

ATTACHMENT FOCUSED FAMILY TREATMENT

CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

The Attachment-Focused Treatment Institute, a collaboration of the Academy for Human Development (a University in Singapore) and The Center For Family Development, offers Certification Programs in Attachment-Focused Treatment, Attachment-Focused Family Treatment for practicing therapists and others who help children and families. There are two levels. Certification as an attachment-focused therapist or family therapist is open to any practicing therapist who is authorized to practice within their jurisdiction. Certification as an attachment-focused professional is open to professionals who work with families and children but who do not practice counseling or therapy, such as residential treatment center staff, milieu staff, teachers, professional and foster parents, and social workers, among others.

There are two components to certification. The first is completion of the required number of approved training hours in attachment focused family treatment. The second is the consultation component in which the applicant's work will be reviewed to assess how the material is being applied in practice.

Attachment-Focused Therapist & Attachment-Focused Family Therapist

1. Application Process
 - a. The applicant must have completed 48 hours of training by a Certified Attachment-Focused Treatment trainer. Other forms of training by others may be accepted upon submission of the credentials of the trainer, a detailed curriculum, and verification of completion of the other training.
 - b. Copy of your license or other document indicating that you are authorized to practice in your jurisdiction.
 - c. Application fee (\$100 USD).
 - d. Copy of malpractice binder.
 - e. Signed Attestation Form
 - f. If practicing in an agency, a letter from your supervisor approving your participation in the Center's certification program.
2. Consultation -- Practicum
 - a. After your application is accepted and approved, you will begin the consultation component of the certification program.
 - b. A minimum of six DVD's or tapes will be reviewed, with written feedback provided by the consultant to the applicant after each session is reviewed. It is expected that the applicant will apply the feedback received in subsequent sessions. The fee for consultation is paid by the applicant.
3. Certification will be either as an Attachment-Focused Therapist or Attachment-Focused Family Therapist. Certification depends on the applicant's specialty and

the focus of the training. Note: Many workshops and training offerings by the Center will be equally applicable to both certifications.

Attachment-Focused Professional

1. Application Process

- a. The applicant must have completed 48 hours of training by a Certified Attachment-Focused Treatment trainer. Other forms of training by others may be accepted upon submission of the credentials of the trainer, a detailed curriculum, and verification of completion of the other training.
- b. Application fee (\$100 USD).
- c. Signed Attestation form
- d. A letter from your supervisor approving your participation in the Center's certification program.

2. Consultation -- Practicum

- a. After your application is accepted and approved, you will begin the consultation component of the certification program.
- b. A minimum of four DVD's or tapes will be reviewed, with written feedback provided by the consultant to the applicant after each observation is reviewed. It is expected that the application will apply the feedback received in subsequent observations. The fee for consultation is paid by the applicant.
- c. The observations should represent a sample of the applicants actual work and can either be "live" observations on site or recordings of interactions.

DETAILS

A. Training and experience -- Therapists

Therapists must be qualified with a college degree from an accredited college or university in a mental health field and be a licensed, certified, registered professional or have governmental authority to practice in their jurisdiction, state or province of practice. Therapists must have a solid background in:

- The principles of human development
- The ethical issues within their own discipline, including best practice, boundaries, and how-to-consult-when-in-doubt
- Professional experience working with children and families,
- Thorough knowledge of Complex Trauma and principles of attachment.

Candidates must have malpractice insurance, and not have any impediments to practice.

B. Responsibility/liability for the welfare of clients

The Center For Family Development does not accept legal responsibility for the welfare of the candidate's clients. Therefore it is important that candidates for certification have

credentials that allow them to work in their designated field, and to have a supervisor or consultant (other than the Center For Family Development consultant) who can be responsible for the welfare of their clients.

Candidates in agency practice must submit a fully informed permission from their supervisor and/or agency director before pursuing certification.

Candidates must have their own malpractice insurance or be covered by their agency, if agency employed. A copy of their insurance confirmation, as well as of the written permission statements described above, should be submitted along with their application for admission to the practicum.

C. Confidentiality notice

All candidates must adhere to the ethical standards of their professional associations and to the confidentiality laws of the state, province, or country where the treatment is provided. Knowledge of legal exceptions to confidentiality (i.e. when mandated reporting applies.), is also necessary.

STEP I: TRAINING

A. Satisfactory completion of a minimum of 48 hours in Attachment-Focused Family Treatment with a certified Dyadic Developmental Psychotherapy trainer that covers all the required core components. The applicant may apply for the Practicum after completing 24 hours of training if the trainer recommends this.

STEP II: APPLICATION FOR PRACTICUM

Applications for acceptance into the Certification program must include the following:

- The application materials should be submitted along with the current fee to the Center For Family Development.

A. Submit the following written materials to the Center.

- * 1. Description of your professional experience (a curriculum vita or resume is sufficient.)
- * 2. A brief (one or two page) narrative including a personal history, and a description of how you intend to use Attachment-Focused Treatment in your work.
- * 3. If employed by an agency, written informed permission from your supervisor or agency director.
- * 4. Confirmation of malpractice insurance.

* 5. For Therapists: confirmation of professional licensure or other documentation providing proof of ability to legally practice in the jurisdiction within which the person practices.

*6. Completed and signed attestation form

All materials should be mailed to:

The Center For FamilyDevelopment
5820 Main Street, suite 406,
Williamsville, NY 14221, USA.

B. Consultation options

1. Long-distance Consultation. Candidates submit videotapes or DVD's of sessions, which are reviewed by the consultant who prepares a written report.
2. Individual in person or telephone consultation, which must include review of videotapes or DVD's of treatment sessions.
3. Group Consultation. If the candidate is part of a regular consultation group, tapes and written reports by the consultant of tapes presented by the candidate at these groups may be counted as part of the required ten tapes.
4. Consultation by SKYPE.

C. Material to be submitted to the consultant during the Practicum

1. Beginning cases. The following material should be submitted at the beginning of each new case:

- Background or intake information on the child and family. Delete identifying information in order to insure confidentiality.

2. Ongoing sessions. Written comments about each session should be submitted including:

- Brief summary of client/family history
- Summary of course of treatment to date, if supervisor has not seen earlier sessions
- Goals for treatment
- Date and number of each session
- Plan going into the session
- Client's response to the planned session

- Your analysis of what went on in the session, e.g., how the client responded, how you might work differently another time, etc.
- Brief description of the work with the caretakers, if this is a family therapy case.
- Plans for next session
- Questions for the consultant

Since long-distance candidates may be sending random samples of their work, issues may arise that are not on the submitted videotapes. Candidates should bring these issues to the consultant's attention by describing them in written notes accompanying the session.

3. Accounting for supervision hours. Candidates should keep a record of consultation received, including:

- Name of client
- Date of session
- Date of consultation (or date mailed, if applicable)
- Payment made
- Date consultant's comments are received.

The consultant will keep a similar record.

D. Certification

Upon successful completion of the Practicum and acceptance as a Certified Attachment-Focused Therapist, Attachment-Focused Family Therapist, or Attachment-Focused Professional, the Certification fee must be sent to the Center. Upon receipt of the fee, the Center will issue a certificate, valid for three years.

STEP V: CERTIFICATION

Upon completion of all requirements the candidate will receive a certificate from The Center For Family Development. Certification as an Attachment-Focused Therapist, Attachment-Focused Family Therapist, or Attachment-Focused Professional indicates that the candidate has fulfilled requirements for training and has achieved a level of competence as an Attachment-Focused Treatment practitioner.

It is highly recommended that the therapist seek additional consultation before attempting to conduct Attachment-Focused Treatment with a population very different from the population used during the practicum, e.g. traumatized/institutionalized children vs. children seen during the practicum.

STEP VI: ONGOING CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

To maintain certification, individuals must complete a continuing education requirement every three years, and maintain annual membership in The Attachment-Focused Treatment ® Institute:

- Attend an Advanced Practice Seminar (3 hours).
- Submit one session for consultation.

USE OF THE Attachment-Focused Treatment or Attachment-Focused Family Therapy or Attachment-Focused Professional ® CERTIFICATION MARK, herein referred to as The Mark

We encourage those who attend Attachment-Focused Treatment training to use the principles and techniques in their own setting.

- After attending training in Attachment-Focused Treatment, Attachment-Focused Family Therapy or as an Attachment-Focused Professional you can describe what you are doing as based on Attachment-Focused Treatment principles, but may not state that they are practicing Attachment-Focused Treatment or Attachment-Focused Family Therapy.
- If you are in the process of the consultation practicum, you may state that you are working toward certification in one of the three areas.
- After completing the consultation practicum and all other requirements for Certification, you may state that you are an Attachment-Focused Therapist, Attachment-Focused Family Therapist or Attachment-Focused Professional, and refer to your practice as Attachment-Focused Treatment ®.

At all times, the Attachment-Focused Treatment service mark should be used correctly. All printed announcements, brochures, e-mail, web site announcements etc. should always use the service mark “®” and include the phrase “Attachment-Focused Treatment ® is a registered service mark of Attachment-Focused Treatment Institute & The Center For Family Development.”

- If you are uncertified, use the certification mark when describing what Attachment-Focused Treatment is in any printed materials or on your web site. If you refer to Attachment-Focused Treatment in your own website, include a link to our website.

Mail all required written materials (no e-mails or faxes) to:

Center For Family Development
Attachment-Focused Treatment Certification Program
5820 Main Street, Suite 406
Williamsville, NY 14221