



CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION  
FOR INFANT MENTAL HEALTH

# Connecticut Association for Infant Mental Health, Inc.

## Concerned with the Healthy Social Emotional Development of Infants and Young Children

### Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

## The Endorsement Process

### Q. What is involved in applying for and earning Endorsement?

A. Achieving Endorsement involves five steps:

- **Inquire** by contacting the Endorsement Coordinator, Anne Giordano or by downloading a [preliminary application](#)
- **Complete** and submit the preliminary application, including the application fee and CT-AIMH membership fee (new members only). Memberships can be purchased or renewed on-line at <http://CT-AIMH.org>
- **Prepare** and submit the completed professional portfolio along with the Endorsement fee
- **Documentation** of competencies, including a two-level review of the professional portfolio and, for Levels III & IV only, successful completion of written exam
- **Endorsement** - Some notable features of the CT-AIMH Endorsement (IMH-E®) process include:
  - Assignment of an endorsement advisor to assist with the application process.
  - Review of professional portfolio materials by the endorsement advisor
  - Submission of completed professional portfolio to the CT-AIMH Central Office for review
  - Review of completed professional portfolio by assigned endorsement committee members to qualify for Endorsement at Levels I & II
  - Review of completed professional portfolio by assigned endorsement committee members to qualify for endorsement exam at Levels III & IV
  - Administration of three-hour, written endorsement exam, offered twice a year, for Level III & IV candidates; exam includes multiple choice questions and clinical, policy or faculty/research vignettes to assess knowledge, skills and competencies.
  - Review of exam by assigned endorsement test review committee members
  - Endorsement approved (or not); candidates notified by phone and e-mail.
  - Endorsement certificate signed and mailed along with feedback regarding professional portfolio (Levels I & II) or responses to

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vignettes in the qualitative portion of the exam (Levels III & IV).

- o Annual renewal of endorsement requires continued membership in CT-AIMH or another infant mental health association and annual documentation of 15 hours (minimum) of training experiences which promote infant mental health practice; reflective supervision/consultation recommended for endorsed members at Levels II, II & IV (Clinical).

**Q. How much does the endorsement cost?**

A. Fees vary according to the level of endorsement being sought. There is an initial application fee of \$15.00 for Levels I & II, and \$25.00 for Levels III & IV that is sent in with the preliminary application. In addition, membership in CT-AIMH (or another infant mental health association) is now required at the time of preliminary application so that candidates can be notified of relevant training opportunities and receive discounts to register for trainings.

The endorsement fee must be sent in when you submit your professional portfolio to the CT-AIMH Central Office for final review. The endorsement fee is \$25.00 for Level I, \$50.00 for Level II, \$200.00 for Level III and \$300.00 for Level IV.

The costs for Level III & IV are in line with credentialing fees that have been established by other professional organizations, e.g. CDA (Child Development Associate) and ACSW (Accreditation for Certified Social Workers). The credentialing fees support the overhead costs of the CT-AIMH Endorsement (IMH-E®) and allow us to have portfolios and tests carefully reviewed.

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