

'Certified Play Therapist' Accreditation for India

The National Association for Play Therapy India are excited to introduce a 'Certified Play Therapist' accreditation for professionals in India, in line with the international guidelines and standards.

There are two options to obtain Certified Play Therapist status:

- 1) Complete training and supervised clinical hours through the National Association for Play Therapy India directly.
- 2) Submit a portfolio demonstrating that you have completed sufficient training and supervision to satisfy the practice requirements of a Certified Play Therapist.

PLAY THERAPY TRAINING

The first step toward becoming a certified Play Therapist is to complete sufficient training.

If you are undertaking training directly from the National Association for Play Therapy India, the below courses satisfy the minimum training requirements:

Play Therapy as a Counselling Tool (or NAPTI's Level 1 programme)

Play Therapy Skills

These courses cover the following topics and provide the foundation skills required to begin practicing as a Play Therapist:

What is Play Therapy?

Play Therapy Principles and Techniques

How can Play Therapy help (and who can it help)

The Play Therapist's Role

Child Empowerment through Play

Reflective Listening and Language Skills

Understanding Trauma and Abuse

Directive and Non-Directive methods and interventions

Themes and Stages in Play

Art, Music and Story-telling in Play Therapy

Sand Tray Therapy

Conflict Management and Resolution through Play

The Therapeutic Powers of Play

Integrative Play Therapy

Ethical Considerations and Guidelines for Getting Started

The Play Therapy Room

Understanding Symbols and Metaphors

The Neurobiological Power of Play

Session Planning and Analysis

Group and Family Therapy

Assessments and Endings in Play Therapy

If you have received training from another organisation, you must be able to provide full details of the training attended, including the full programme contents and your certification. This should cover (at a minimum) the topics mentioned above and include practical activities and assessment.

We can offer individual modules and further training for those who have received short training in the field and wish to top-up their skillset to meet the above criteria.

KNOWLEDGE OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOPATHOLOGY

In addition to training in Play Therapy, Certified Play Therapists should have a solid understanding of child development, play development and developmental psychopathology.

This can be evidenced by studies in a related field, such as a undergraduate or masters degree (certificates and transcripts to be provided) or by completion of the following programmes:

Play Therapy Interventions for Specific Client Groups

**Play Therapy for Children with Special Needs and/or
Play Therapy Interventions for Differently Abled Children (by diagnosis)**

SUPERVISED CLINICAL HOURS

In addition to completing sufficient training in the field, to become a Certified Play Therapist, you must also complete a minimum of 100 supervised clinical hours with a 1:3 ratio of supervision to practice hours. It's recommended that practitioners undertake a maximum of 3 clients during their practice hours and at least one intake/assessment and one planned ending should be included within your supervised hours.

If supervision is provided by the National Association for Play Therapy India, we will provide you with the relevant documentation to record your sessions and monitor your own practice.

If you receive supervision elsewhere you must provide a supporting letter from your supervisor. This should include a supervision log to confirm you have received the required number of sessions, along with details of your capacity to conduct Play Therapy sessions. Further details on this will be updated shortly.

In addition to a supporting letter from your supervisor, if you have not received supervision from the National Association for Play Therapy India, you will also be required to submit case studies (including case notes, reports, practice description, etc) to evidence your ability to practice.

PERSONAL THERAPY

Working with children and families can often trigger strong feelings and/or unresolved issues in relation to your own experiences. Personal therapy is therefore required to

ensure you have worked through these issues to prevent them impacting your practice. Undertaking personal therapy also allows you to experience the therapeutic process from the perspective of the client and to engage in personal reflection, which will be a requirement during your Play Therapy practice.

Certified Play Therapists are required to have completed a minimum of 35 hours of personal therapy. This should be evidenced by a personal statement from your therapist detailing your personal therapy log and a statement confirming there is no known reason why the you should not practice as a Play Therapist with vulnerable children.

You will also need to submit a reflective account to demonstrate how your experience of personal therapy has impacted your professional practice as a Play Therapist.

APPLY TO BE A CERTIFIED PLAY THERAPIST

If you feel that you satisfy the above criteria, or if you want more information on how to work toward becoming a Certified Play Therapist, please email:

lucy@playtherapyindia.org

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Once you had received the official accreditation of 'Certified Play Therapist' you will receive a certificate, along with membership with the National Association for Play Therapy India. Your name and profile will also be listed on our website as a Certified Play Therapist.

Membership will be renewed annually and in order to maintain your Certified Play Therapist status you must continue with a minimum of one supervision session per month. You must also complete a minimum of 10 hours of continued professional development (CPD) each year (this can include relevant training, personal therapy, play therapy support groups, teaching Play Therapy, writing articles, etc). As a member of the National Association for Play Therapy India you will receive access to many CPD opportunities free of charge or at a reduced rate.

PRACTITIONERS WORKING WITH SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN

It is required to meet the above criteria to become a 'Certified Play Therapist' however practitioners working with Children with Special Needs can be awarded 'Certified Therapeutic Play Practitioner for Children with Special Needs' by completing the following programmes:

Play Therapy for Children with Special Needs (or NAPTl's Level 1 programme)

Play Therapy Skills (Special Needs)

Play Therapy as a Counselling Tool and/or

Play Therapy Interventions for Differently Abled Children (by diagnosis)

Please email: lucy@playtherapyindia.org for more information