



Infant Mental Health Endorsement®

The Internationally Recognized Credential for Culturally Sensitive, Relationship-Focused Practice

What Is It?

Endorsement is an internationally recognized credential used to demonstrate specialization in the infant-early childhood mental health (IECMH) field. Endorsement supports and recognizes the development of professionals who work with or on behalf of pregnant people, infants, young children, and their families.

Who Can Get It?

The Endorsement credential is intended for everyone who applies IECMH principles in their work through promotion, prevention/early intervention, clinical intervention/treatment, and macro scopes of practice. This includes any professional who has experience working with or on behalf of pregnant people, infants, young children, parents, and/or other caregivers. Four categories of Endorsement represent the varied disciplines that contribute to the field of IECMH.

Infant Family Associate - for individuals whose primary focus is promotion of I/ECMH. This includes early childhood educators, court-appointed special advocates (CASA), lactation consultants, early head start teachers, program administrators, home visitors, pediatric health care providers, early intervention providers, etc. This category is also available for professionals who may fit into a different category of Endorsement®, but do not yet meet all of the eligibility requirements.

Infant Family Specialist - for individuals whose primary focus is prevention/early intervention. This includes early intervention providers, early education coaches, home visitors, early childhood mental health consultants, child welfare case manager, etc.

Infant Mental Health Specialist - for individuals whose primary focus is clinical intervention/treatment. This includes mental health clinicians, psychologists, marriage and family therapists, licensed clinical social workers, and others.

Infant Mental Health Mentor - for individuals demonstrating leadership in the field. This includes a broad range of professionals under three separate designations: Policy, Clinical, and Research/Faculty. Some examples include policy specialists, faculty member, researcher, program director, executive director, state administrator, policy leader, advocacy leader, etc.

Endorsed Reflective Supervisor - for individuals providing reflective supervision. This is an add-on to the other Endorsement® categories.

Why Apply?

- To grow and develop as a professional in the expanding infant, young child and family field.
- To be recognized by employers and peers for having attained a level of competency in culturally sensitive, relationship-focused practice that promotes IECMH.
- To better support the infants, young children, families, students, agencies, and institutions in the promotion of IECMH.

How Do I Earn It?

The specific requirements for Endorsement vary for each category. Eligibility is based on specialized education, work experiences, in-service training hours, leadership, and reflective consultation experiences. The applicant must also be a member of KAIMH.

- Identify your scope of work and align that with the category of Endorsement that fits best. Promotion (e.g., early childhood education, pediatricians, child welfare, etc.) Prevention/Early Intervention (e.g., home visiting, IECMH consultation, etc.) Clinical Intervention/Treatment (e.g., infant/child parent psychotherapy, etc.) Macro (e.g., researcher, provider of reflective supervision, policy maker, etc.)
- Register on EASy, KAIMH's web-based system for applying for Endorsement: <https://kaimh.myeasy.org/> The first time you visit EASy, click Register under New Applicant
- EASy asks you to provide some details about your work, education, and RSC experiences.
- Complete and submit, including payment of the registration fee and up-to-date KAIMH membership.
- Log into EASy and prepare application. Refer to the Competency Guidelines in the application for assistance. Once completed, submit application along with payment of the processing fee.
- Application review and, for Infant/Early Childhood Mental Health Specialist & Infant/Early Childhood Mental Health Mentor applicants, successful completion of a written exam.

Endorsement! Begin using the IMH-E[®] credential after your name.

Go to <https://kaimh.myeasy.org/> to get started!



Kansas Association for Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health

www.kaimh.org