



# PA-AIMH

Pennsylvania Association for  
Infant Mental Health

## Infant Mental Health Consultant<sup>1</sup> Competencies General Guidelines during Capacity Building Phase

There are few Infant Mental Health (IMH) Endorsed professionals who can provide Reflective Supervision/Consultation (RSC) for those working with very young children and their families throughout the state of Pennsylvania. While PA-AIMH builds a network of endorsed professionals, we will temporarily accept applications from professionals who's Reflective Supervisors/Consultants have not been endorsed. However, supervisors/consultants must demonstrate minimum education and work experience required to meet IMH Endorsement standards at the approved level (see table below). Reflective Supervision/Consultation (RSC) hours provided by those that PA-AIMH determines are qualified can count toward an endorsement application.

APPLICANT FOR IMH ENDORSEMENT	PROVIDER OF RSC ( <i>For applicants earning endorsement</i> )
<b>Infant Family Specialist (Level II) Bachelor's prepared</b>	Level II Master's prepared OR Level III or Level IV-Clinical
<b>Infant Family Specialist (Level II) Master's prepared</b>	Level III or Level IV-Clinical
<b>Infant Mental Health Specialist (Level III) Direct service provider Provider of RSC to others</b>	Level III or Level IV-Clinical
<b>Infant Mental Health Mentor – Clinical (Level IV)</b>	Level IV-Clinical

**If your Reflective Supervisor/Consultant (RSC) has not been endorsed, it is possible you may need to provide additional information about his/her training and work experience as part of your IMH Endorsement application.** It may be helpful to gather information to demonstrate your supervisor's/consultant's IMH Competency, meaning your supervisor's/consultant's training and work experience consistent with the IMH Competency Guidelines<sup>2</sup>. Particular focus will be on the following areas:

- Trauma/Separation/Loss
- Psychotherapeutic & behavioral theories of change
- Attachment
- Observation, screening, assessment, diagnosis
- Cultural Competency
- Relationship-Focused Practices
- Family relationships and dynamics
- Supervision/Consultation/Mentoring (reflective)
- Pregnancy and early parenthood
- Infant/ young child development and behavior
- Infant/ young child and family centered practice
- Disorders of infancy and early childhood (mental health)
- Mental and behavioral disorders in adults

<sup>1</sup>For the purposes of this document, the term "consultant" refers to the provider of reflective supervision/consultation.

<sup>2</sup> Pennsylvania Association for Infant Mental Health's Endorsement for Culturally Sensitive, Relationship-focused Practice Promoting Infant Mental Health® information can be found at [www.pa-aimh.org](http://www.pa-aimh.org)

- Adult mental health, learning, and cognitive functioning
- Parent-Infant Relationship base therapies & practice

Every application's situation is unique and, thus, there are many ways applicants can demonstrate their Supervisor's/Consultant's IMH Competency. Potential documents and sources for supporting his/her IMH Competency may be through:

- His/her curriculum vitae/ resume
- Written/verbal communication with you (the applicant) about the supervisor's/ consultant's expertise
- Written/verbal communication with supervisor or other professionals who worked closely with supervisor
- Documentation of his/her accomplishments in IMH field (e.g., authored articles, evidence of IMH program involvement, presentations given)

***Applicants may contact the PA-AIMH Endorsement Coordinator, Brandy Fox, at [brafox@pakeys.org](mailto:brafox@pakeys.org), with questions and/or help in developing a plan to document your supervisor's/consultant's IMH Competencies.***

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