

## **Procedure for ISTFP Trainer- Supervisor Certification - Online or 'In-person'**

The organizer the ISTFP Training and Education Committee will be responsible for the content and quality of the certification. The local organization, if one has been established in the candidate's country and if that organization includes members of the Certification Board, will take care of the practical organization of the event, the location, and a list of names and e-mail-addresses of the candidates, and will schedule them. Candidates agree that their e-mail addresses will be used to send the ISTFP Certificates afterwards.

**1. Criteria for Trainer - Supervisor-examination** according to the Levels of Certification document:

- After certification as a TFP therapist," Experience in TFP teaching and co-supervision; having treated at least two TFP cases (2 sessions/week) for at least two years each."

- The candidate should **check with their supervisors** if examination is advisable. If a supervisor recommends more supervision before the exam and the candidate disagrees, the opinion of another supervisor should be sought. The supervisors need to agree for the therapist to apply for certification and send a written approval to the Training and Education Committee.

2. Candidates need to **apply using the application form** and send it to Irene Sarno & Nel Draijer (Training & Education Committee)

3. If the candidate is accepted **two examiners** are invited (by N & I) to do the certification. And **two candidates** are combined.

4. **Online examination** is possible using ZOOM Pro<sup>1</sup>: the chair examiner sends a ZOOM invitation around to the co-examiner and candidates. The procedure during the online exam is similar to a 'live' exam. It is the responsibility of both the candidates and the examiners to have adequate technology (technology that allows for clear communication).

5. The candidate presents a **video of a session**. During the Covid Pandemic it is allowed to use a video of a Zoom (or online) session with the patient.

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<sup>1</sup> In case Zoom or videos are not allowed locally, audiotapes are a possibility: the technology used needs to be in line with the regional regulations.

6. Finances Costs per exam are: 300,- Euro's per candidate; easiest way is locally to pay this in cash or via a bank transfer. This is the responsibility of the examiners.

### **7a. Examination-procedure according to the Levels of Certification document:**

For the exam, two candidates pair off with two members of the Certification Board<sup>2</sup>.

Part 1 – The candidate presents a case (video-taped) with the second candidate acting as supervisor; NB! the description of the supervised case takes a maximum 10-15 minutes<sup>3</sup>

Candidates should provide examiners with a paper (or email) summary of the case, as well as a transcript of the session. This is helpful in case it is difficult to hear some of the dialogue in the session and especially in cases where the therapy is conducted in a language the examiner does not master.

This requires from the candidates a careful preparation: English (or Spanish, German, Italian, Dutch etc) case presentation, containing an object relations formulation of the case, and a transcript of what they want to show about the case.

Part 2 - supervision of the second candidate's case by the first candidate; idem

In supervising, the candidate should be able to discuss both theoretical and technical aspects of the case;

The examiners observe and may ask questions – generally questions to the candidate doing the supervision and not the candidate presenting the case;

Each case presentation and discussion takes approximately 1 hour per candidate; with max 15 minutes introduction of the case and 45 minutes of supervision.

After the two supervisions have taken place, the candidates leave the room to allow the examiners to formulate their judgments. Afterwards the candidates are invited in one by one to hear the comments of the examiners. The examiner(s) give feedback about the candidates strengths and weaknesses as supervisors.

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<sup>2</sup> An ISTFP Certification Board has been nominated by the Training and Education Committee and approved by the ISTFP Executive Board. Members of the Certification Board are (alfab): Marion Braun, Peter Buchheim, Eve Caligor, John Clarkin, Gerhard Dammann, Sergio Dazzi, Frank Denning, Diana Diamond, Stephan Doering, Nel Draijer, Michel Angel Gonzales Torres, Otto Kernberg, Tennyson Lee, Mathias Lohmer, Philipp Martius, Jos van Mosel Lina Normandin, Alvis Orlandini, Agnes Schneider-Heine, Marike Steeman, Luis Valenciano, Joan Vegué, Anne Ward, Paul Wijts and Frank Yeomans.

<sup>3</sup> The case presented for the certification exam should be 2 sessions a week. Any requests for exceptions to this rule should be discussed with the examiners before the exam.

Altogether the exam takes approximately 3 hours.

The candidates when passed receive the TFP supervisor certificate (this is provided by the ISTFP Training & Education Committee).

**Online certification procedure is similar**, in the sense that the examiners invite the two candidates on Zoom (or other secure online medium), as well as the two examiners.

#### **7b. Alternative pathway to become a TFP teacher and supervisor for senior therapists**

Experienced psychotherapists might be promoted to TFP teachers and supervisors within an abbreviated procedure, if they have:

- (1) more than 20 years of experience as a psychotherapist,
- (2) more than five years of experience as a training analyst or psychotherapy supervisor,
- (3) participated in a TFP training course (Level C),
- (4) presented one videotaped TFP case with high quality of TFP application, and
- (5) been co-teacher in TFP workshops/ courses with a certified TFP teacher and supervisor

The Training and Education Committee decides upon the promotion, after it has been suggested by the ISTFP supervisor who is actively supervising the senior therapist.

The ISTFP Executive Board has to approve the decision of the Training and Education Committee.