



AAIMH
West Australian Branch

AAIMH WA Endorsement[®]

Getting Started Guide

This form is an optional—but strongly recommended—self-study to help assess your experiences and determine what additional specialised training might be necessary to meet the competencies and earn AAIMH WA Endorsement[®].

1. **Read the AAIMHI WA Competency Guidelines[®]**, paying special attention to the specifics of the requirements for the Endorsement[®] for which you are applying
2. **Review** your resume/CV, a copy (unofficial is ok) of your transcripts, and gather your in-service training records
3. **Look at what you have done**, using the self-study grid below, and ask yourself if you have had a TAFE/university course, an in-service training, a work experience or a reflective supervision/consultation experience that has contributed to your knowledge or skill in a particular area. For now, place a check mark in the appropriate box. Consider where your strengths lie and what you need to do to “fill in the gaps” to develop greater competency as an Infant Family Worker (IFW), Infant Family Practitioner (IFP), Infant Mental Health Practitioner (IMHP) or Infant Mental Health Mentor (IMHM).
4. **Keep in mind** that during a formal application review, a minimum of two trained reviewers will comprehensively examine your materials and come to agreement about whether or not you have met the requirements and the competencies. All of the knowledge and skill areas are required (as specified for each category of Endorsement), but application reviewers will be paying close attention to those listed under *Theoretical Foundations* and *Direct Service Skills*. In general, when considering whether or not a knowledge/skill area has been “met,” the most importance is given to TAFE/university courses, then to intensive or series in-services, then to shorter in-services, then conferences, then references, then work experience.
5. **Identify gaps** i.e., competency areas where you feel you have not yet had enough specialised education or in-service training

Find in-service training opportunities to help you fill in any identified gaps in the knowledge/skill areas. Information about relevant training opportunities in Western Australian can be found at aaimhi.org/branches/wa/imh-training-info

Theoretical Foundations	Education	Work	In-service training(s)
pregnancy and early parenthood (IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)			
infant/young child development and <u>behaviour</u> (IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)			
infant/young child & family-centered practice (IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)			
relationship-based, therapeutic practice (IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)			
family relationships & dynamics (IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)			
attachment, separation, trauma & loss (IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)			
psychotherapeutic & behavioural theories of change (IMHP & IMHM)			
disorders of infancy/early childhood (IFP, IMHP, IMHM)			
mental & behavioural disorders- adults (IMHP & IMHM)			
cultural competence (IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)			
adult learning theory & practice (IMHM)			
statistics (IMHM)			
research & evaluation (IMHM)			

Law, Regulation & Policy	Education	Work	In-service training(s)
ethical practice (IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)			
government, law & regulation (IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)			
agency policy (IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)			

Systems Expertise	Education	Work	In-service training(s)
service delivery systems (IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)			
community resources (IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)			

Direct Service Skills	Education	Work	In-service training(s)
observation & listening (IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)			
screening & assessment (IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)			
responding with empathy (IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)			
intervention/treatment planning (IMHP & IMHM)			
developmental guidance (IMHP & IMHM)			
supportive counseling (IMHP & IMHM)			
parent-infant/very young child relationship-based therapies & practices (IMHP & IMHM)			
advocacy (IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)			
life skills (IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)			
safety (IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)			
reflective clinical supervision (IMHM - clinical)			

Working with Others	Education	Work	In-service training(s)	Reflective supervision/consultation
building & maintaining relationships (IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)				
supporting others (IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)				
Working with Others (continued)	Education	Work	In-service training(s)	Reflective supervision/consultation
mentoring (IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)				
coaching & mentoring (IMHM)				
collaborating (IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)				
resolving conflict (IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)				
crisis management (IMHM)				
empathy & compassion (IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)				
consulting (IMHM)				

Communicating	Education	Work	In-service training(s)	Reflective supervision/consultation
listening <i>(IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)</i>				
speaking <i>(IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)</i>				
writing <i>(IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)</i>				
group process <i>(IMHM)</i>				

Thinking	Education	Work	In-service training(s)	Reflective supervision/consultation
analysing information <i>(IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)</i>				
solving problems <i>(IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)</i>				
exercising sound judgment <i>(IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)</i>				
maintaining perspective <i>(IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)</i>				
planning & organising <i>(IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)</i>				

Reflection	Education	Work	In-service training(s)	Reflective supervision/consultation
contemplation <i>(IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)</i>				
self-awareness <i>(IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)</i>				
curiosity <i>(IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)</i>				
professional/personal development <i>(IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)</i>				
emotional response <i>(IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)</i>				
parallel process <i>(IFW, IFP, IMHP, IMHM)</i>				

Infant Mental Health Mentor (IMHM) only:

Leading People	Education	Work	In-service training(s)
motivating <i>(IMHM)</i>			
advocacy <i>(IMHM)</i>			
developing talent <i>(IMHM)</i>			

Administration	Education	Work	In-service training(s)
programme management <i>(IMHM - policy)</i>			
programme development <i>(IMHM - policy)</i>			
programme evaluation <i>(IMHM - policy)</i>			
programme funding <i>(IMHM - policy)</i>			

Research & Evaluation	Education	Work	In-service training(s)
study of infant relationships & attachment <i>(IMHM - research/faculty)</i>			
study of infant development & behaviour <i>(IMHM - research/faculty)</i>			
study of families <i>(IMHM - research/faculty)</i>			

If you have questions please contact the Endorsement Coordinator at
endorsementwa@aaimhi.org.au