

IPHM ACCREDITATION STANDARDS AND QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

International Practitioners of Holistic Medicine

Est. 2005 | iphm.co.uk

OUR PHILOSOPHY

IPHM has been accrediting holistic and beauty practitioners and training providers for over 20 years. In that time, one thing has stayed constant: we believe accreditation should mean something.

That means holding a genuine standard. Not a rubber stamp. Not a box-ticking exercise. Every application we receive is reviewed by a real person, assessed on its own merit, and measured against criteria that actually reflect what it means to practise safely, ethically, and with integrity.

We also know that holistic practice is diverse. Formal qualifications exist across some modalities and not others. Experience matters. Tradition matters. So while our standards are consistent, the way we apply them is always fair and considered.

Accreditation with IPHM is about more than a logo. It is a statement that you take your practice seriously, and that your clients can trust you.

WHAT WE ASSESS

Every application — whether from a practitioner or a training provider — goes through a thorough individual review. We look at the whole picture, not just a checklist.

FOR PRACTITIONERS

We assess competency, ethics, experience, and professional conduct. Depending on the modality, this may include:

- Copies of relevant qualifications

- Evidence of practical training or experience
- Case studies or client feedback where applicable
- Proof of valid public liability insurance
- Agreement to the IPHM Code of Conduct

Applications are reviewed individually. We do not take a one-size-fits-all approach.

FOR TRAINING PROVIDERS

We assess both the provider and the courses they wish to accredit. This includes a review of:

- Course structure, content, and learning outcomes
- Delivery methods and assessment processes
- Practical components, where the subject requires them
- Tutor qualifications relevant to the subject matter
- Student support and quality assurance processes

Courses submitted for accreditation are reviewed in full. All materials are treated with strict confidentiality and permanently deleted following assessment.

QUALIFICATION STANDARDS

For therapies that involve hands-on, practical work — such as massage, reflexology, or beauty treatments — applicants must hold practitioner-level qualifications that reflect the depth of training required to work safely with clients.

We recognise qualifications from a wide range of awarding bodies and institutions, including:

- Regulated awarding bodies and nationally recognised qualifications
- University degrees with relevant practical components
- Qualifications from IPHM-accredited training providers
- International qualifications assessed on a case-by-case basis

For non-contact or spiritually-based practices where formal qualifications may not exist, we assess experience, practice history, and evidence of knowledge and ethical application. We have never believed that a lack of a formal certificate means a lack of genuine skill.

EXPERIENCE-BASED PRACTICE

Some holistic traditions are passed down through lineage, community, or years of dedicated practice. IPHM recognises that, and we have a route to accreditation for practitioners whose expertise comes from lived experience rather than formal study.

In these cases, we may ask for:

- A documented practice history
- Case studies or client testimonials
- Evidence of ongoing learning and ethical commitment

This is not a lower standard. It is a different and equally valid one.

OUR COMMITMENT TO MEMBERS

Once accredited, members are expected to maintain their standards throughout their membership. This includes keeping qualifications and insurance up to date, committing to ongoing professional development, and upholding the IPHM Code of Conduct at all times.

Accreditation can be suspended or withdrawn if a member is found to have acted in breach of our standards. We take that seriously, because our members' clients deserve that assurance.

IPHM accreditation is built on integrity. Every practitioner and training provider in our community has been assessed and accepted because they meet a genuine standard. That is what the IPHM name means.

For more information or to begin your application, contact us at membership@iphm.co.uk

iphm.co.uk