



ieata

International Expressive Arts Therapy Association

GENERAL REGISTRATION STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR EXPRESSIVE ARTS THERAPIST

The following criteria must be met before sending an application for consideration:

I. EDUCATION

Must meet one of the standards described in category **A, B, C, or D**. If education has been obtained from an educational institute that is not state-accredited, applicant must include an official course syllabus for each course taken. Transcripts must be official, sent in a sealed envelope, with the signature of the registrar or other designated official across the seal.

A. 1) A Master's Degree in Expressive Arts Therapy or equivalency in a Creative Arts Therapy Program.

This must include a practicum (internship) of at least 500 hours of supervised clinical work plus 50 hours of individual supervisory sessions, or 100 hours of group supervisory sessions, or a combination of the two.

2) Demonstration of arts practice and involvement

B. 1) A Master's Degree in Psychology, Educational Psychology, Counseling, Social Work, Marriage and Family Therapy, or related mental health discipline,

2) PLUS completion of training in one or several professional Expressive Arts Therapy Institutes. (See definition of "Professional Expressive Arts Therapy Institutes" Doc. A)

Training in the above-mentioned Expressive Arts Institutes must be documented by a letter of completion from the Institute, sent in a sealed envelope with the signature of an Institute trainer across the seal.

The Institute training must include at least 200 hours of supervised clinical practicum (internship) and 25 hours of individual supervisory sessions or 50 hours of group supervisory sessions or a combination of the two.

3) Demonstration of arts practice and involvement.

IEATA Professional Standards Committee for Expressive Arts Therapists

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C. **1) A Master’s Degree in Fine Arts** (music, visual arts, dance, drama, etc.)

2) PLUS completion of training from one or several professional Expressive Arts Therapy Institutes or Programs.

Applicants under this category must have completed a practicum (internship) of at least 500 hours of supervised clinical work and 50 hours of individual supervisory sessions, or 100 hours of group supervisory sessions or a combination of the two from the identified Expressive Arts Training Institute. (Again, see definition of “Professional Expressive Arts Therapy Institutes” on attached Document A.)

3) In addition, three of the four requirements under “General Therapy Competencies” must be met through continuing education, non-degree or degree courses, or other means, but not from audited courses.

D. **1) Doctoral Degree in Expressive Arts Therapy** or equivalency in a Creative Arts Therapy Program.

Program must include a practicum of 1000 hours of supervised clinical work and 100 hours of individual supervisory sessions, or 200 hours of group supervisory sessions or a combination of both.

2) Demonstration of arts practice and involvement.

E. If applying under the “Exceptional Category”, applicant must fulfill one of the four educational categories above to be considered for professional registration.

II. EXPERIENCE:

Experience must have been acquired after completion of categories **A, B, C, or D** (Post Graduate), and must include the following:

A. 2,000 hours (equal to approximately 20 hours per week for 24 months), or an equivalent time over a longer period of time, not to exceed 48 months (or 4 years).

B. 100 hours of individual supervised sessions or 200 hours of group supervisory sessions or a combination of these (see definition of supervision on Document A).

C. For Category “D” Only - experience after completion of category “D” above must include:

1) 1,500 hours (equal to approximately 25 hours per week for 12 months) or an equivalent time over a longer period of time, not to exceed 48 months (4 years).

2) 75 hours of individual supervised sessions or 150 hours of group supervisory sessions, or a combination of the two.

D. Exceptional Category Only - (Must have 10+ years experience) This category has been added for those individuals who began acquiring their post-masters/post-doctoral experience, without supervision from an expressive arts or creative arts therapist because there were none available at the time. They have demonstrated high ethical standards of practice and are respected by others in the field. They must, however, meet specific criteria to be considered under this “exception”. [See attached Document B regarding this category].

Completed applications for registration may be submitted at any time. Incomplete applications will be returned to the applicant after three months if necessary parts have still not been received. This includes the required triplicate copies requested for the review process. The reviewing process will take a minimum of three months for regular submissions and four months for the Exceptional Category.

III. COMPETENCIES:

A clear demonstration that all three (3) required competencies (**A, B & C**) have been met. This will be documented in the:

- Narrative Statements
- Transcripts
- Institute Course descriptions

A. Expressive Arts Therapy. A minimum of 3 of the following 4 categories below must be satisfied and the applicant must have completed a minimum of 25 hours of instruction for each of the 3 categories.

1) Individual Expressive Arts Therapy Process - coursework

2) Group Expressive Arts Therapy Process - coursework

3) Applications of Expressive Arts Therapy; i.e., how the applicant applies diagnostic impressions, personality tendencies, expressive communication styles and previous arts experience of client.

4) Approaches to, or styles of Expressive Arts Therapy in practice and study; i.e., various approaches used by the applicant in integrating multi-arts in therapy.

B. General Therapy. A minimum of 3 of the following 4 categories below must be satisfied and the applicant must have completed a minimum of 25 hours of instruction for each of the 3 categories.

1) Ethics/Professional Practice

2) Personal Styles (e.g., personality theory)

