


REQUIREMENTS FOR ENDORSEMENT®

 <p>WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION FOR Infant Mental Health</p>	<h3>INFANT FAMILY SPECIALIST</h3>
Education	<p>Official transcripts from all degrees earned and from any college credits earned are required. The minimum requirement is a Bachelor of Arts (BA), Bachelor of Science (BS), Bachelor of Social Work (BSW), or a Bachelor of Nursing (BSN) degree. Other accepted degrees include a Master of Arts (MA), Master of Science (MS), Master of Social Work (MSW), Master of Education (MEd), Master of Nursing (MSN), Master of Applied Studies (MAS), Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), Doctor of Education (EdD), Doctor of Psychology (PsyD).</p>
Specialized Training in Infant Mental Health (age 0-3)	<p>Applicants will include as many hours of training and/or continuing education as necessary to document that competencies (as specified in <i>Competency Guidelines</i>®) have been met.</p> <p>For those whose degree is in a field that is unrelated to infancy, more specialized in-service training may be required to meet the breadth and depth of the competencies.</p> <p>Training content will include the promotion of social-emotional development and/or the relationship-based principles of infant and early childhood mental health.</p> <p>Minimum of 30 clock hours required.</p> <p>Typically, successful IFS applications will include 50 or more hours of specialized training unless the applicant has completed coursework specific to the <i>Competency Guidelines</i>®.</p>
Work Experience	<p>Minimum two years of paid, post-Bachelor's, professional work experience providing prevention and/or early intervention services that promote infant mental health. Work experience meets this criterion as long as the applicant has:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Served a minimum of 10 families where the target of services is an infant/toddler (birth to 36 months), AND 2. A primary focus of the services provided is the social-emotional needs of the infant/toddler, AND 3. Services focus on the promotion of the relationships surrounding the infant/toddler.
Reflective Supervision/Consultation	<p>Minimum 24 clock hours within a one- to two-year timeframe of post-Bachelor's, relationship-based, reflective supervision or consultation, individually or in a group while providing services to infants/toddlers (birth to 36 months) and families. The master's prepared IFS reflective supervision/consultation provider must receive reflective supervision/consultation while providing supervision to others.</p>
Professional References Ratings <i>Please note: At least one rating must come from endorsed IFS, ECFS, IMHS, ECMHS, IMHM, or ECMHM.</i>	<p>Reference raters must be familiar with the applicant's capacity to implement infant mental health principles into practice. Total of three required:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One from a current program supervisor 2. One from a person providing reflective supervision/consultation 3. One from another supervisor, teacher, trainer, consultant, or colleague
Code of Ethics and Endorsement Agreement	<p>Signed</p>
Demonstration of Competencies	<p>Application will demonstrate that competencies have been adequately met through course work, work/volunteer experience, in-service training, and reflective supervision/consultation experiences. Written examination not required for applicants seeking Infant Family Specialist Endorsement®.</p>
Professional Membership	<p>Membership in WA-AIMH or other infant mental health association.</p>
Endorsement Renewal Requirements	<p>Minimum of 15 clock hours per year of relationship-based education and training, pertaining to the promotion of social-emotional development in the context of family and other caregiving relationships, of children during the prenatal period up to 36 months of age, including the principles and practices of infant mental health (eg, regional training, related course work at colleges or universities, infant mental health conference attendance, participation in competency-based activities such as professional reading group, community practice, mentorship group). Documentation of training hours submitted with membership renewal.</p> <p>For those who are Master's prepared and earn an IFS Endorsement® and provide reflective supervision/consultation to others, at least three of the hours of specialized training must be about RS/C.</p> <p>Annual renewal of membership in the Infant Mental Health Association (\$80/year).</p> <p>It is required that all professionals endorsed as Infant Family Specialists receive a minimum of 12 hours of reflective supervision or consultation annually.</p>
Endorsement Fees	<p>Total: \$205 <i>Includes registration (\$25), processing (\$100), and membership (\$80/year)</i></p>