

Paediatric Neurodisability Diploma

Frequently asked questions

What supporting information do I need to apply for the Paediatric Neurodisability Diploma?

A letter of support. This should be from a senior clinical colleague who can confirm that you will have access to the resources required to complete the diploma, including relevant clinics. If you are a paediatric trainee, this could be your clinical or educational supervisor.

A tutor, who will offer a minimum of one tutorial per course of the Diploma. The tutor can discuss any challenges or matters for discussion that you encounter with the course content or with accessing clinics or other resources. The tutor will provide a formative mark and feedback on each assessment task, so that you can reflect and modify as needed before submission to the PDDL course team for summative marking. Your tutor may also be your clinical or educational supervisor if this arrangement works for you both. It can be helpful, but not essential, if your tutor has previously completed the course themselves. All potential tutors need to be approved by the PDDL directors. Details of this are on the application form.

A letter of Good Standing. All overseas applicants are required to submit a letter of Good Standing. This can be requested from your local authority. Some authorities may charge a fee for letters of Good Standing. Applicants will need to meet any cost and will not be reimbursed by the course.

Certificates of medical qualifications. All applicants are required to submit copies of the certificates of their medical qualifications with their application.

CV. All applicants are required to provide a copy of their CV detailing their most recent training, qualifications and work experience.

English Language Qualification. Course materials and teaching are delivered in English. To ensure adequate language knowledge to benefit from the course, all overseas students are required to submit evidence that they have undertaken IELTS in English Language with an overall score of 7 or above. We also accept equivalent qualifications in English Language including Cambridge English (scaled score of 185 or above), Pearson Test of English (score of 68 or above).

Is there any financial support available for my course fees?

We are unable to offer scholarships, bursaries or funding towards course fees. Funding may be available via UK schools of paediatrics, your workplace local authority or from charities. Please make your own enquiries.

A 10% discount is available on course fees for applicants from low and low-middle income countries and this will be confirmed on application.

As PDDL is endorsed by the BACD, members also receive a discount on course fees.

I am a GRID trainee, is the Paediatric Neurodisability Diploma suitable for me?

Yes. All grid trainees in paediatric neurodisability are encouraged to study the course as it complements the grid training programme and provides a useful framework to gain the expected competencies. We also encourage applicants from Neurology and Community GRID trainees.

GRID trainees are encouraged to discuss individual arrangements for payment of course fees with the PDDL team.

The Diploma is a two-year course, does it matter if it takes me longer to complete?

The Paediatric Neurodisability Diploma was designed to be completed within a two-year period, however, we understand that sometimes things happen that mean studies have to be delayed.

The maximum time allowed to complete the course is six years irrespective of any breaks in study or extenuating circumstances.

Is PDDL linked to a University?

Our internationally recognised courses are endorsed by the British Academy of Childhood Disability (BACD). We are moderated regularly by an external examiner.

For many years, the course was validated as a Masters level programme (MSc, level 7) in conjunction with Sheffield Hallam University. In 2017 this collaboration came to an end, so that we could extend a welcome to practitioners across the multidisciplinary team and offer greater flexibility to our students, whilst maintaining the highest standards of teaching, resources and support to all students in the UK and internationally.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

Upon completion of the Paediatric Neurodisability Diploma, some students may choose to have their work accredited by a university of their choice. The Recognition of Prior Learning scheme is offered by most universities and generally will consider study in the previous six years to be considered for conversion to credits towards a university qualification. It is up to individual students to explore this option with universities of their choice. The PDDL team can provide letters of support if required.