SACAP’s Diploma is a well-rounded offering that balances knowledge with practical skills and experience. It’s a comprehensive, two-year, vocational qualification that develops insight in psychology, human behaviour and mental health.

This is integrated with “work ready” counselling and communication skills for application in a variety of environments. The Diploma is also structured in such a way that you can develop deeper learnings in specific counselling areas of your choice, and equips you to network, collaborate and interact in a digital age.

AT A GLANCE

DURATION
2 years full-time,
3 years part-time

MODULES AND CREDITS
19 modules (At Least 240 credits)

NQF 6, CHE ACCREDITED

FIELDWORK
200 hours including supervision

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
A National Senior Certificate with a minimum of 45% in English coupled with an achievement rating of 3 or better in four designated subjects (including Life Orientation), OR
A Senior Certificate with higher and/or standard grade subjects, or equivalent school leaving certificate, OR
For mature students (24+) not meeting the above requirements, a portfolio of evidence to support admission on the basis of SACAP’s Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) policy.

IS THIS ONLINE COURSE FOR ME?
If you say yes to any of the following points, then SACAP’s online Diploma could just be the perfect fit for you.

Do you?

• Want a NQF accredited qualification that is nationally benchmarked and internationally comparable.
• Want a career in counselling and are looking for a comprehensive qualification that combines knowledge with applied skills.
• Want to gain deeper knowledge and skills in specific counselling areas such as: addictions, grief and loss, working with children, working with adolescents and/or HIV and sexuality.
• Want to gain practical fieldwork experience to increase your expertise and confidence for a career in counselling.
• Want a reputable higher education qualification in counselling and communication without the stringencies and time commitment of a long-term degree programme.
• Feel that you have the necessary self-motivation and discipline to study online.
• Want the flexibility of time and pace that online learning offers so that you can balance your studies with family, work and other commitments.
• Want a supportive, interactive and engaging online learning experience.
WHAT WILL I LEARN?
Throughout the online Diploma, you will gain knowledge and insight into:
- Psychology, human behaviour and mental health, including developmental paradigms for understanding behaviour.
- Psychological challenges and models for understanding behaviour and intervention.
- Diversity and cross-cultural dynamics in the South African context.
- Ethics in Psychology.

You will also develop:
- Counselling and interpersonal communication skills, including referral and management strategies, for application in the key areas of crisis and trauma counselling, conflict management and family and relationship work.
- Skills in specific counselling areas through your choice of elective models, such as: addictions, grief and loss, working with children, working with adolescents and/or HIV and sexuality.
- Practical fieldwork experience.
- Basic research and study skills so that you can write reports and manage records.
- Skills for networking, collaborating and interacting in a digital age with a diverse learning community.
- Autonomy, self-discipline and academic independence.
- Skills for a changing world and transforming technology.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH THIS QUALIFICATION?
You will be able to work as a SACAP Counsellor. This means that, working with supervision, you can:
- Provide short term supportive counselling (excluding psychotherapy) in a range of counselling environments with diverse individuals and groups.
- Identify [but not diagnose or treat] possible mental health disorders and refer clients to the appropriate professionals.
- Apply effective communication skills and competency-based counselling approaches finding strengths and resilience to facilitate mental health and wellness.

1: SACAP have developed a recommended scope of practice for each of our qualifications according to SACAP’s Competency-Based Framework©

WHAT FURTHER STUDY PATHWAYS ARE OPEN TO ME?
Once you have successfully finished the Diploma you will be eligible for admission into SACAP’s Bachelor of Applied Social Science (BAPPSocSci) undergraduate degree with credit transfer for the same modules already completed.

2: subject to SACAP’s credit transfer and RPL policy

WHY STUDY ONLINE
- You can get a higher education no matter where in the world you live.
- It’s flexible, so you can balance your family, work and other commitments.
- Your time is your own, no need to attend classes.
- You’re in control of where you’d like to study and what time of day works best for you.
- SACAP’s online learning programme is interactive and engaging. The Module Facilitator will guide you through the journey right from start to end.
- You’re never alone. The programme is designed to build a sense of community by fostering collaboration and participation between the Facilitator and fellow students.
- SACAP’s online offerings incorporate practical skills, a distinctive feature of a SACAP education.
- You get full support from SACAP’s Student Support Service.

For more information about studying with SACAP online, visit: www.sacap.edu.za