

## Frequently asked questions

### **How do I become a TCBTS Member?**

Please follow this link to find out more about our membership levels and their criteria.

<https://www.tcbts.co.uk/become-a-member>

### **What are the minimum qualifications I need to join as a student member?**

We accept student members once they have enrolled on a Level 2 or above course in a relevant canine subject.

### **What are the benefits of TCBTS Membership?**

Our member benefits include access to our closed members Facebook group, access to online case study education sessions, regular discussion sessions held on Zoom, access to members only events, discounts for any webinar or event hosted by TCBTS.

### **Do TCBTS members use welfare-centred dog training techniques?**

Yes - all members of TCBTS and all ABTC registered practitioners have to conform to strict codes of practice to ensure the welfare of the animals we work with is maintained at all times.

### **What happens if I join mid-membership year?**

Our membership year runs from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> March. If you join throughout the membership year, membership fees are pro rata until the next renewal date.

### **I want to become an ATI. Where and when are assessments held?**

Assessments are held at various venues throughout the year. These are organised by our assessment team. Contact us and ask to be added to our mailing list and we can inform you when the next assessments will be taking place.

### **Is TCBTS a profit making organisation?**

No, we are non-profit making.

### **What is the ABTC?**

The Animal Behaviour and Training Council, a registered charity, is the regulatory body that represents animal trainers, training instructors and animal behaviour therapists to both the public and legislative bodies. <https://abtc.org.uk/>

### **Where will I find information on the ABTC Practitioner Standards?**

You will find information on the ABTC Practitioner Standards here <https://abtc.org.uk/practitioners-info/>

### **What ABTC Practitioner Standards do TCBTS assess?**

The TCBTS currently assess candidates for the ATI and CAB standards.

### **Does TCBTS assess ABT?**

Although we are able to offer full membership to anyone who has already passed ABTC ABT assessment, we are not currently offering ABT assessment.

### **Where will I find information on ABTC Recognised Courses?**

You will find information on ABTC recognised courses here <https://abtc.org.uk/practitioners-info/careers/>

**What is APEL?**

APEL is Accreditation of Prior Experience and/or Learning and is suitable for those currently practising independently who do not have an ABTC recognised qualification but who wish to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding appropriate to the CAB standard, so they can progress to the CAB assessment of performance criteria. For more information see <https://abtc.org.uk/apel/>

**I want to train as a dog trainer or behaviourist, what courses would you suggest?**

We would recommend you look at the ABTC recognised courses for the standard you are aiming for, however, you can join us as a student member as soon as you have enrolled on an appropriate canine related course at Level 2 or above. You will find a list of ABTC recognised courses here <https://abtc.org.uk/practitioners-info/careers/>

**What is LIMA?**

Lima, or 'Least Intrusive, Minimally Aversive' is a term used to summarise a training ethos which prioritise welfare and humane training, and ensures punitive methods are not used without extreme care and consideration.

Updated 6.12.22