

ALPS CIPA: Information sheet for health and social care students

You are being invited to take part in a research study. Before you decide to participate it is important that you understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Please feel free to contact the researchers if you need any further information

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Title of Project

ALPS Competency in Practice Assessment (CIPA) Study

Aims

- To evaluate students and post graduates perceptions of their competence and confidence to practice after graduation from a health or social care university programme in five universities involved in ALPS CETL programme

What is the purpose of the study?

The project has been designed to evaluate student and recent graduates perceptions of their competence and confidence to practice by generating an evaluation tool to understand student perceptions of their competence and confidence to practice after graduation.

Why have I been chosen?

You are a student studying, or graduating from one of the five universities taking part in the ALPS CETL programme.

We are asking you to evaluate whether you feel confident and competent to practice and this will be done during the first year after graduation. We will ask you to complete the questionnaire at the time of graduation, at 6 months and 1 year by completing an electronic version of the refined questionnaire. The data collection began with students who graduated in 2008, and the questionnaire will be sent to all students graduating from a health or social care programme at one of the institutions involved until March 2010. Information collected will be used to evaluate how competent and confident graduates feel when first going out to practice as a professional.

Do I have to take part?

No. Taking part in the study is entirely voluntary. It will not affect you, your university work or your progress in your programme of study or employment whether you choose to take part or not.

Will my taking part in this study be kept confidential?

Data collected in this study will be recorded anonymously. The questionnaires are only coded to identify you to the researchers, through your cohort and professional group rather than you as a named individual.

Once you have completed it, the researchers would not be able to identify you specifically and your identity will therefore remain anonymous to the research team unless you choose to identify yourself to us for any



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reason. Data from completed questionnaires will be stored in secure, password protected files. They will not be linked to student files.

If you wish to withdraw you can do so at any time without it affecting the progress of your study or employment by emailing Viktoria Joynes using the student ID identified on your questionnaire and consent form, we will then destroy the information collected from you.

What will happen if I do take part?

If you want to take part, please log on to the survey at: <http://www.survey.leeds.ac.uk/cipapilot/>

You will then be directed to tick the boxes to show that you have given your consent to take part in the survey, before being directed to the main part of the survey. The survey should take you no longer than 10 minutes to fill out.

Using your student ID on the consent form will enable us to identify your form if you should wish to withdraw at a later date.

What are the benefits of taking part?

There are no incentives offered for taking part in this survey. However we hope that taking part in the survey will encourage you to reflect on your own experiences and learning.

If after completing the form you identify that you are not feeling confident or competent in your practice we would advise you to seek support from your personal tutor or your line manager if you are working.

How will the results of the study be published?

A final report will be produced. No individual student or graduate will be identified in it. The findings of the study will be presented at various health and education conferences and in academic journals and papers. Strategies to improve courses based on the feedback we receive will be fed into all course committees and advisory meetings relevant to the project.