

IECMH Endorsement®

- Mental Health Specialist Endorsement requirement changes - please see details below!
- Annual renewal for Endorsement opens October 2024! Review the requirements below.
- There is only one more review period for this year. To get your application reviewed by the end of 2024, you must submit it in [EASy](#) by **October 2nd**.
- Have questions? Join our Director of Endorsement for virtual, monthly office hours! They are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month from **12:30pm-1:30pm EST**. [Click here to register in advance for this meeting.](#)

IECMH Trainings

For Endorsement, there is not a specific list of trainings that are required. Rather, you get to pick and choose trainings relevant to the Competency Guidelines that best-fit your needs and category. Please click below for some training options.

[Upcoming Trainings and Events](#)

[Community & Self-Paced IECMH Trainings](#)

Family Engagement

Our Education and Resource Development Manager is available for either virtual consultation or in-person meetings around IECMH family engagement. Please email agabbert@mhai.net for more information.

Infant/Early Childhood Mental Health Specialist (IECMHS) Endorsement Requirement Changes

- **Effective January 1, 2025, the requirements for IECMHS will no longer include an exam.** Instead, there will be additions and updates made to the requirements for the IECMHS Endorsement application. These updates will ask for demonstration of standards related to what the exam was measuring for. Specifically, the WORK and TRAINING requirements will change, in addition to reference rating forms and ethics. **All IECMHS applicants will have to wait until 2025 before they can continue working on their application.**
- Here's what's changing for people who want to become endorsed as Infant/Early Childhood Mental Health Specialist starting on January 1, 2025:
 - **WORK**
 - Two years of supervised paid work experience delivering culturally sensitive, relationship-focused parent-infant psychotherapy—a dyadic mental health treatment aimed at enhancing the parent-infant attachment relationship and optimal infant development. These services are provided by a licensed or license-eligible infant and early childhood mental health therapist specializing in the treatment of infants/toddlers (perinatal-36 months or 36 months to 6 years) in primary caregiving relationships (i.e., biological, foster, fictive kin, adoptive parent or guardian).
 - **The following work requirements must be met:**
 - Two years of work experience; one year or full-time equivalent of

supervised internship with direct parent-infant/child psychotherapy experience as described above may count towards the 2 years paid work experience requirement if the internship supervisor is an endorsed professional (MHS or MHM-C).

- A master's degree or higher OR a professional mental health license from a state regulatory agency
- **TRAINING**
 - A minimum of 33 clock hours is required.
 - Of the 33 required hours, 10 hours must focus on parent-infant/child psychotherapy.

Endorsement Renewal Reminders

Renewals will open up in October and you'll have until **December 31, 2024** to complete your renewal for next year. For those with multiple Endorsements, you will only need to complete your renewal for one of them. If you earned an Endorsement in 2024, you do not need to renew that Endorsement until 2025.

Annual Endorsement renewal requirements are as follows:

- Maintain an annual membership with INfancy Onward (if your agency pays, they will be invoiced/need to pay via EASy) or another Alliance Association for Infant Mental Health (AIMH)
- Participate in a minimum of 15 clock hours of training per year, pertaining to the promotion of social-emotional development and/or the practice of IECMH (must have been completed in 2024)
 - At least 1 hour must be on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the field
 - **Endorsed Reflective Supervisors (ERS add-on) and I/ECMHM – Clinical endorsees must include a minimum of 3 hours of training on the provision of Reflective Supervision/Consultation (RSC)**
 - Visit our Training pages on our website for more infant/early childhood mental health trainings <https://www.infancyonward.org/training-and-events/>
 - Login to our Members Area for member exclusive access to our recorded trainings <https://member.infancyonward.org/>
 - It is important to note that up to 50% of the professionals training hours may come from time spent providing training to others (eg, provided an in-service training; hosted a workshop, taught a college course, etc.) and/or hours spent volunteering to support an AIMHs Endorsement capacity growth (eg, application reviewing, conducting vetting conversation, committee work, etc) as approved by INfancy Onward's Endorsement Coordinator. (i.e. 15 hours of in-service training is required annually, meaning you can use up to 7.5 hours of time spent doing any combination of these other activities)
- Participate in a minimum of 12 hours of reflective supervision/consultation (RSC) each year (**I/ECFS, I/ECMHS & I/ECMHM - Clinical only**). To count towards Endorsement renewal the (minimum) 12 hours of RSC should be over the course of at least 6-months, but not more than 12-months
- To get setup with a renewal RC group, please email endorsement@infancyonward.org

Reflective Supervision/Consultation Reminders

- For initial Endorsement, you can use RSC hours earned through December 31, 2023 from someone who was vetted (email endorsement@infancyonward.org to verify).
- IMH-E® providers of RSC can provide to IMH and ECMH applicants and endorsees and ECMH-E® providers of RSC can also provide to both IMH and ECMH applicants and endorsees. This change has been effective as of February 2024.
- December 31, 2024 is the deadline for Masters-prepared Family Specialists and Mental Health Specialists to provide qualifying hours of RSC for applicants/endorsees

- Starting January 2025, only those with the ERS add-on or MHM-C can provide qualifying hours of RSC for Endorsement (see chart below)

Endorsement®		
Category	Can receive from:	Can provide to:
Family Specialist (FS)	ERS & MHM-C	N/A
Family Specialist/Mental Health Specialist + Endorsed Reflective Supervisor (ERS)	ERS & MHM-C	FS, MHS, & ERS
Mental Health Specialist (MHS)	ERS & MHM-C	N/A
Mental Health Mentor-Clinical (MHM-C)	MHM-C	FS, MHS, ERS & MHM-C

If you are working towards Endorsement and have an active membership with INfancy Onward, you can join one of our virtual reflective consultation groups, led by endorsed providers, via our Members' Area

[Sign Up Here](#)

Connect with INfancy Onward!



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