



Over 12,500 trained  
around the world since  
1995

Practiced in over 58  
countries

Named an Evidence  
Based Practice by  
SAMHSA

Endorsed by Dan  
Hughes, Daniel Siegel,  
Eliana Gil,  
Bessel van der Kolk,  
Stephen Porges and  
more...

Theraplay is trauma-  
informed and can be  
utilized in cases of  
complex, relational  
and developmental  
trauma

Theraplay is a relatively  
short term treatment  
that can lead to  
positive change in  
families from the first  
session

Theraplay Supervisors  
are highly skilled and  
crossed-trained

Theraplay training  
provides a rich, clinical  
learning experience  
and a wide variety of  
follow up support

Students choose their  
own pace and goals,  
with three levels of  
certification

## Theraplay Supervision and Certification

### Interested in Taking your Theraplay® Training to the Next Level?

Many graduates of Level One Theraplay & MIM training go on to join The Theraplay® Institute's certification practicum. In the practicum, students are matched with and guided by a Certified Theraplay Supervisor. Certified Supervisors have a minimum of two years of experience as a Certified Theraplay Practitioner and have completed a rigorous practicum to become a supervisor. Many supervisors are trained in a variety of modalities and are leaders in their field. Supervision at The Theraplay® Institute is designed to provide you with the highest level of professional support as you acquire skills and knowledge about the Theraplay modality. We recommend completing Foundational certification for minimum best practice.

### The Benefits of Adding Theraplay to Your Practice

Theraplay is an essential treatment modality for professionals who work with children and families. Theraplay focuses on the "here and now", and can provide results that cannot be obtained from talk therapies or traditional non-directive play therapy.

As an intervention, Theraplay:

- Provides a way of working with young children that is interactive and relationship based
- Addresses attachment issues faced by biological, foster and adoptive families
- Involves the caregiver in the treatment; practicing leadership, responsiveness, attunement, empathy and reflection
- Works with children who are non-verbal or that have developmental delays, the play is designed to meet the child at their level of emotional development
- Breaks through to resistant and oppositional children by working with their resistance playfully
- Achieves a quick change in the relationship dynamic of families that are stuck in negativity, often in the first few sessions

Theraplay Practitioners have found that Theraplay easily integrates with other treatment modalities such as DDP and EMDR. One supervisor stated, "Theraplay supervision will give you a theory base and techniques that go with it that you won't get anywhere else. You will get a foundation for all other methods you endeavor to learn."

We are now offering dyadic and cohort supervision options to earn a Foundational Theraplay Practitioner certificate. The dyadic option includes 2 students meeting 12 times for one hour of online supervision. Each member presents 6 times and observes 6 times. With the cohort option 4 students meet 8 times for two hours of group supervision via the internet. Over the course of the 8 meetings, each member presents 4 cases and participates in the observation of 12 others.

My experience thus far of Theraplay has been excellent. The children are responding to the format and the carers are finding the joy in their child and building the bond that they hoped would have happened when they first came into their care. –Grahame Williams (Australia)



## The Theraplay Supervision Experience

We believe that true learning starts with expert supervision. As a participant in our practicum you will receive professional, relevant and timely feedback to apply to your book learning and classroom training. Theraplay supervision will develop your skills and build your confidence to deal with your most challenging cases. It will help you feel more comfortable working with parents and clients who may have not responded to previous treatment approaches. Your new Theraplay skills can help build your reputation and your practice while providing the best treatment services to your clients. Members of The Theraplay Association also receive a free website directory listing once Foundational Theraplay Practitioner certification is completed. Each year over 25,000 people check out our directory of Theraplay Practitioners!

### Protocol Summary

#### Step 1 Complete Level I Training

#### Step 2 Apply to Practicum

Send application fee, copy of practicum attestation, license, resume or vita, proof of professional liability insurance and permission from supervisor to [robin@theraplay.org](mailto:robin@theraplay.org). Case materials (MIM and first family session) are sent to your supervisor - we will assign one if you have not made prior arrangements.

#### Step 3 Complete Foundational Practitioner requirements

Total of 8 supervised and 32 unsupervised sessions.  
*Certification requires recommendation of supervisor*

#### Step 4 Complete Intermediate Practitioner requirements

8 supervised and 32 unsupervised sessions\*  
8<sup>th</sup> session submitted is considered your Intermediate review and is sent to TTI  
*Certification requires recommendation of supervisor*

#### Step 5 Complete Level Two Training

Can be done at any time during the first half of the practicum  
The training is also open to any Level One graduate; practicum membership not required

#### Step 6 Full Certification

8 supervised and 32 unsupervised sessions\*  
Last session submitted is considered your Final review and is sent to TTI  
*Certification requires recommendation of supervisor*

*\*minimum number of sessions required*

There is no better way [than supervision] to hone your skills as a therapist and do the best work you can than to have experts in the field watch you in action and share insights, suggestions, and constructive criticism. I am so thankful for how I have grown tremendously through this experience and look forward to continuing! –Bonni Goodwin (U.S.)

**Complete practicum information is available from your supervisor  
or from Robin Shannon, Practicum Manager (email [robin@theraplay.org](mailto:robin@theraplay.org))**

## Getting Started



My name is Robin Shannon and I am the Practicum Manager. I can answer specific questions about supervision options, levels of certification or make suggestions about supervisor matches. I am also who you will contact to apply for the practicum and I will help keep track of your progress, eventually sending you your certificates. I coordinate practicum cohorts and dyads, coordinate online events and can assist with any practicum related technology questions as well. I am usually available Monday-Thursdays by phone or email to answer any questions and Fridays primarily by email.

## Educational Requirements

- A master's degree or higher in a mental health field specializing in working with children and families
- Licensure that allows you to work independently

In countries that do not follow the U.S. education and licensing model, applicants will be asked to demonstrate education equivalent to the above: they must work independently and take responsibility for the welfare of their clients according to the rules of their country.

Those who have other qualifications or specialties working with children may earn up to the Foundational level of certification. There is also a practicum for Group Therapy Practitioner. Please contact us for further information.

## Training Requirements

- Level One Theraplay & MIM: Complete four day training (price subject to change).  
Price includes textbook and 2 free web supervisions

## Join the Practicum!

- Level Two Theraplay & MIM: Complete three day training and supervision (prices subject to change).  
We recommend at least three months experience using Theraplay techniques before attending

## Levels of Certification

Practicum students receive recognition of their progress upon completion of each level:

			If using an independent supervisor:
<b>Theraplay Foundational Practitioner</b>	Application fee and 8 supervised sessions	<b>\$1200*</b>	<b>\$400**</b>
<b>Theraplay Intermediate Practitioner</b>	Minimum of 8 supervised sessions 8th session is your Intermediate Evaluation	<b>\$1075*</b>	<b>\$375**</b>
<b>Certified Theraplay Practitioner:</b>	Minimum of 8 supervised sessions 8th session is your Final Evaluation	<b>\$1075*</b>	<b>\$375**</b>
<b>Total cost application through Certified Theraplay Practitioner</b>		<b>\$3350</b>	

Fees are pay as-you-go by certificate level, you do not need to commit to completing the entire program. Scholarship funds may be available

\*Fees must be paid prior to undertaking supervision in each level. Upon starting the practicum, all fees non-refundable.

\*\*If using an independent supervisor, only the registration fee is required to begin each level of certification. After registering, independent supervisors are paid directly for supervision.

**Complete practicum information is available from your supervisor  
or from Robin Shannon, Practicum Manager (email [robin@theraplay.org](mailto:robin@theraplay.org))**



## Practicum Summary

- Total number of supervised sessions: 24 minimum
- Total number of unsupervised sessions: 96
- Total number of Theraplay cases: 7 minimum
- Time to complete program: 1 year minimum for full certification
- Cost of full certification is \$3350.

## Supervision Methods

- Independent Supervision can be provided by Certified Theraplay Supervisors in person or via secure internet file sharing and video conferencing, or by mailing DVDs or thumb drive
- The Theraplay Institute offers organized groups of two or four for students who want to achieve Foundational status more quickly for less money. Please contact us for more information or visit our website to download a flyer with more information. We also encourage students to organize Theraplay peer support groups or to receive group supervision from us on an “as needed” basis. Commitment to the practicum is not required.
- Web Supervision is offered twice a month and provides an opportunity to either present to a group over the internet or to observe another practicum student present their case. The first two observations are free after completing Level One training and, practicum students may earn credits towards certification by presenting a case online.
- Dyadic Supervision is available to groups of 2 students and Cohort Supervision is available to groups of 4 students working towards their Foundational Theraplay Certificate. For more information on the dyadic or cohort supervision go to <http://www.theraplay.org/images/stories/cohort.pdf>.

I have developed my effectiveness as a Theraplay practitioner and grown more as a professional and as a person through the fantastic supervision that I have received through the practicum... The care and professionalism I have received through this learning experience I can honestly say is the best I have ever had and I feel safe and supported knowing that I have such an experienced [supervisor] to walk with me on my journey of Theraplay discovery. –Danny Biscombe (U.K.)



### The Theraplay Institute

Mission: Building strong families and emotionally healthy children and adults through Theraplay training, treatment, advocacy and research.

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