



## Eligibility criteria details

### **Qualifications: GCSEs**

You must hold at least a grade C/4 in GCSE level maths and English or English language (not English literature), or an equivalent overseas or level 2 qualification.

- To check overseas qualifications, please visit the [ENIC website](#) and order a statement of comparability.
- You can apply without these two qualifications but you will need to take and pass the Level 2 Functional Skills qualification before we are able to match you to a training placement. You can usually arrange this through a local school or college.
- We will need to see your qualification certificates. If your certificates are not in English, we will ask you to provide a full translation.

### **Qualifications: Degree**

You must hold - or be predicted to hold by the start of the programme - a 2.2 or above undergraduate honours degree or overseas equivalent.

- You can apply before graduating provided you are predicted to achieve a 2.2 or higher.
- Unfortunately, we cannot accept a third-class honours degree or experience in the sector without an undergraduate degree. Social work is a graduate profession and it is not possible to qualify as a social worker without an undergraduate degree.
- Our programme is for people who are new to the profession. If you are a qualified social worker you will be unable to apply. If you started a social work course but have not completed the qualification we advise you contact [recruitment@thinkahead.org](mailto:recruitment@thinkahead.org) to see if there may be an exception to this.
- We will need to see your qualification certificates. If your certificates are not in English, we will ask you to provide a full translation.

### **Right to work in the UK**

You must have the right to remain and work in the UK, including access to public funds, for the duration of the programme.

- We are funded by the Department of Health and Social Care to run training across England. This funding requires trainees to have the right to work in the UK throughout our Summer Institute and the two-year training programme.
- We will need to see documentation proving your right to work in the UK.
- Think Ahead cannot sponsor visa applications.
- For further information about proving your right to work in the UK please visit the government website: <https://www.gov.uk/prove-right-to-work>



### **Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Certificate and unspent criminal convictions**

- You will need an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Certificate which we will apply for you on your behalf (unless you already have a valid one). Further details on the documentation you will need to provide for this can be found [here](#).
- If you have an unspent criminal conviction or pending prosecution, you can still apply to us provided this is declared – failing to do so will result in the termination of your application.
- Should you have an unspent criminal conviction or pending prosecution, we will need a criminal record check to be carried out as part of the assessment process. A number of factors would then impact our decision around your suitability for the programme, such as the nature of the offence and when it took place.
- There may be other documentation you will need to provide, such as an overseas police check if you have lived abroad within the last five years. Our recruitment team will guide you through any supplementary documents we may need from you.

### **Occupational health assessment**

- If you pass the assessment stage of our application process, we will ask you to undergo an occupational health assessment.
- We want to ensure that you are well enough to manage the pressure of the programme. The assessment will consider any disabilities, impairments, and physical or mental health issues which may require adjustments or additional learning support, and / or could affect your ability to undertake the programme.
- Please visit our [reasonable adjustments page](#) to explore what adjustments could be available for you.

### **Hold a valid UK driving licence**

- Social work requires a lot of travel, with home visits to the people you're working with.
- Your placement will most likely require you to drive and have access to your own car.
- You can apply as a non-driver provided you are in the process of learning, as you will need a UK driving licence before we're able to match you with a training placement.
- You will need to insure your car for business-use yourself but will be able to claim travel expenses from the NHS trust or local authority you are training with (please see the Financial Information page for more details).

***Should you need further clarification on eligibility, please contact our recruitment team at [recruitment@thinkahead.org](mailto:recruitment@thinkahead.org).***

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