



Endorsement F.A.Q.

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What is Endorsement?

Endorsement provides recognition of specialized knowledge and expertise in professionals working with expecting families, babies, and young children, prenatal through five, and their families. It is an internationally recognized credential offered by states and countries that are part of the Alliance for the Advancement of Infant Mental Health.

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Who is Endorsement for?

Endorsement is for anyone who works with or on behalf of young children and their families in settings such as early care and education, prevention and early intervention, home visiting, the medical and behavioral health professions, perinatal services, child welfare, policy and advocacy, research, and more.

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How do I learn more about Endorsement?

We have information listed on our website that shares information about Endorsement benefits and processes. You can also watch this free Endorsement 101 webinar to learn more.

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How do I get started?

- Become a member of the Center for Early Relational Health [here](#). ([Learn more](#)).
- Start your Endorsement journey, use the [Endorsement Overview Table](#) to align your training, skills, and experiences with an Endorsement category.
- Register for the [Endorsement Application System \(EASy\)](#).
- Receive a [welcome packet](#) via email and begin your Endorsement application.

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How long does the Endorsement process take?

It varies. Some applicants begin and complete the process in two weeks, and some may take up to a year or more. The length of time depends on multiple factors, such as – how many requirements are completed before the start of the application, whether or not the applicant has received reflective supervision before beginning the process, how much time and how often the applicant works on the application, whether or not the applicant is required to take the exam, etc. You can discuss the timeline with our Endorsement Coordinators before beginning the process.

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What type of support is offered?

We offer [free Endorsement cohorts](#) throughout the year, which can be viewed on our website. Additionally, we have Endorsement Coordinators to help guide you through your Endorsement journey. You can [email them with questions](#), schedule a time to meet, or join open [office hours](#) every Thursday at 11:00 am PT.

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How far back can I go when adding trainings to my Endorsement application?

There is no limit on how long ago the training was attended to be counted towards requirements. However, it is not necessary to submit a comprehensive list of every training ever attended. Your entries should reflect a breadth and depth that demonstrate IECMH competencies.

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Are there any trainings, conferences, or courses that are mandatory while working toward endorsement?

Trainings do not need to be sponsored by the Center for Early Relational Health to be eligible or count towards endorsement. Many trainings you attend for your license or agency requirements qualify for endorsement. A specialized training that is eligible for Endorsement should meet the following criteria:

- It is culturally responsive, relationship-focused, and promotes Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health
- It relates to one or more of the competencies in the [Competency Guidelines®](#)
- It is specific to the Endorsement for which you are applying

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Does work experience with pregnant women and families count towards the work experience requirements for IFS and IMHS?

Yes, working with pregnant women and families counts towards the required work experience for IFS and IMHS. However, the applicant's work experience must also include work with infants, toddlers, and their families.

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What is Reflective Supervision and Consultation?

Reflective Supervision and Consultation (RSC) is a form of ongoing, intentional, scheduled professional development focusing on enhancing the reflective skills of practitioners to enhance the quality of services as well as staff wellness and retention. It is distinctly different from administrative or clinical supervision and can be provided in groups or individually. When a supervisor provides RSC to members of their team, they are called a Reflective Supervisor

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Does my Reflective Supervisor need to be endorsed through the Alliance?

Yes, a provider of Reflective Supervision/Consultation must be Endorsed. Reach out to our Endorsement Coordinators for help with ensuring your RSC provider is Endorsed. Beginning January 2023, all endorsees and new Endorsement applicants were required by the Alliance for the Advancement of Infant Mental Health to receive all RSC hours from an Endorsed provider to meet the Endorsement requirements.

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What happens to my Endorsement if I move to a different state?

There are 36 other states with Endorsement, and more are in the process of licensing it. If you move to one of these states, you will be transferred to their Registry and will renew with them from then on.

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How much does Endorsement cost?

Initial costs vary depending on the Endorsement category you choose. Please see our [pricing sheet](#) for more detailed information.

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How often do I need to renew my Endorsement?

Endorsement renewal happens every three years. The next Endorsement renewal period is scheduled for October - December 2027. The next renewal period will be in 2030, then in 2033, and so on.

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What is the cost of Endorsement renewal?

The \$50 Endorsement renewal cost is embedded in your Center for Early Relational Health [membership](#).

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What happens if I forget to renew?

You will receive several reminders before each renewal period to help you remember. If you do not renew, you will be removed from the Endorsement registry. To be added back to the Endorsement registry and have an active Endorsement, you will be asked to pay a \$100 reinstatement fee to support administrative costs.

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What are the requirements for renewal?

- Maintain an active membership with the Center for Early Relational Health each year.
- Clock 15 hours of culturally responsive, relationship-focused practice promoting IECMH training each year.
- Clock 12 hours of Reflective Supervision/Consultation (RSC) from an Endorsed RSC provider each year if required. (Endorsement categories required are FS, MHS, IMHM-C).

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How can I showcase my Endorsement?

There are several ways to celebrate your new achievement!

- Share a badge on social media.
- Update your profile picture with a badge.
- Update your email signature with your new credentials.
- Display your certificate.

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What are some additional resources?

- Endorsement 101 Webinar
- Reset password in EASy
- Endorsement Exam Packet
- ¿Qué es el Endorsement?
- Cómo registrarse para el Endorsement