

Initial Forensic and Therapeutic Training (ITFT) and the Forensic Examiner Accreditation Pathway

Important

Before registering for ITFT, please take a few minutes to read this information carefully. Accreditation as a forensic examiner involves training, mentoring, supervised practice, independent clinical experience, reflection, and assessment over an extended period, sometimes up to 2-3 years. Understanding the commitment from the outset helps set you up for success.

ITFT is the beginning of a longer training and mentoring journey. Successful accreditation requires completion of all learning, clinical, mentoring, reflection, and assessment requirements

Eligibility

- Be employed or accepted by a SAAT service.
- Have the support of their SAATS Lead Clinician.
- Have experience in ano-genital examinations.
- Have experience in head and neck examinations, including otoscopy and fundoscopy.

If you do not meet the eligibility criteria, please discuss any required support with your SAAT Service.

Training Commitment

Pre-learning: Approximately 15+ hours of online and self-directed learning.

Face-to-face training: Two full days of attendance at Initial Forensic Training (ITFT).

Post-course learning: Approximately 5 hours of additional learning, reflection, and assessment activities.

Mentoring and Accreditation Pathway

Following completion of ITFT, clinicians enter a structured mentoring programme that includes:

- Information modules and guided learning.
- Observation of 2 forensic examination cases within your SAAT service.
- Support and guidance from your Tuakana and Lead Clinician.
- Supervised forensic examination practice.
- Reflective learning and case review.
- Independent clinical practice supported through mentoring.
- Documentation review and feedback.
- Kōrero and learning discussions.
- Formal statement training and statement writing.
- Accreditation assessment and application.

Clinicians should expect to commit approximately 20 hours to mentoring and accreditation activities, in addition to attending and participating in clinical cases.

For most clinicians, the complete pathway from entering training through to accreditation is around 50-60 hours of personal commitment spread over the 2-3 years.

Clinicians are also expected to attend peer review meetings in their Service at least 3 times per year.

Every clinician's journey is different. Progress depends on clinical case availability, clinician availability and individual learning needs. Your Lead Clinician, Tuakana and the MEDSAC Mentoring Programme Manager are always available to you for support