

**Training Requirements for Certification as a**

**Within Agency Trainer (“Within Program Trainer”)**

These requirements were developed by the PCIT International Training Task Force in collaboration with the PCIT International Board of Directors. This document should be considered “dynamic” in that the training and certification requirements will evolve as new research arises in intervention, training, and dissemination. These requirements represent what PCIT experts consider to be the minimum training and skill qualifications necessary for a Within Agency Trainer.

1. **Definition**
   1. **Scope of Within Agency Trainership**. Within Agency Trainers are individuals who have received such PCIT training as to be qualified to teach and supervise therapists at their own program or agency, with a scope of trainership that is limited to their physical location or site.
   2. **Limitations of Within Agency Trainership.** Within Agency Trainers have not documented the experience or expertise to conduct large-scale trainings or to train therapists not under their direct, live supervision for PCIT cases. Within Agency Trainers have not documented the experience or expertise to train other Within Agency Trainers unless they are assisting a Regional or Global Trainer.
2. **Training Requirements of Within Agency Trainers**
3. **Graduate Education**. To apply for status as a Within Agency Trainer, an applicant must demonstrate appropriate graduate education. Specifically, an applicant must meet both criteria 1 and 2, OR criterion 3 to be eligible for Within Agency Trainer status:
   * 1. Have a master’s degree or higher, or the international equivalent of a master’s degree, in a mental health field

**AND**

* + 1. Be an independently licensed mental health service provider (for example, licensed psychologist, licensed marital and family therapist, licensed practicing counselor, licensed clinical social worker, etc.).

**OR**

* + 1. Be a psychology doctoral student on predoctoral internship or a psychology trainee completing postdoctoral fellowship, and treating families under the supervision of the predoctoral internship or postdoctoral site.

1. **Case Experience**
   * 1. Caseload Requirement. The Within Agency Trainer applicant must have served as a therapist for a minimum of four PCIT cases to graduation criteria as defined by the 2011 PCIT Protocol (Eyberg & Funderburk, 2011). On at least three of those cases, the Within Agency Trainer applicant must have been the primary therapist (i.e., lead therapist or equal co-therapist).
     2. Recency Requirement. At the time of the application, the Within Agency Trainer applicant must have served as a primary therapist or supervisor on at least two PCIT cases within the previous 2 years.
2. **Certified PCIT Therapist:** Before applying to become a Within Agency Trainer, an applicant must have met all requirements of a Certified PCIT Therapist, including completion of a minimum of two cases to graduation criteria under the consultation of a PCIT Trainer. The applicant may not begin training to become a Within Agency I Trainer until these requirements as a Certified PCIT Therapist have been completed.
3. **Within Agency Trainer Course:** Certified PCIT Therapists intending to apply for Within Agency Trainer status must complete the following training experiences:
   * 1. A minimum of 8 hours of a Within Agency Trainer Course with a Global Trainer or Regional Trainer that occurs *before* beginning other Within Agency Trainer requirements. The 8 hours of training should emphasize the Within Agency Trainer applicant’s provision of supervision to others and may be conducted via didactic training, a mentorship model (e.g., the Within Agency Trainer applicant serving as a co-facilitator with a Global Trainer or Regional Trainer during a therapist training workshop), or any combination of the two.
     2. The Within Agency Trainer applicant must also receive follow-up supervision/consultation from a Global Trainer or Regional Trainer that occurs continuously over the course of at least 12 months and has a frequency of at least once a month contact. The Within Agency Trainer applicant’s oversight from the Global Trainer or Regional Trainer may include co-consultation with the Within Agency Trainer and their therapist-trainee or telephone/video conference consultation with the Within Agency Trainer applicant, at the discretion of the Global Trainer or Regional Trainer.
   1. Case Experience. While under the supervision/consultation of a Global Trainer or Regional Trainer, the Within Agency Trainer applicant must complete provision of supervision to at least one therapist-in-training. Specifically, the Within Agency Trainer applicant must supervise a therapist-in-training to complete at least one PCIT case to graduation criteria.
   2. Skill Review.

Within Agency Trainer applicants must have their supervision sessions observed by a Global Trainer or Regional Trainer. Observations may be conducted in real time (e.g., live or online/telehealth) or through video recording.

To assess the Within Agency Trainer applicant’s skill in the provision of supervision, the Global Trainer or Regional Trainer will observe the following sessions in which the Within Agency Trainer applicant provides supervision to a therapist-in-training:

CDI Coaching (ideally the first CDI coaching session), and

PDI Coaching (ideally the first PDI coaching session)

The Master Trainer or Regional Trainer will provide written feedback on the content and style of the Within Agency Trainer applicant’s competence in supervision and will determine whether additional session observations are necessary to document adequate skill for the Within Agency Trainer applicant.

1. **Within Agency Trainer Competency Requirements**
   * 1. The evidence for the Within Agency Trainer applicant’s competence should include an assessment of their provision of supervision to a therapist-in-training, as observed by the Global Trainer or Regional Trainer in a real-time (e.g., live or online/telehealth) or prerecorded setting.
     2. The Global Trainer or Regional Trainer will be asked to evaluate the Within Agency Trainer applicant’s competency in:
        + 1. Attending to core elements of the 2011 PCIT Protocol with fidelity, and
          2. Maintaining a working alliance with the therapist-trainee through sensitive and effective methods of training
2. **Application Requirements**
3. The applicant must be a Certified PCIT Therapist *before* being eligible to apply for status as a Within Agency Trainer.
4. Following successful Certification as a PCIT Therapist, the Within Agency Trainer applicant must complete a Within Agency Trainer Course provided by a Global Trainer or Regional Trainer and document receiving subsequent consultation/supervision from a Global Trainer or Regional Trainer for at least 12 months.
5. Upon completion of a Within Agency Trainer Course and subsequent consultation/supervision from a Global Trainer or Regional Trainer, an applicant for Within Agency Trainer status must complete the Within Agency Trainer Application (available from PCIT International Certified Trainers or at PCIT International Certified Within Agency Trainer workshops). (A list of PCIT Certified Trainers can be found at [www.pcit.org](http://www.pcit.org).)
6. The Within Agency Trainer applicant must also submit a letter of recommendation to PCIT International from their Global Trainer or Regional Trainer that provides evidence of:
   1. Completion of a Within Agency Trainer Course
   2. At least 12 months of follow-up consultation with a Global Trainer or Regional Trainer, and
   3. Evidence of competence in training other PCIT Therapists within their program according to the 2011 PCIT Protocol.
7. Final decisions about certification of Within Agency Trainers will be made by the PCIT International Board of Directors.
8. **Responsibilities of Certified Within Agency Trainers**
   1. Follow the most current PCIT Training Requirements in the training of PCIT Therapists. The Training Requirements are disseminated by the PCIT International Training Task Force and posted on the PCIT International website ([www.pcit.org](http://www.pcit.org)).
   2. Train PCIT Therapists using the 2011 PCIT Protocol and 2013 Clinical Manual for DPICS-IV as disseminated by PCIT International.
   3. Remain active in PCIT service delivery either by providing PCIT to families directly or by providing supervision to PCIT Therapists within their agency or program.
   4. Promote PCIT to both professional and lay communities.
   5. Remain current in PCIT research by activities such as attending conferences, co-leading a face-to-face Initial Training for Therapists led by a Global Trainer or Regional Trainer, conducting PCIT research, presenting research at conferences, writing articles, or reading the research literature.
   6. Within Agency Trainers are required to obtain at least 6 hours of PCIT Continuing Education credit every 2 years through educational activities sponsored by the PCIT International Task Force on Continuing Education PCIT International, Inc. is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education programs for psychologists. PCIT International, Inc. maintains responsibility for this program and its content.
9. **Maintaining Certification**
10. **Certification Period**: Within Agency Trainers are certified for 2 years from the beginning date listed on their PCIT Within Agency Trainer Certificate.
11. **Re-Certification**: Certification as a PCIT Within Agency Trainer is renewable every 2 years. To renew, Within Agency Trainers must submit a brief application for re-certification and document successful completion of 6 hours of PCIT Continuing Education in programs of learning that have been preauthorized by PCIT International.