

Individual route to registration

Information for candidates

What is the Individual Route to registration?

Homeopaths who qualify from one of the Society's recognised courses are automatically eligible to apply for registration with the Society of Homeopaths. The purpose of the Individual Route is to provide an alternative pathway for entry to The Society's Register. As an Individual Route applicant, you will be required to demonstrate understanding and competence to a similar level as someone qualifying from a recognised course. The process will enable you to show how your education and/or experience in practice can fulfil our criteria.

You will be able to apply for Registration separately after you have completed the Individual Route.

Who can apply?

We welcome applications from practitioners who have qualified in homeopathy overseas or on a non-recognised course in the UK. Even if you do not hold a formal qualification, evidence of substantial structured study, experiential learning in homeopathy practice and other related professional roles can also be taken into account.

Our supportive process involves the submission of a portfolio demonstrating your qualifications and experience, followed by a meeting with members of The Society's helpful and experienced team. We aim to respect the achievements of our applicants and we have made every effort to devise a sound but flexible Individual Route for homeopaths from a variety of learning backgrounds. Whilst we maintain the need to meet our criteria, we consider each application on its merit and will be happy to discuss with you how you can demonstrate your qualifications and experience most effectively.

Important - for overseas applicants

Applicants must already be resident in the UK with permission to work.

Registration with the Society of Homeopaths provides insurance and professional support for homeopaths practising in the UK.

There can be no guarantee of employment, as most homeopaths in the UK are self-employed. Registration will not be acceptable as proof of employment in visa applications.

What's the first step?

To get started – get in touch with us

Please contact The Society of Homeopaths' office by phone, letter or e-mail, giving a brief summary of your education and experience in homeopathy. In return, we will let you know if you are eligible to apply and send you an application form together with an information pack.

Stage 1 – your application

Please complete the application form and return *2 copies* to the office, together with the following documentation:

- *2 copies* of a self-evaluation based on the Society's Core Criteria for Homeopathic Practice (*see guidance notes*)
- *2 copies* of case notes for two patients currently or recently under your care (*see guidance notes*)
- a copy of any qualifications in homeopathy and any other relevant qualification (e.g. medical)
- details of the homeopathy course(s) you attended, or details of other relevant structured study
- a photocopy of your work permit (if applicable)
- a copy of your English Language qualification/assessment (if English is not your first language)
- a photocopy of your insurance policy for practice as a homeopath (*temporary insurance may be available for Individual Route applicants – call us for details*)

This application portfolio is a basic requirement to accompany your application. We ask all applicants to send in 2 recent cases and a self-evaluation. If you have over 5 years experience as a practising homeopath in the UK, we would not expect the kind of detailed case notes which might be more appropriate for a newly qualified candidate. You might prefer to present salient points and focus on a specific challenge or other significant issue which arose for you from the case. Also, if you have written an article, book or conference presentation, we shall be happy to accept extracts of such material as part of your portfolio. We welcome relevant, succinct responses which demonstrate your individual experience of practice in homeopathy.

Please ensure that all contact details are up-to-date, and that you have informed the people you have nominated to provide references for you.

We need to receive your full payment at the time of application – a total of £250-00

£75 Initial application fee (non-returnable)

£175 Progression fee

Details for payment are on the Application Form.

What will happen next?

On receipt of your application and the accompanying documents, members of the Individual Route Panel will evaluate your portfolio to determine whether you are currently eligible to proceed to the next stage.

If your application is unsuccessful, we will write to provide constructive feedback explaining the panel's decision, and we shall refund your progression fee of £175. Please note, the Individual Route panel will usually hold interviews twice a year.

Stage 2 – Time to meet you

Once we have received satisfactory references, we will arrange with you a date for an interview with two homeopaths who also have experience in education, mentoring, and/or supervision. The purpose of the meeting is to help the panel determine your suitability to practise homeopathy as a registered member of The Society of Homeopaths. The meeting, usually held in London, will last about an hour and will give you the opportunity to clarify and expand on your application material as well as to ask us questions.

When you have demonstrated fulfilment of our criteria, you will be able to apply for registration. However, if the panel decides that you have not yet fulfilled the criteria, you will be invited to submit further evidence.

Stage 3 - Additional evidence

If you need to provide further evidence, the panel will send you clear written feedback to guide you. Additional evidence may take the form of:

- set assignment(s) for evaluation at an agreed date
- additional case notes which might need to demonstrate particular aspects of practice
- reflection on further educational and/or practice experience
- A complete clinical portfolio of up to 10 cases in the case of someone recently qualified, with little post-qualification experience

Please note there will be an additional fee of up to £250 for assessment of supplementary work.

Summary of charges for Individual Route to registration:

£75 for initial application

£175 for progression, including interview

£250 (maximum) for additional assessments

Therefore, the *minimum charge* for the process would be **£250** and the *maximum charge* would be **£500**.

Stage 4 – Application for registration

Having reached this stage, you will be invited to apply for registration in the same way as a candidate qualifying from a recognised course. Please be aware that this is a separate process and there will be a registration fee and an annual subscription.

Details are available in our leaflet "Registration with The Society of Homeopaths" or visit www.homeopathy-soh.org/membership/registration

What are the criteria for the Individual Route to registration?

You will be required to demonstrate that you have studied and practised homeopathy to the breadth and depth normally covered in one of our recognised courses. (Although we are providing this information below, it is not necessary for you to refer to all these documents in detail) Recommended scope of study is described in our Society Course Framework, which correlates to the following standards:

- The Complementary and Natural Healthcare National Occupational Standards for Homeopathy*
- Recommendations from the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education
- The Society of Homeopaths' Course Recognition Criteria*
- The Society of Homeopaths' Code of Ethics & Practice *
- The Society of Homeopaths' Clinical Education Guidelines*
- The Society of Homeopaths' Core Criteria for Homeopathic Practice*

The documents marked with an * are available on our website www.homeopathy-soh.org/education/colleges/course-recognition/ If you wish, you can also download the Course Framework so that you can use it to provide evidence to support your application. Please note that this is found in the Education section of the Society's website, under *Course Recognition*, not in the registration section.

In order to practise homeopathy professionally, we would expect your qualification to be broadly equivalent to a course at Higher Education Level 6 – this means you will be able to show:

- an ability to evaluate and synthesise a range of information
- the capacity to form your own opinions and make independent decisions in the light of such knowledge
- recognition that your approach may vary according to context
- an awareness of different ways of working and current developments in homeopathy

If English is not your first language, you will be asked to provide evidence of a Level 7 certificate in English or equivalent qualification. Information can be obtained from IELTS, University of Cambridge, Local Examinations Syndicate, 1 Hills Road, Cambridge CB1 2EU. Tel. 01223 553355. www.IELTS.org

For more information please contact:

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Available: Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays 9.15am-4.15pm, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9.15am-2.15pm

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