



**Certified Autism Spectrum Disorder Clinical Specialist (ASDCS) Certification Standards**  
Application Standards for Practicing Professionals in the United Kingdom

**1.0 Professional Standards**

1.1 Nationally registered, credentialed or member of the association noted:

Psychotherapist or counsellor

- Hold a full clinical membership with the UK Council for Psychotherapy (UKCP)
- Hold a full membership as a MBACP with a MA/ MSc in Counselling or Psychotherapy or MBACP-Senior Accredited or higher with the British Association for Counselling & Psychotherapy (BACP)
- Be a Senior Accredited Registrant (MNCS Snr Accred) or a Fellow Registrant with the National Counselling Society (NCS)
- Hold a Full Membership with the Association of Child Psychotherapists with a MA/ MSc in Counselling or Psychotherapy
- Hold a Full Membership with BABCP with a MA/ MSc in Counselling or Psychotherapy
- Hold a Registered Counsellor Membership with the Association of Christian Counsellors (ACC) with a MA/ MSc in Counselling or Psychotherapy
- Be a COSCA or UK Body Accredited Member of the Counselling & Psychotherapy in Scotland (COCSA) with a MA/ MSc in Counselling or Psychotherapy

Psychologist

- Hold a registration as a Psychologist with the Health & Care Professionals Council (HCPC)
- Hold a full registration as a Psychologist with the British Psychological Society (BPS)

Social Worker

- Hold a registration with the Health & Care Professionals Council (HCPC)
- Hold a Working or Independent Membership with the British Association of Social Workers (BASW)

Psychoanalytic and psychodynamic psychotherapists

- Hold a Full Membership with the British Psychoanalytic Council (BPC)

Play Therapist

- Hold a Full Membership with the British Association of Play Therapists with a MA/ MSc in Counselling or Psychotherapy

Mental Health Nurse

- Hold a Mental Health or Specialist Community Public Health Nurse registration with the Nursing & Midwifery Council

Nurse

- Hold an active registration with the Royal College of Nursing (RCN)

Medical Doctor

- Hold a Full, General or Specialist registration with the General Medical Council (GMC)

Psychiatrist

- Hold a Full, General or Specialist registration with the Royal College of Psychiatrists (RCP)

For all professions: Provisional or student registration or membership does not meet the standards for certification. Coaches do not meet the standards for certification, unless the Coach also holds a certification, registration or membership listed above.

1.2 By applying for certification, the applicant agrees to adhere to [Evergreen Certifications' Professional Code of Ethics](#)

**2.0 Educational Standards**

2.1 The applicant must meet the following education criteria (total minimum of 18 CPD hours):

Core Autism Spectrum Disorder Educational Competency Areas:

**Assessment** – identify level of autism functioning, developmental level, co-morbidities

**Neurodevelopmental** – understand brain development, cognition

**Behavior** – identify and understand both function and context of behavior; strategies to regulate meltdowns

**Communication** – develop social/emotional communication skills

**Social Skills** – interventions to improve executive functioning, emotional intelligence, theory of mind, self-regulation

**Sensory Processing** – explore sensory systems and sensory diet, distinguish between sensory vs. behavior issues

**Environment** – psychoeducation for families/caregivers/educators; strategies to adapt physical environment

**Motor Skills** – strategies for both fine and gross motor skill improvement

**Pharmacological and Nutritional Interventions** – basic knowledge

2.2 Suitable education sources are approved continuing education or professional development training as documented by certificates of completion from the accredited training organization.

Evergreen Certifications will accept courses that have been completed within 2 years of initial application for certification.

### 3.0 Clinical Experience Attestation

The applicant must attest that over the course of their career, they have a minimum of 100 clinical contact hours with clients with Autism Spectrum Disorder traits and/or diagnosis.

### 4.0 Certification Application Process

1. Submit the following documents:
  - a. A copy of the applicant's professional registration, credential, or membership
  - b. Copies of completion of training as outlined in the Educational Standards
  - c. A signed and completed application form with attestation that the candidate has met all the requirements detailed herein
2. Payment of certification application fee

Evergreen Certifications will certify candidates who meet the above requirements.

*Please note: Certification does not imply endorsement of clinical competency. As a professional, you are responsible for reviewing the scope of practice, including activities that are defined in law as beyond the boundaries of practice in accordance with and in compliance with your profession's standards.*

### 5.0 Renewal of Certification

To maintain certification, a renewal is required after your initial 2-year certification. The steps to apply for a 2-year renewal are as follows:

1. Submit the following documents:
  - a. A copy of your professional registration, credential, or membership
  - b. A completion certificate for twelve (12) CPD hours of training related to Autism Spectrum Disorder
2. Payment of renewal fee

Renewal training hours need to have been taken in the time since you were certified or last recertified. Renewals are calculated from the date that your certification was issued.

*If you allow your certification to lapse for more than 2 years, you are no longer eligible to renew your certification and instead can reapply for certification.*