

## **PRE-QUALIFICATIONS FOR STA/ISST CERTIFIED MEMBERSHIP**

### **1. POST-GRADUATE DEGREE**

**Requirement:** Graduate degree in a helping profession such as medicine, psychology, certified social work, pastoral counseling, school counseling, or marriage and family counseling, from a regionally accredited university.

**Time Frame:** Two years prior to application.

**To Document:** Submit a copy of degree.

### **2. CLINICAL KNOWLEDGE BASE**

**Requirement:** Knowledge of psychotherapy, psycho-diagnosis, and psychology obtained through formal study and two years of supervised certified experience.

**Time Frame:** Prior to application.

**To Document:** On the application, indicate the courses taken that meet this requirement and submit copies of official transcripts with the application.

### **3. LICENSURE**

**Requirement:** License in a mental health or related field or accreditation in your professional field (e.g., spiritual direction, body work).

**Time Frame:** Prior to application.

**To Document:** Submit a photocopy of license or credential with application. Also submit evidence of having completed 2000 hours of direct supervised certified or counseling experience, or equivalent. If licensure is not required in your state, submit information substantiating this with your application. Please include a description of your scope of practice.

### **4. PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Requirement:** In-depth inner development and insight as gained through analysis and/or psychotherapy. The combined total number of hours of analysis, psychotherapy and personal sandplay process (see next section) is a minimum of 100 hours.

**Time Frame:** Analysis and/or psychotherapy should have occurred within the past 10 years prior to the date of application. Analysis and/or psychotherapy may be concurrent with personal sandplay process.

**To Document:** With application submit a description of the therapist's therapeutic orientation, dates of analysis and/or psychotherapy, and total number of hours.

### **5. MALPRACTICE INSURANCE**

Malpractice insurance in your respective professional discipline is required and must be sent in with the application

# TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR STA/ISST CERTIFIED MEMBERSHIP

## 1. PERSONAL SANDPLAY PROCESS

**Requirement:** An honest, transformative personal sandplay process is the most significant, foundational requirement of the training sequence. The process must occur with an ISST member after that individual has achieved certified membership. A minimum of 40 sessions (not sand trays) are suggested for the completion of the personal sandplay process. Although no required number of sand trays is designated, it is generally felt that creation of a minimum of 30 sand trays is necessary to experience an in-depth sandplay process.

**Time Frame:** Although it may overlap the completion of other training requirements, it is generally accepted that the best way to experience the sandplay process is prior to pursuing formal study of sandplay theory and practice.

**To Document:** Submit the form letter from your STA/ISST therapist attesting to the dates of therapy and the completion of the minimum requirements. (See Handbook, Appendix D, #2).

**Rationale:** Dora Kalff states, "The emphasis of the sandplay process is on the fullness or wholeness of the process." As we are often asked for guidance and clarification, it seems helpful to provide our minimum expectations.

## 2. STUDY OF SANDPLAY THEORY AND PRACTICE

**Requirement:** A comprehensive program of study including the following general conditions are required. The minimum total number of coursework hours is 120. The minimum hours of coursework in each content area are designated as follows:

- a) Introduction to Sandplay Therapy (18 hrs. minimum)
- b) Clinical Sandplay Practice (48 hrs. minimum)
- c) Jungian Theory (18 hrs. minimum)
- d) Symbolism (18 hrs. minimum)
- e) Electives (no minimum)

Please refer to the **Sandplay Training Curriculum Guide** (See Handbook, p. 34) for a more detailed listing of content areas and suggested themes for study.

**Time Frame:** Introductory content may be studied prior to, or concurrently with, or after, experiencing the personal sandplay process. It is recommended that further study and clinical sandplay practice be delayed until after the personal sandplay process has been completed or is at least meaningfully underway.

**To Document:** The applicant is responsible for maintaining a record of lectures, workshops, seminars, and conferences attended. The application requires submission of a list of training events attended including dates, location, presenter, and number of training hours awarded. Refer to the section below, Application to Become an STA/ISST Candidate).

### 3. CONSULTATION Requirement:

(These requirements apply to ALL applicants regardless of the date of application.)

Applicants are required to seek consultation from someone other than the therapist with whom they completed their sandplay process (See Handbook: Consultation - Additional Information, page 35).

- a) A minimum of 80 hours of sandplay case consultation with an STA/ISST teaching member is required.
- b) At least 30 of these hours must be individual case consultation with an ISST Teaching Member, after that member has achieved Teaching Membership.
- c) The remaining hours may be obtained in the presentation of cases in group consultation with up to six participants (ten when attending a national or international conference), facilitated by an ISST Teaching Member. Fifty hours of group consultation may be counted provided the student presents

his/her own material on at least 10 occasions within the group consultation hours.

**Time Frame:** It is recommended that consultation be delayed until after the applicant's personal sandplay process is complete or at least meaningfully underway.

**To Document:** A letter (or signature) from the applicant's primary consultant verifying the applicant's total number of consultation hours accrued with all consultants must be submitted with the application. (see Handbook, Appendix D)

**Rationale:** The purpose of consultation is to facilitate the exploration and enhancement of one's own work.

### 4. PRELIMINARY PAPERS

**Requirements:** Submission and approval of two preliminary papers is required. Each paper must be approximately 10 double-spaced pages in length. One paper should be an in-depth exploration of a symbol, archetypal image, or theme. The second paper may be an exploration of another symbol or it may address any theoretical aspect of sandplay of interest to the applicant. Each paper should include the relevance of the topic to clinical sandplay practice. Each paper must be read and approved by an STA/ISST Teaching Member who is an approved reader, and is not the personal process therapist or advisor. (Refer to Handbook: Preliminary Paper information, Checklist and Guidelines, pages 40-45.)

**Time Frame:** Preliminary papers should be written after the applicant has completed a significant portion of his/her personal sandplay process, completed a significant portion of course study, and established a clinical sandplay practice. **The first paper must be read and approved prior to application for admission as a training candidate.**

### 5. CHOOSING AN ADVISOR

**Requirement:** To become a candidate for membership, an applicant must choose an STA member as an advisor. The advisor must have held certified membership in ISST for at least two years prior to selection as an advisor, and may not have served as the applicant's therapist.

**Time Frame:** An advisor may be chosen at any point prior to formal application for membership candidacy. (Refer Handbook: Advisor - Additional Information, pp. 46-50). Candidates are expected to check in with their advisors every six months as to their progress towards candidacy.

**To Document:** Designate on application form.

**Fee:** A fee of \$100 is payable to the advisor at the time of application for Certified Membership.

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**6. REQUIREMENTS FOR JUNGIAN ANALYSTS:** Fully qualified Jungian Analysts may undergo an adapted training for STA/ISST membership. This training must include, as a minimum:

1. Personal Sandplay process with an STA/ISST member.
2. 60 hours specific STA/ISST Certified Sandplay Training.
3. Clinical case supervision: 40 hours, of which 15 must be individual supervision hours. A maximum of 25 group supervision hours are acceptable. The candidate should present his/her own work in at least five of the group supervision sessions.
4. One relevant preliminary paper with Sandplay clinical material.
5. Submission of written clinical case study.