# UWE Bristol Best Interest Assessment (BIA) module applicant selection form

This form must be completed and signed by you and the supporting local authority DoLS team, then uploaded to the UWE Bristol CPD Portal when you enroll on the BIA module or you will not be approved to register on the module.

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| Name of BIA module applicant |  |
| Supporting local authority supervisory body |  |
| Contact name at supervisory body |  |
| BIA module start date |  |
| **Candidate selection**The role of the Bests Interests Assessor (BIA) is a specialist statutory role designed to protect vulnerable people’s human rights. Therefore only experienced, qualified and registered health and social care professionals are eligible to train for and undertake this role. The statutory regulations state that only qualified social workers, occupational therapists, nurses and psychologists with two or more years of post-qualifying experience, who are currently registered with the relevant professional regulator e.g. Social Work England, Social Care Wales, the Nursing and Midwifery Council and Health and Care Professions Council, can practice as BIAs. Therefore only those eligible to practice as BIAs are eligible to apply for this Social Work England approved BIA qualifying module. The BIA role is a challenging one that demands good levels of critical thinking, legal literacy and expertise in working with vulnerable people who are likely to have mental capacity and communication needs. The module is taught over an intense period and is academically challenging and it is not possible to spend a significant period of time building confidence in key areas such as confidence in applying the Mental Capacity Act 2005 to practice or academic writing skills. We ask that supporting employers such as local authorities and NHS trusts/health boards employ robust selection processes to ensure that BIA candidates are ready to for the challenges of this module. We ask that you provide evidence of relevant practice, knowledge and skills (both practice and academic) on this form to demonstrate that you are ready to undertake this programme of study as well as confirmation of your professional registration and qualification. |

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| **Readiness to study***Please describe in up to 500 words why you consider that you are ready to train to become a BIA. Please include reference to your practice experience, experience of applying the law, especially regarding human rights and academic background.*  |
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| Highest level of academic study |  |
| Most recent academic study |  |
| Profession  | Social worker / nurse / occupational therapist / psychologist (delete as applicable)  |
| Regulatory body |  |
| Applicant registration number |  |
| **Level of study**This module can be studied at either level 6 (aka final year of undergraduate degree) or 7 (aka Masters) at no additional cost. The teaching and assessment are the same for both levels but the expectation of academic ability at level 7 is higher, requiring more reading and critical analysis and the pass mark is higher (**50%** instead of 40% at level 6). We recommend you ***only*** choose level 7 study if you have been successful in your studies at this level before, are confident in your abilities and need academic credits at this level for further post-graduate study. Once you have started the module teaching there is a limited time period in which you can change your level of study. We have a significant minority of students who have not passed the module at level 7 where they could have at level 6, which has financial implications for those funding your study.  |
| Indicate your chosen level of study | Level 6 / Level 7 (delete as applicable) |
| **BIA applicant agreement**BIA module applicant signs below to show that they give consent for their marks and any areas of practice that give cause for concern to be shared with their supporting local authority supervisory body and that they are aware of the implications of the choice of level of study. Electronic signature is preferred but can be typed.  |
| Signature of BIA module applicant |  |
| Date |  |
| **Shadowing agreement**You must have the support of a local authority DoLS supervisory body in order to access two opportunities to shadow a qualified BIA undertaking Best Interests Assessments in order to complete the module assessments. Please ask a contact at your supporting supervisory body to complete this form in order to confirm you will have access to these opportunities.  |
| Name of supporting local authority supervisory body  |  |
| Name of contact at supporting local authority supervisory body |  |
| Signature of contact at supporting local authority supervisory body |  |
| Date |  |

Please upload this completed and signed document with your application for the BIA module with a copy of your professional qualification.

If you need guidance on completing this please contact the Module Leader at: rachel2.hubbard@uwe.ac.uk