

Procedure for ISTFP Therapist Exams - Online or 'In-person'

The organizer, the ISTFP Training and Education Committee, will be responsible for the content and quality of the exams. The local organization, if one has been established in the candidate's country, will take care of the practical organization of the event, the location and a list of names and e-mail-addresses of the candidates, and will schedule them. Candidates agree that their e-mail addresses will be used to send the ISTFP Certificates afterwards.

1. Criteria for therapist-examination according to the Levels of Certification document:

- "After achieving level B; further training corresponding to a total of 63 hours of training seminars (level B + C); ongoing TFP supervision ≥ 2 y, with at least monthly presentation of the training case in supervision. Should have 2 supervisors (a waiver can be requested for situations where this is not possible)"

- The candidate needs to check with the supervisors if examination is advisable. The supervisors need to agree for the therapist to apply for examination and send a written approval to the Training and Education Committee.

2. Candidates need to **apply using the application form** and send it to Irene Sarno & Nel Draijer (Training & Education Committee)

3. If the candidate's application is accepted, two examiners are invited (by I & N) to do the examination.

4. **Online examination** is possible using ZOOM Pro: the chair examiner sends a ZOOM invitation around to the co-examiner and candidate. The procedure during the online exam is similar to an 'in-person' exam.

5. The candidate presents a **video of a session**. During the Covid Pandemic it is allowed to use a video of a Zoom (or online) session with the patient.

6. Examination-procedure according to the Levels of Certification document:

"Normally, the case presented for the certification exam has to be 2 sessions a week. The candidate presents a case, with video material¹ from 2 sessions, to a supervisor, or 2 if possible (these must be members of the ISTFP Board of Supervisors). The examiner(s) give

¹ In Corona times it is allowed to use a video of a ZOOM session.

feedback about the candidate's strengths and weaknesses. A therapist certificate with statement of period of training (this is provided by the ISTFP institution/ teacher & supervisor, who delivered the training and supervision. Ideally, the examiner should not be the same as the person who taught and supervised). Note: In settings where 2x/week is not possible, "low dose" 1x/week will be accepted. It is expected that within 3 years the ISTFP will have defined criteria for standard TFP and low dose TFP, respectively. These might make necessary changes of this requirement."

7. Protocol of the exams for TFP-therapist

- Every exam takes approximately 1,5 hours, in which the candidate presents a TFP case (max 15 minutes) and a videotape of (selected parts of) two sessions and discusses the case with two examiners (\pm 45 minutes).
- The examiners are members of the Board of Supervisors.
- The candidate starts with presenting a case description to the examiners. The case presentation is short (max 2 pages A4) and precise. Examiners receive it on paper (or email).
- The candidate presents the case verbally (suggested maximum time of 15 minutes) and presents a videotaped session. Examiners ask questions about both the case presentation as well as the session.
- Then the candidate leaves the (ZOOM) room to let the examiners discuss the presentation.
- Finally the candidate is invited in to hear the results and to discuss his / her work. The examiner(s) give feedback about the candidate's strengths and weaknesses.
- Technique (videotaping and presentation on screen) is the responsibility of the candidates / the local organization.
- This requires from the candidates a careful preparation: English (or Spanish, German, Italian or Dutch etc) case presentation, containing an object relations formulation of the case, and a transcript of what they want to show about the case.
- Finances Costs per exam are: 300,- Euro's per candidate; easiest way is locally to pay this in cash or via a bank transfer before the examination takes place. The examiners supply the proper bank-account information to the candidate.