

IPHM PRE-REQUISITES FOR ALL THERAPISTS

What you need to know before you apply

International Practitioners of Holistic Medicine | iphm.co.uk

BEFORE YOU APPLY

If you are reading this, chances are you are considering joining a community of over 10,000 holistic and beauty practitioners and training providers worldwide. That is a good decision.

This document outlines what IPHM needs from you before we can grant accreditation. It is not designed to put you off. It is designed to make sure that when you join us, you join with confidence — knowing you have been assessed fairly and that your accreditation genuinely means something.

Everything here is straightforward. If you have questions at any point, our team is always happy to help before you apply. Just get in touch at membership@iphm.co.uk.

QUALIFICATIONS AND COMPETENCY

IPHM accepts applications based on formal qualifications or demonstrable experience, depending on your modality and background. Neither route is more valid than the other. We simply need to know that you can practise safely and professionally.

IF YOU HOLD FORMAL QUALIFICATIONS

Your qualifications should be:

- Relevant to the therapies you are applying to practise
- Current and issued by a recognised awarding body or training provider
- Supported by sufficient practical and theoretical training

If your qualifications are from a private training school or a non-standard institution, we may ask for additional supporting evidence. This is not a barrier — it is just part of making sure every assessment is thorough.

IF YOUR PRACTICE IS EXPERIENCE-BASED

We understand that some holistic modalities are not taught through formal academic channels. If your expertise has come through years of practice, mentorship, or a traditional lineage, we can work with that.

You may be asked to provide:

- A summary of your practice history and how long you have been working
- Case studies or written feedback from clients
- Evidence of your knowledge and approach to ethical practice

IPHM may also request tutor references or additional documentation to support your application. We will let you know if that applies to you.

PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE

If you work with clients, whether in a clinic, at their home, or at events, you are required to hold valid public liability insurance before you begin practising. Professional indemnity insurance may also be required depending on where you are based.

Insurance rules vary by country. You are responsible for understanding what is required in your location. If you are not currently insured, you can still submit your application — but insurance must be in place before you work with clients.

Proof of insurance must be submitted within two weeks of your accreditation being approved. IPHM has affiliate partners offering discounted policies for members.

THE IPHM CODE OF CONDUCT

Every IPHM member commits to upholding our Code of Conduct. This is not a long list of restrictions — it is a set of professional values that most good practitioners already live by.

In summary, you commit to:

- Treating every client with dignity, respect, and care
- Working only within your trained scope of practice
- Maintaining client confidentiality in line with data protection requirements
- Being honest and transparent in how you describe your services
- Referring clients to other professionals when a situation is outside your competence
- Never making misleading claims about the outcomes of treatments

Unsafe, discriminatory, or exploitative practice will result in accreditation being withdrawn. We do not make exceptions to this.

LEGAL AND REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

You are responsible for ensuring your practice complies with the laws and regulations of the country you work in. This includes health and safety requirements, data protection and client confidentiality, and any local licensing or safeguarding rules that apply to your work.

If you work with children, vulnerable adults, or other at-risk groups, you must hold the appropriate background checks — such as a DBS check in the UK — before doing so.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Accreditation is not a one-off achievement. IPHM members are expected to keep their knowledge current and their practice growing. This means staying informed about developments in your field, and investing in training and learning opportunities on an ongoing basis.

We do not set a fixed number of CPD hours per year. We do expect genuine commitment to professional growth.

READY TO APPLY?

When you are ready, make sure you have the following to hand:

- Copies of relevant qualifications, or evidence of equivalent experience
- Any supporting documents such as case studies or client feedback
- Proof of valid insurance (if you already have it)
- Commitment to the IPHM Code of Conduct

Applications are reviewed individually. Processing typically takes 7 to 10 working days. If you submit everything in full, we can often fast-track to 3 working days.

IPHM accreditation is for practitioners who care about what they do and take their professional responsibilities seriously. If that is you, we would love to welcome you.

Apply at iphm.co.uk or contact us at membership@iphm.co.uk