



Certified Autism Spectrum Disorder Clinical Specialist (ASDCS) Certification Standards

1.0 Professional Standards

1.1 State or nationally licensed professionals as listed below AND completed all training hours and supervision requirements to be licensed for independent practice in the state they are licensed in (or equivalent if practicing outside of the United States):

- Psychologist (LP or LCP)
- School Psychologist
- Counselor
 - LCMHC
 - LCP
 - LCPC
 - LMHC
 - LPC
 - LPCC
 - LPCMH
- Social Worker
 - LCSW
 - LCSW-C
 - LICSW
 - LISW
 - LISW-CP
- LMSW if licensed in Michigan or Nebraska
- LMSW-ACP
- LSCSW
- Marriage and Family Therapist
 - LCMFT
 - LIMFT
 - LMFT
- Licensed Play Therapist (RPT)
- Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner (NP)
- Registered Nurse (RN)
- Psychiatrist (MD)
- Psychoanalyst (LP)
- Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA or BCBA-D)
- Occupational Therapist (OT)
- Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP)

Don't see your profession listed here or are you a graduate student in a mental health or allied health program? You may qualify for certification as a **Certified Autism-Informed Professional!** [Click here](#) to learn more.

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 candidate must meet the following education criteria (total minimum of 18 clock hours of continuing education):

Core Autism Spectrum Disorder Educational 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 as documented by certificates of completion from the accredited training organization.

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 license
 - 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 licensed 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, you have the option to renew for 2 years. The steps to apply for a 2-year renewal are as follows:

1. Submit the following documents:
 - a. A copy of your professional licensure
 - b. Completion certificate for twelve (12) clock hours of continuing education related to Autism Spectrum Disorder
2. Payment of renewal application fee

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

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