

# Requirement Basics

**The training required in order to become certified is defined simply.**

In order to apply for certification, you will need:

- 500 hours of formal training in homeopathy
- 1 college level quarter or semester of anatomy and physiology
- 40 hours training in pathology and disease (signs and symptoms)
- CPR certification is recommended but is not required

Once you have passed all exams, you will submit clinical training documentation and case work of

- 250 hours clinical training
- 10 supervised cases, each with intake and two follow ups
- 5 successful cases of your own unsupervised work, with minimum 6 month follow up

It's just that easy. There are various ways to meet these requirements, and we've defined them in the pages that follow.

## Formal Education

Training hours in homeopathic philosophy, materia medica, repertory, case analysis, case management theory, and professional ethics are all necessary for a well rounded homeopathic education. **The 500 pre-requisite training hours is a total for all these topics; there is not a set number of hours required for any specific homeopathic subject.**

Health sciences training is also required, and is in addition to the 500 hours of homeopathic education. The CHC requires a minimum of one college quarter of anatomy and physiology (33 hrs), as well as human pathology training in signs and symptoms of disease (40 hours).

Students are encouraged to use the CHC's Formal Education Log to record their training; this allows the student to see how many hours they have completed and how much remains to be accomplished. Here are examples of training that you would include in your training log:

- **Training in an on-site homeopathic or naturopathic school program**  
These hours are counted as actual hours spent in class (eg. 7 - 8 hours per class day). Additional hours spent doing homework for these classes is not counted; only the in-class hours are counted. Students are strongly encouraged to seek out school programs that have been accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Homeopathic Education in North America, formerly the Council on Homeopathic Education or CHE ([www.achena.org](http://www.achena.org)). These programs have met a high standard for homeopathic education that has been set by the homeopathic community. Schools usually provide a transcript showing the hours completed for each academic year which can be submitted with your CHC application.
- **Seminar or Conference Attendance**  
These hours are also counted as the actual hours spent in class (eg. 7 – 8 hours per class day). Be sure to get a certificate or letter of verification of training hours for each seminar or conference day you attend.

- **Recordings of Classes and Seminars (independent study).** Many recordings are available (tape, CD, DVD) of past classes, seminars and conference presentations. Check with your homeopathic bookseller. These hours are counted as the actual duration of the recording. Enter these on your Formal Education Log yourself, indicating the teacher, the topic and the number of hours, since you will not have a school or seminar certificate of attendance for these.
  
- **Attending or Leading a Homeopathic Study Group.** Many students participate in NCH study groups. The actual time spent at each study group is counted as hours of education. Keep a log of these hours and ask your study group leader to sign it.
  
- **Distance Learning Programs in Homeopathy.** Some schools have distance learning programs, allowing you to work remotely, reviewing recordings (tape, CD, DVD) and reading required materials. Up to 90% of your training hours can be accrued in a distance learning format; a minimum of 50 hours must be direct contact hours on-site. Schools offering these programs can provide you with information about the number of hours credited for the modules or programs they offer. Only presentation of educational material and interaction with instructor are counted as educational hours in these programs. Independent work, such as writing assignments to be turned in, is not counted in distance learning hours, just as this would be considered 'homework' and would not be counted as training hours in a residential program. **These guidelines are provided to schools to assist them in calculating training hours:**
  
- **Methods credited 1 for 1 hours as time spent in the activity**
  - Video or Audio recordings, including seminar or conference presentations
  - Telephone conference call discussion with instructor
  - Study group with instructor (may be in person or virtual / teleconference)
  - Interactive computer based training
  
- **Methods credited in proportional time that should represent closely actual time spent in these activities.**
  - Reading materials on paper (book or notes assigned by school)  
20 pages of written material for reading / review = 1 hour credited  
based on average reading words per minute = 200 -240  
and average words per page, 15 per line, 40 - 50 lines per page = 600 - 750
  - Reading materials on line (web pages of assigned material, blogged discussion, chat, email to / from instructor)  
40 web pages of material for reading / review = 1 hour credited  
based on average reading words per minute from computer = 170 -210  
and average words per webpage = 300

# Candidates Who Studied Abroad

While the CHC application review team members are generally familiar with training programs in North America, those in other areas are unknown to us. Candidates who studied abroad should submit a copy of the course catalog and / or website information so that the curriculum can be reviewed. There may be significant differences in how homeopathy is taught in various countries and programs. Not all of these courses may prepare the candidate for the certification process. Following review of any application, the CHC may recommend that the candidate seek further training in North America before taking the exam, in order to become familiar with the style of homeopathic practice that is current here.

## Clinical Training and Supervision

Training hours in case taking, case analysis, case management, client management, homeopathic pharmacy and posology are all necessary for a well rounded clinical education. Supervised clinical training is strongly emphasized as the best method of learning the practical skills needed in the consulting room. **The CHC requires 250 pre-requisite training hours in clinical observation and case analysis, as well as 10 supervised cases (each with intake and two follow up appointments) in which the student has full responsibility for the client. These hours may be completed after the candidate has applied for and taken the exam. They must be completed and documented so that they can be provided to the CHC office along with the candidate's submitted case work.**

Supervisors must be certified homeopaths (CCH, DHT or DHANP). If a student would like to be supervised by an uncertified homeopath, prior approval must be obtained. In order to be considered, the supervising homeopath must meet the pre-requisites to apply for Fast Track certification (see Chapter 6). The supervising homeopath should email a letter explaining his / her homeopathic training and experience and a full resume to the CHC office, and it will be reviewed. If the homeopath has appropriate training and experience, then he / she will be approved for supervision even though the practitioner is not certified.

**CLINICAL OBSERVATION / CASE ANALYSIS:** Up to 250 hours of the total can be credited for observation of cases taken by other homeopaths certified by CHC, ABHT or HANP, or initial case taking work of your own in a supervised clinical setting. Students are encouraged to use the CHC's Clinical Training Log to record their training; this allows the student to see how many hours they have completed and how many remain to be accomplished. Here are examples of training that you would include in your training log:

- **Formal observation / case taking in an on-site clinical setting.** This includes participation in a formal clinical setting in which the student is observing, analyzing or taking the case under supervision from a certified homeopath. Clinical hours are credited as actual hours spent in clinic.
  - If the student writes / **submits a full analysis of an initial intake case, and receives feedback** on the analysis from the supervisor, then the student is credited with 10 hours of clinical training.
  - If the student writes / **submits a full analysis of a follow up case, and receives feedback** on the analysis from the supervisor, then the student is credited with 2 hours of clinical training.
  - The student must be careful not to double count case taking hours as both hours in clinic and hours for a case that has been written and submitted.

**EXAMPLE:** A student attends an 8 hour on-site clinic. During the clinic day, the appointments include one new client (2.5 hour) and 4 follow up clients (45 minutes each), as well as general discussion. A student attending this clinic day, observing or participating in the case work and discussion, would be credited for 8 hours of clinical training.

If the student, after clinic, writes a full analysis for the new client case taken that day, whether the case was taken by this student or someone else, submits it to the supervisor and gets feedback, then the student would get 10 hours for that case + 5.5 hours for the rest of the clinic day. The full 8 hours of clinic cannot be counted because the 2.5 hours of case taking for the new client is counted within the 10 hours for the student who wrote the case up. The total hours credited for the clinic day would be 15.5 (the 10 hours for the written up case and the remainder 5.5 hours for the clinic day).

If the student, after clinic, writes up the new case and 1 of the follow up cases, submitting them to the supervisor and getting feedback, then the student would receive 10 hours for the new client case + 2 hours for the follow up case + 4.75 hours for the rest of the clinic day (the full 8 hour day minus the case taking time for these 2 cases that were being credited through write-ups). Total hours 16.75 for the clinic day.

If the student discusses the cases in clinic, but does not write the case and get feedback from a certified homeopath who is supervising, then only the clinic on-site hours can be counted.

- **Observation and analysis of cases in a video or other virtual format.** (This would include virtual clinical training methods such as Homeopathic Symposium, Virtual Clinic and similar programs.) Credit can be given to this based on 1-1 ratio of hours spent for observation of cases. Each case that is reviewed, analyzed and supervised will be given 5 hours credit which includes the viewing, analysis and feedback.

**NOT INCLUDED within observation and analysis are:**

- seminars where case videos are shown, and case analysis presented or discussed when there is no validation of learning from the student, i.e. the student has not written up or individually gotten feedback on their own perceptions and analysis of the case. In a seminar format, individual feedback is not generally provided. These hours are considered part of formal theoretical education, not clinical training.
- introductory level case work that is done as part of the 500 hours of required formal training to teach materia medica. This case work is already counted in the formal education hours and cannot be counted again as clinical training hours, including assigned homework cases.

**SUPERVISED 10 CASES (INTAKE + 2 FOLLOW UPS):** Each candidate is required to take 10 client cases where he or she assumes full responsibility for taking the case, analyzing the case, reviewing the analysis with a certified homeopathic supervisor, facilitating the client's acquisition of the homeopathic remedy selected, providing on-call support for the client as needed, and following up with 2 subsequent appointments to track and evaluate the progress in the case.

- These cases must be full constitutional cases, not acute or narrowed therapeutic focus.
- The outcomes of these cases do not have to be successful; students learn from both successful and unsuccessful cases.
- **These supervised cases are not submitted to the CHC;** the only documentation needed is the Clinical Training Log with the supervisor's signature to verify that the work is complete.

- These cases, regardless of how successful the outcome, cannot later be used as part of the candidate's set of submitted cases for the CHC; those must be the candidate's own work, done without supervision.
- Students can expect to pay supervisors unless supervision cost is included in tuition.
- A list of certified homeopaths who provide supervision is available from the CHC office.

**The clinical training must be documented** by a letter, transcript or log of cases and hours credited, signed by your supervisor(s). Additional supervised case work can be used to fulfill the 250 hour observation and analysis requirement, with training counted as 10 hours credit for each intake and 2 hours credit for each follow up. However, more hours cannot be credited for observation and analysis, with fewer supervised cases.