

IPHM Pre Requisites for Training Providers

Setting the standard for holistic education

Every IPHM accredited training provider has an important role to play in preparing practitioners for professional practice. Our aim is simple: courses should provide learners with the knowledge, skills and confidence they need to practise safely and responsibly.

We understand that holistic education is incredibly varied and that training can be delivered in many different ways. That is something we value. Our role is not to make every course look the same, but to ensure that the appropriate standards are in place for the subject being taught.

Our Approach to Accreditation

IPHM recognises that there is no one way to teach holistic and complementary subjects. Our role is not to dictate how a trainer must teach, but to ensure that learners receive appropriate, safe and sufficiently comprehensive training for the subject they are studying.

Every course is assessed individually, taking into account the subject being taught, the level of training and how the course is delivered.

We look for appropriate standards of health and safety, ethical practice, learner competence and professional responsibility, while allowing trainers the freedom to teach in their own way.

We actively welcome new ideas, new approaches and emerging modalities.

Submitting Your Courses

Each training provider and each course is assessed individually.

You can submit courses individually or submit several courses at the same time. There is no additional charge for adding each modality.

When applying, you will need to provide access to the full course content you wish to have accredited. This may include training manuals, lesson plans, recorded teaching, practical resources and other learning materials.

Your course materials should be your own work, or you must have the appropriate permission or licence to use any third party content.

Trainer qualifications and relevant experience should also be appropriate to the subjects being taught.

All information submitted to IPHM is treated confidentially.

Clear Course Information

Courses should give learners clear information about:

- * What the course covers
- * The level of the qualification
- * Any entry requirements
- * Expected study time
- * How the course is assessed
- * What learners can expect to be able to do after completion
- * Any relevant professional or practical limitations

This helps learners understand what they are signing up for and what they can reasonably expect from their training.

Core Course Requirements

Courses submitted for accreditation should be clearly structured and designed around genuine learning outcomes.

Your course should include:

- * A clear introduction explaining the purpose and scope of the training
- * Clear learning objectives and learning outcomes
- * Appropriate theoretical knowledge
- * Practical application where relevant
- * A formal assessment
- * A minimum of five case studies, with at least one reviewed by the training provider
- * Access to tutor support throughout the course

For online courses, a minimum of 30 hours of study is required, including case study work.

Courses should provide sufficient depth for the qualification being awarded and should prepare learners for safe and appropriate practice.

Modality Specific Requirements

IPHM accredits a wide range of holistic, complementary, beauty, wellness and specialist training, and we understand that courses can be taught in very different ways. We actively welcome new and emerging modalities and do not expect every course to follow exactly the same format.

Every course is assessed individually, taking into account the subject being taught, the level of training and how the course is delivered.

Our main priority is that the appropriate standards of health, safety, ethical practice, learner competence and professional responsibility are in place for the particular course.

Depending on the subject, this may include areas such as:

- * Safe practice and contraindications
- * Anatomy and physiology where relevant
- * Practical competency where relevant
- * Scope of practice and professional boundaries
- * Ethical considerations
- * Referral guidance where appropriate
- * Animal welfare for animal based training
- * Appropriate management of risks or adverse reactions

We recognise that a massage course, an energy healing course, an animal therapy course and a spiritual development course will naturally look very different. What matters is that each course provides appropriate, responsible and sufficiently detailed training for the subject being taught.

We encourage innovation and new modalities. If your training is well structured, appropriate for the level being offered and has the necessary health, safety, ethical and professional foundations in place, we are happy to consider it as part of our accreditation process.

Practical and Experiential Training

Where a course includes practical, hands on or experiential elements, the way these are delivered and assessed should be appropriate to the skills being taught.

We recognise that practical training can take many forms. Depending on the course, this may include in person teaching, supervised practical work, demonstrations, tutor observation, case studies or other appropriate methods of demonstrating competency.

Where a learner needs to develop practical skills that cannot reasonably be demonstrated through online learning alone, the course should include an appropriate opportunity for those skills to be taught, practised and assessed.

The important thing is that the delivery method supports the learner in becoming competent and able to practise safely.

Entry Requirements and Advanced Courses

Training providers should clearly state any previous qualifications, experience or knowledge required before a learner begins the course.

Where no previous training is required, the course should provide the necessary foundational knowledge within the programme.

Advanced courses should build on appropriate foundational knowledge.

Where a course is described as advanced, there should be a suitable prerequisite pathway so that learners have the knowledge and skills needed before progressing.

Certificate and Diploma Level

IPHM recognises two main qualification levels:

Certificate

Typically 40 to 200 hours of study. Suitable for developing knowledge in a specific area or preparing for further training.

Diploma

150 hours or more of study. A Diploma should provide comprehensive and in depth coverage of the subject and reflect the level of qualification being awarded.

The content, learning outcomes and overall structure should be appropriate for the qualification level being offered.

Assessment and Case Studies

All IPHM accredited courses should include formal assessment.

The assessment should contain a minimum of 20 questions, with an 80% pass requirement.

Students should also complete a minimum of five case studies, with the training provider reviewing at least one before the qualification is awarded.

Assessment should provide a meaningful way of confirming that the learner has understood the course and achieved the intended learning outcomes.

Assessment should also be appropriate to the course. For example, where practical skills are being taught, practical competency may form an important part of demonstrating successful completion.

Scope of Practice

Courses should clearly define what learners are being trained to do and the boundaries of that practice.

Where a subject overlaps with medical, psychological or veterinary care, learners should understand the limits of their role and when it is appropriate to refer to a suitably qualified professional.

Where relevant, learners should also understand their responsibilities around safeguarding, professional boundaries and working with vulnerable people.

Training should not encourage learners to make claims, diagnoses or provide services outside their appropriate scope of practice.

Safeguarding and Vulnerable People

Where training involves working with children, vulnerable adults or other individuals who may require additional support or protection, the course should include appropriate guidance around safeguarding, professional boundaries and when to seek further support or make a referral.

The level of guidance should be appropriate to the subject being taught and the people the learner is expected to work with.

Qualifications and Certification

Once a student has successfully completed the required training and assessment, the training provider may issue a certificate displaying the IPHM accreditation mark.

The certificate should make it clear that the training was provided by an IPHM accredited training provider and was not delivered directly by IPHM.

Students completing an IPHM accredited course are eligible to apply for their own IPHM practitioner accreditation.

Insurance

Where a training provider works directly with members of the public or conducts home visits as part of their teaching, appropriate public liability insurance must be held.

Evidence of insurance may be requested as part of the provider approval process.

Trainer Qualifications

A formal teaching qualification is not mandatory for IPHM accreditation, although appropriate teaching qualifications are recommended.

Trainers should hold suitable qualifications and/or demonstrable experience relevant to the subjects they teach.

Maintaining Your Accreditation

IPHM accreditation is an ongoing commitment.

Accredited training providers are expected to:

- * Keep course content accurate and up to date
- * Maintain appropriate standards of teaching and assessment
- * Respond appropriately to learner feedback
- * Work within their professional scope

- * Follow the IPHM Code of Conduct

Providers should also notify IPHM where there are significant changes to an accredited course, including substantial changes to the content, qualification level or scope of practice.

If Updates Are Needed

Our aim is to help training providers meet the relevant standard.

If we identify areas that need strengthening during the accreditation review, we will explain what needs to be updated and why.

The provider can then make the necessary changes and resubmit the course for review.

We want the accreditation process to be supportive and constructive while maintaining the standards expected of IPHM accredited training.

Ready to Apply?

You can apply for one course or several courses at the same time, depending on what you are ready to submit.

There is no additional charge for adding individual modalities.

Our accreditation process is designed to assess each course fairly and individually. We understand that training providers have their own teaching styles, approaches and areas of expertise, and we want to encourage that diversity while ensuring the important foundations of quality, safety and professional practice are maintained.

If we identify areas that need strengthening, we will explain what is needed and why, so that you can bring the course in line with the relevant requirements.

We are always happy to consider new ideas, new approaches and new modalities.

Our aim is not to restrict holistic education. It is to help ensure that the training being delivered gives learners a strong, responsible foundation from which to develop their practice.

To begin your application or find out more:

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iphm.co.uk