

Pathway to PCIT Therapist Certification

STEP 1

Participants interested in PCIT training at Karitane first need to apply by an expression of interest (EOI). When submitting an EOI, please note the following training requirements for therapists listed by PCIT International:

Graduate education: An applicant must meet both criteria 1 and 2, OR criterion 3 to be eligible to become a Certified PCIT Therapist:

- 1) **Have a master's degree or higher, or an international equivalent of a master's degree, in a mental health field**
AND
- 2) **Be an independently licensed mental health service provider (for example, licensed psychologist, licensed marital and family therapist, licensed practicing counselor, licensed clinical social worker, etc.) or be working under the supervision of a licensed mental health service provider.**
OR
- 3) **Be a psychology doctoral student who has completed the third year of training and be conducting clinical work under the supervision of a licensed mental health service provider.**

(Note: Students may receive PCIT training before completion of their master's degrees. However, they cannot be certified as PCIT therapists until their master's degree is complete or until they have completed the third year of their doctoral training).

STEP 2

Following a successful EOI submission, you will be invited to participate in the PCIT face-to-face training program. Karitane offers a 5-day work shop, then a subsequent 2-day workshop. Participants will be ready to commence PCIT cases at the end of the initial 5-day training.

Training includes:

- An overview of the theoretical foundations of PCIT
- Introduction to the Dyadic Parent-Child Interaction Coding System (DPICS)
- Coaching with families with a focus on mastery of Child Directed Interaction (CDI) and Parent Directed Interaction (PDI) skills
- Case observations
- 12 months of fortnightly supervision via teleconference
- PCIT 2011 Treatment Protocol Manual and DPICS-IV Manual

STEP 3

After completion of both workshops and continuous supervision, participants must serve as a therapist for a minimum of two PCIT cases to graduation criteria, as defined by the 2011 PCIT Protocol. At least one of the cases must be conducted with the applicant as the primary therapist (e.g., lead therapist or equal co-therapist).

To be eligible for certification, applicants must have their treatment sessions observed by a Karitane PCIT Trainer by submitting x 4 1 hr video recordings. These videos are used to demonstrate a satisfactory level of competency*. Once assessed as satisfactory, applicants can proceed to the final step in being a certified PCIT therapist-see Step 4.

*In the event a clinician has not yet reached a satisfactory level, strategies and further support will be discussed and may incur an extra cost.



STEP 4

For certification, applicants must complete the Certified PCIT Therapist Application Form and an online exam. This will be submitted with evidence of completed training and supervision from a Karitane PCIT Level II trainer. More information can be found at www.pcit.org.

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