



Frequently Asked Questions (Portfolio Routes)

How do I register for the portfolio route?

If you think you are eligible to undertake the portfolio route (<https://www.macpweb.org/portfolio-route>) the first step is to contact the lead for the pathway you think you are most suitable for:

If you are interested in the standard pathway, please contact Bijal Ganatra via email: portfolioroute@macpweb.org

If you are interested in the accelerated pathway, please contact Denise Jones via email: acceleratedportfolio@macpweb.org

Who is suitable to undertake the portfolio route?

Physiotherapists who have a minimum of 2 years post-registration experience in musculoskeletal physiotherapy, are registered with the HCPC and are members of the CSP may be eligible to undertake the portfolio route to membership. The typical applicant will have appropriate post-registration modules/qualifications, at a minimum of Masters level (level 7) and be looking to formalise their learning journey with the MACP.

You may not need to undertake the portfolio route to attain MACP membership if you have completed an MACP recognised Master's degree (see the 'courses leading to membership' section of the MACP website (<https://www.macpweb.org/MSc-Courses-leading-to-Membership>)). Similarly, applicants who are current members, in good standing, of any full member organisation of IFOMPT may be eligible via a process of reciprocal recognition and do not need to complete the portfolio route (refer to <https://www.macpweb.org/Routes-to-Full-Membership>).

How much will it cost to complete the portfolio route to membership?

The cost will depend on which components you have to undertake. Please contact the portfolio route lead for further information.

What type of evidence do I need to submit?

You will need to map the evidence that you include in your portfolio to the 10 IFOMPT dimensions <https://www.ifompt.org/site/ifompt/IFOMPT%20Standards%20Document%20definitive%202016.pdf>. This will need to include evidence of 200 hours of theory, 150 hours on practical skills and 150 hours of examined MACP mentored clinical practice. The evidence you submit needs to be at level 7 (equivalent to Masters level).

Types of evidence can include: details of course content; course handbook summaries; transcripts (including contact hours); module learning outcomes; reflective pieces; patient case studies; audit or publications; teaching experience etc. Once you contact the portfolio lead you will be provided with a handbook which will assist you in this process.

A critical narrative will need to be offered as part of your submission which provides an overview of your portfolio in terms of your development, reflections, and learning (3,500 to 5,000 words). It should outline the critical features of your portfolio but should allow you to present your own critical reflection of your practice, rather than just a reiteration of the evidence itself. The critical narrative will provide context to the evidence you are submitting. This will need to be signed by a senior professional colleague to authenticate your work.

You will also need to submit proof of your qualification/s in Physiotherapy, a CV and written confirmation from current/previous employer(s) confirming number of years/months post qualification experience working in MSK Physiotherapy.

How is my portfolio assessed?

If you are undertaking the standard pathway your portfolio will be assessed by one of our University partners. You will be given feedback on your portfolio. If you are undertaking the accelerated pathway your submission will be reviewed by two appointed MACP assessors. Assessment will also include a VIVA lead by the same two assessors. You will be provided with feedback as applicable for the stages of assessment.

Am I eligible to register with the MACP if I have a Pre-Registration Master's degree in Physiotherapy?

Applicants who have a Pre-Registration Master's degree may wish to complete post-registration musculoskeletal level 7 modules (Master's level) to help map their learning against the 10 IFOMPT dimensions. Applicants should be able to demonstrate evidence of experiential learning at a post graduate level.

Do I need to have evidence of a clinical placement if I work clinically?

Yes, you will need to demonstrate 150 hours of MACP-mentored clinical practice and examination (observed assessment of a new and returning patient) in a musculoskeletal setting. You will need to develop defined learning outcomes and demonstrate your achievement of these. This cannot be done retrospectively (i.e. you cannot use previous clinical experience to satisfy this criteria, unless you have successfully completed a recognised post-registration University clinical placement module at Master's level). If you have completed an MACP recognised Masters programme, this may have been included in your programme. If you are unsure, please contact us.

Do I have to do a period of mentored clinical practice if I have completed First Contact Practitioner (FCP) mentored practice?

You may use your FCP mentored practice as evidence within your portfolio mapping, however you are still required to undertake 150 hours of MACP-mentored clinical practice and examination (observed assessment of a new and returning patient by a MACP external examiner) in order to fulfil the IFOMPT requirements. You could, in some instances, use your FCP mentored practice as part of your mentored clinical practice. This needs to be discussed with the portfolio lead. Your mentor must be a full member of the MACP and you would need to make a clear distinction between your MACP musculoskeletal mentored clinical practice and your FCP mentored clinical practice.

Is there any support for me in finding a mentored clinical practice (MCP)?

Yes, the MACP can assist you with finding a mentor. We recommend that you undertake the mentored clinical practice away from your normal employment setting. However, we do support applicants to undertake this at their work place providing there is no conflict of interest. There will be a fee for undertaking the period of mentored clinical practice and a fee for the mentored clinical practice exam.

Do I need to undertake the portfolio route to achieve MACP membership if I have a Masters or PhD degree?

Some Master's programmes are MACP/IFOMPT accredited, with completion leading to direct membership of the MACP (<https://www.marpweb.org/MSc-Courses-leading-to-Membership>) or IFOMPT member organisations in other countries. If you have not successfully completed an MACP/IFOMPT accredited MSc., you will need to undertake the portfolio route to achieve MACP membership (or complete a full MACP/IFOMPT accredited MSc programme with a university). If you are unsure of your standing, please email acceleratedportfolio@marpweb.org or portfolioroute@marpweb.org with your query.

Am I eligible for the accelerated pathway if I have more than 10 years' experience as a musculoskeletal physiotherapist?

There are a number of criteria that need to be met to be eligible for the accelerated pathway, alongside years of clinical experience (<https://www.marpweb.org/portfolio-route>). If you would like to discuss your eligibility further, please contact the pathway lead (Denise Jones: acceleratedportfolio@marpweb.org)

Do you offer any support in order to undertake the application?

The pathway leads will guide you during the initial stages regarding undertaking the portfolio route and provide a first point of contact as you progress through your pathway. The MACP also offer online mentorship (fee incurred) for those who need support with their portfolio submission. Please note however, that the portfolio route is structured as a self-directed pathway. If you feel you need a fully structured and supported route to membership, you may wish to consider an approved university course (<https://www.marpweb.org/MSc-Courses-Leading-to-Membership>)

What are the benefits to joining the MACP?

Refer to <https://www.marpweb.org/Join>