



New Jersey Association for Infant Mental Health

Supporting the relational and emotional development of families from pregnancy through early childhood.

Categories of Endorsement® Requirements

NJ-AIMH endorses professionals from many disciplines at the following four Categories: Infant Family Associate, Infant Family Specialist, Infant Mental Health Specialist, and Infant Mental Health Mentor. Each Category recognizes knowledge, training, and conformance with best practice standards.

| | Education | Training | Experience | Reflective Practice |
|--|---|--|---|---|
| Category I Infant Family Associate | CDA, or Associate's degree in a related area or 2 years of infant/childhood paid work experience (including college, AA and CDA work) | 30+ hours of defined training or portfolio | CDA, or Associate's degree in a related area or 2 years of infant/childhood paid work experience (including college, AA and CDA work) | |
| Category II Infant Family Specialist | Bachelor's or Master's degree in defined fields, 30+ hours of training | 30+ hours of defined training | 2 years post-BA paid IMH work | 24+ hours over 1-2 years of reflective practice |
| Category III Infant Mental Health Specialist | Master's or Doctorate in defined fields (some possible credit for intensive in-service training) | 30+ hours of defined training | 2 years post-grad paid IMH <i>direct services</i> to infants/caregivers OR one year supervised graduate internship | 50 hours over 1-2 years of reflective practice |
| Category IV Clinical Mentor | Master's or Doctorate in defined fields (some possible credit for intensive in-service training) | 30+ hours of defined training | As in Category III + 3 years Post Grad providing IMH reflective practice supervision/Consultation and defined leadership activities | 50 hours over 1-2 years of reflective practice |
| Category IV Policy | | | 3 years of post-grad experience in policy/Administration related to IMH field and defined leadership activities | OPTIONAL: 50 hours over 1-2 years |
| Category IV Research/Faculty | | | 3 years of post-grad experience as a leader in university-teaching and/or published research and other defined leadership activities | OPTIONAL: 50 hours over 1-2 years |