychology training for the HSC in N. Ireland



Clearing House system in UK for access to courses in England, Scotland and Wales.



Courses approved by Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC) and accredited by BPS

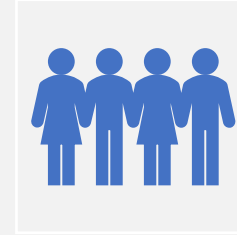




Why Clinical Psychology training in N. Ireland?



High level involvement of Clinical Psychologists in the region



Placements available in full range of specialist clinical settings across all Trust areas



Core therapeutic modalities and specialist pathways



Self care, self awareness and reflective practice



Research publication rate

# Successful applicants

Relevant experience

Applying psychological theory to real world problems

Scientist practitioner

Good communication skills

Good listener

Empathic

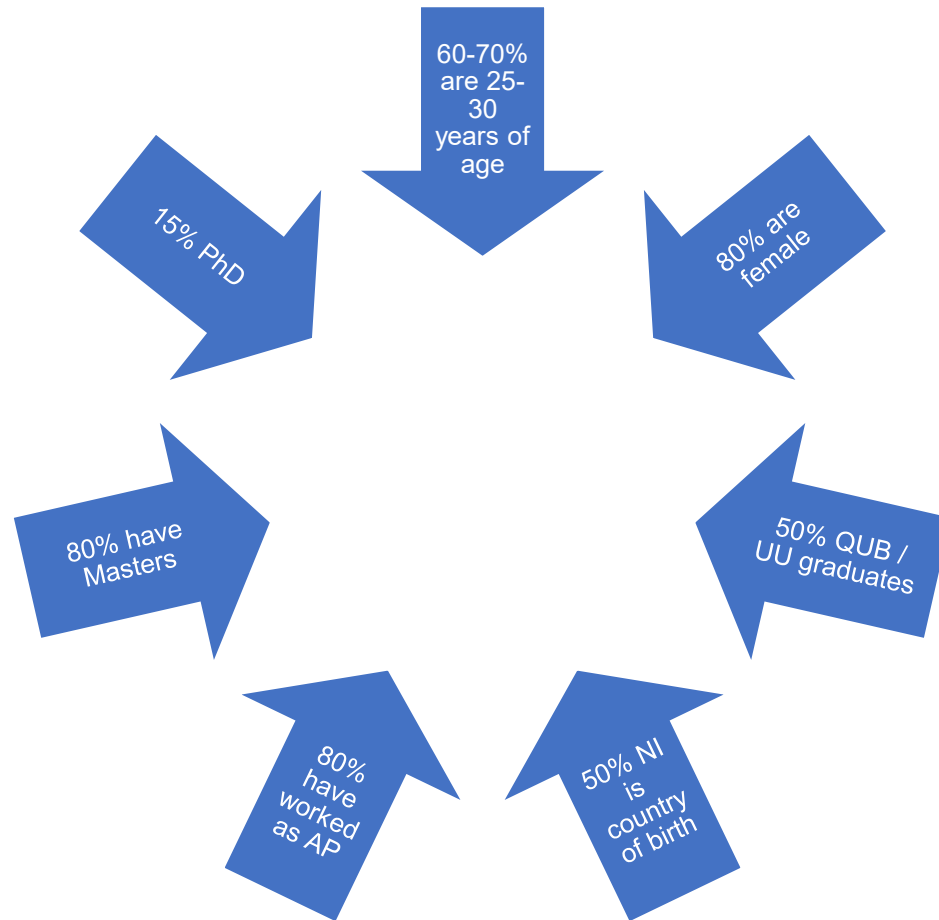
Reflective

Self-awareness

Analytical

Problem solving

# Successful applicants?



# Importance of Application form...



Demonstrate learning  
acquired through  
studying psychology



Evidence growth &  
learning acquired through  
undertaking relevant work  
experience



Evidence research skills  
& competence



Avoid Spelling /  
grammatical errors



Demonstrate good  
presentation skills &  
focus



Graduate basis for  
chartered membership  
(GBC)

# Advice you would give to candidates?

Motivation – why clinical psychology?

Reflect – what would I bring to the role?

Readiness – why now?

Aptitude – why am I suitable?

Personal qualities (resilience, managing competing demands)?

Clear demonstration of competencies?

Previous applications?

# Advice you would give to candidates?

