



The Canadian Association for Child and Play Therapy

PLAY THERAPY CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Professional Development in Child Psychotherapy

PLAY THERAPY

In the past several years, Play Therapy has been accepted and acknowledged as an important and valued approach for working with children.

Play Therapy is beneficial to a child who is experiencing difficulties in the home, school or community. It is a therapeutic approach for human service professionals and as stated by Virginia Axline, “provides an opportunity for the child to ‘play out’ his or her feelings and problems just as, in certain adult therapy, an individual ‘talks out’ his or her difficulties”. Play Therapy can be used either as a primary or adjunct therapy in settings such as children’s mental health centres, schools, group care facilities and women’s shelters. Play Therapists work with children individually, with their families and in group settings.

ABOUT C.A.C.P.T.

The Canadian Association for Child & Play Therapy is Canada’s national Play Therapy association.

The Association believes in:

1. Advancing and promoting the understanding and value of Play Therapy
2. High standards of professional and ethical practice
3. Advocating membership to maintain a strong and professional organization

C.A.C.P.T. MEMBERSHIP

Membership in C.A.C.P.T. has many benefits including: specialized training, publications, group insurance and discounts for play therapy resources.

Note: Applicants must be a member of C.A.C.P.T. If you are not a member, please ensure you include a membership application with your program application. Membership applications are available by contacting 1-800-361-3951.

CERTIFICATION

For Information regarding the full Certification Process, please visit www.cacpt.com or contact C.A.C.P.T. 1-800-361-3951

THE PROGRAM

The Canadian Association for Child & Play Therapy (CACPT) is Canada’s national play therapy association. The Certificate Program is the only play therapy training program of its kind in Canada. The purpose of the program is to provide training in the theory and practice of play therapy. The training offered through the Certificate Program provides the academic requirements as defined by C.A.C.P.T.’s Certification Process. The program consists of three levels; each consisting of ten days offered in **May and June of each year. Courses are scheduled Monday to Friday, 9 am to 4 pm** with optional clinical supervision sessions on select evenings. Each ten-day level can be taken one year at a time or an application can be made to “Fast Track” in order to complete 2 or 3 levels concurrently. Each level requires one written assignment due October 31 of the same calendar year.

Instructors are skilled play therapists who bring expertise on a wide variety of topics. Instructors are certified play therapists with C.A.C.P.T. or have received approval from the C.A.C.P.T. certification committee because of their particular area of expertise.

Introductory Level

In Level I of the CACPT Certificate Program, students will be introduced to the history of play therapy, rationale for the use of play in therapy, various therapeutic powers of play, theoretical approaches to play therapy and phases of play therapy. Practical material will also be provided, including how to develop therapeutic rapport, conduct a play therapy assessment, develop a treatment plan, and incorporate play into family sessions. Best-practice tips on record keeping and other ethical issues will also be provided

Intermediate Level:

Level II will introduce students to a number of play therapy techniques, including: Puppetry, Storytelling, Sandtray, Filial Therapy, and Group Play Therapy. A day on Play Therapy for Children with Behaviour Disorders is also included.

Advanced Level:

Level III will focus on play therapy with various populations, such as trauma, child abuse, grief and loss, learning disabilities, pervasive developmental disorders and anxiety. Students will also learn how to set up an ethical play therapy practice and prepare and testify in court. The last day of the program will focus on self-care and students will have an opportunity to develop their own creative program to prevent burn-out and foster personal growth.

- Course descriptions are available at www.cacpt.com
 - Courses subject to change without notice
 - Accredited by The Association for Play Therapy (00-083)
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- Program Coordinator: Mandy Peck-Neil
 - Academic Advisor: Liana Lowenstein
 - Program Consultants: Alan McLuckie,
Dr. Evangeline Munns &
Linda Perry

GENERAL INFORMATION

Location: University of Western Ontario, King's University College Campus, London, Ontario. Accommodation is available in the student residence (\$35 for a shared room & \$40 for a private room per night).

Registration: Each level of the program is \$1200. A non-refundable \$100 application fee is due with your application package. The remaining \$1100 is due upon admission to the program. An additional \$100 administration fee will be applied to applications received later than April 30th.

How to pay: C.A.C.P.T. accepts VISA, Master Card, money orders or cheques made payable to: C.A.C.P.T. Certificate Program. Purchase orders can be sent and an invoice will be forwarded to the named company. A \$15 fee will be charged for NSF cheques returned by the bank. A 5% administration fee will be added to credit card transactions. Tuition receipts will be issued by C.A.C.P.T.

HOW TO APPLY

If not enclosed, request an application form from C.A.C.P.T. and return all of the requested information, together, by the **March 31st deadline**. It is recommended that applications are sent by registered mail to ensure their safe arrival. The education committee will take into account academic background, expertise in the field, skills, attitudes toward play therapy and personal strengths. A limited number of applicants will be admitted to the Play Therapy Certificate Program each year. Meeting the minimum requirements does not ensure admission to the program.

ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAM

EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

University: a Masters degree in Psychology or Social Work is preferred. An undergraduate degree in Arts, Social Science, Nursing, Physiotherapy, Social Work or other related human service field is acceptable as granted by an accredited university. Applicants need to have completed degree-credit courses in two areas: 1) Child Development or Developmental Psychology and 2) Human Adjustment & Maladjustment or Abnormal Psychology.

OR

Community College: In certain circumstances the Admission Committee will review Community College graduates or those with a three-year diploma program such as Child & Youth Worker or Nursing. Applicants need to have completed diploma credit courses in two areas: 1) Child & Adolescent Psychology and 2) Normal Growth & Development.

OR

Other: Community college diplomas or degrees may be considered if the relevant course work has been completed and if you have a minimum of ten years experience working with children in a therapeutic setting.

CLINICAL REQUIREMENTS

Work experience in a field related to children in therapeutic settings and demonstrated ongoing professional development in your field (i.e. workshops, conferences or institutes) will strengthen your application for admission.

REFERENCES

Two letters of recommendation are part of the application requirements. These letters should come from people who are in a position to comment on your skills, attitudes and experiences relevant to human services and your potential as a Play Therapist.

For Further Information:

Visit: www.cacpt.com
Call: C.A.C.P.T. at 1-800-361-3951

Contact: Mandy Peck-Neil, Program Coordinator
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