

What would being an Intern look like?

The precise role will vary, but most interns will provide biblical counselling and train others. Their ministry to individuals might take place in the context of an established church-based counselling ministry but usually it will be part of the church's ordinary pastoral care. We also encourage interns to provide training courses for members of local churches. It may be possible to make these courses available to other churches in the local area.

Meetings

1. [Local Supervisors Meetings](#): Each intern will need a local supervisor with responsibility for their supervision and accountability. This is normally provided by the church's pastoral leadership team, but might occasionally be delegated to another suitably experienced member of the church. The local supervisor will liaise with the intern's mentor as required. Interns should meet with their local supervisor regularly.
2. [Mentor Meetings](#): Mentors and interns are encouraged to meet once a month. This can take place either in-person, over the phone, or via video call.
3. [Optional Peer Consultations](#): Four times a month, the Intern Coordinator hosts hour-long optional peer consultations via video call. These are opportunities for interns across the first and second years to come together and ask questions of each other or raise topics that have not yet been addressed. Attendance is not required, and typically there are 3 – 4 people in the call, which provides an opportunity to get to know and pray for each other.
4. [Monthly Training Meetings](#): Once a month, the Intern Coordinator hosts an online training meeting via video call. These are 1.5 hours long, and first-year interns and second-year interns have separate meetings on different topics. In advance of the meeting, the Intern Coordinator will send out an article or audio file on the topic.
 - a. [Sample Topics – First Year](#): Confidentiality; How Churches Change; Self-Stewardship
 - b. [Sample Topics – Second Year](#): Shame; Marriage Counselling; Technology

5. [In Person Meetings](#): Three times a year, mentors, interns, and any local supervisors who are available to attend gather together in-person for a day, in a central location. Further training and face-to-face interactions are the highlights of these meetings. Generally, these meetings take place in September, at the Biblical Counselling UK national conference, and June.

Please Note: the In-Person Meeting for September is scheduled for 19 September 2018, at a location yet to be determined.

Google Hangouts

While mentors and interns are free to use whatever method or online platform they prefer in order to meet, the Optional Peer Consults and the Monthly Training Meetings take place using Google Hangouts.

If Google Hangouts is unfamiliar, the Intern Coordinator will provide assistance and an instruction video on getting it set up prior to the start of the Intern Scheme.

Equipment required: reliable internet access and a webcam - most laptops and phones have webcams built in.

Time Requirements

The amount of time each intern is able to give to the Scheme varies from person to person. Some are able to do it full-time, while others are able to allocate one full day a week to dedicated Intern Scheme time, with small slots of time scattered around other working hours and commitments throughout the week.

Meetings are arranged to best suit everyone's schedule wherever possible, and a year plan with dates and times for all meetings will be sent out near the start of the scheme.

Finances

In addition to receiving a Biblical Counselling UK Grant (if accepted and approved, and where funds are available), Biblical Counselling UK seeks to support the intern in the following ways:

1. Travel to and from the September and June in-person meetings will be reimbursed provided there are sufficient funds. Mileage is reimbursed using the AA Fuel Calculator. Trains, flights, and taxis (if needed) are also reimbursed, though interns are encouraged to book ahead as soon as possible to secure lower prices, and to share taxis if able. Please note: Biblical Counselling UK does not reimburse travel expenses for local supervisors.

2. Interns are expected to cover their own travel expenses to the Biblical Counselling UK national conference and in-person meeting, but are offered a discounted ticket price, provided there are sufficient funds to do so. Please note: Biblical Counselling UK does not offer a discounted price to local supervisors.

Other

1. **Garnering Stories:** Once per term, interns will be asked to write a short (400-600 word) reflection on the Intern Scheme. More instructions and prompts will be provided.
2. **Mentor Reports:** The mentor will write a mid-term and end-of-year report to assess the intern's involvement in the Scheme, and make this available to the intern and local supervisor.
3. **Audio Recording:** interns are encouraged to record a sample of their counselling to pass on to their mentor for further supervision and training. More instructions and help will be provided to do so in a secure, confidential way.

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