



## **Certified Child & Adolescent Grief Counseling Specialist (CGCS-CA) Certification Standards**

Application Standards for Practicing Professionals in the United Kingdom

### **1.0 Professional Standards**

1.1 Nationally registered, credentialed or member of one of the associations noted:

- Counsellor, Psychotherapist, or Psychologist
  - Hold a registration as a MBACP, MBACP-Accredited, MBACP-Senior Accredited or higher with the British Association for Counselling & Psychotherapy (BACP)
  - Hold a full clinical membership with the UK Council for Psychotherapy (UKCP)
  - Be an Accredited Registrant (MNCS), Professional Registrant (MNCS Prof Accred), Senior Accredited Registrant (MNCS Snr Accred) or a Fellow Registrant with the National Counselling Society (NCS)
  - Be an Accredited Member, Senior Member or Fellow with the Accredited Counsellors, Coaches, Psychotherapists and Hypnotherapists (ACCPH)
  - Hold a registration as a Practitioner Psychologist with the Health & Care Professionals Council (HCPC)
  - Hold a Full Membership with the Association of Child Psychotherapists
  - Hold a Registered Counsellor Membership with the Association of Christian Counsellors (ACC)
  - Be a COSCA or UK Body Accredited Member of the Counselling & Psychotherapy in Scotland (COCSA)
- 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
  - Hold a Certification as a Play Therapist, Practitioner in Therapeutic Play Skills, Play and Creative Arts Counsellor or Supervisor of Play and Creative Arts Therapists with the Play Therapy Register
- Mental Health Nurse
  - Hold a Mental Health or Specialist Community Public Health Nurse registration with the Nursing & Midwifery Council
- Advanced Nurse Practitioner
  - Hold an active registration with the Royal College of Nursing
- Medical Doctor
  - Hold a Full, General or Specialist registration with the General Medical Council

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.

Other applicants: Registered or credentialed professionals whose professional scope of practice allows them to diagnose and provide clinical mental health treatment plans for mental health disorders AND have met the registration or credentialing requirements in the United Kingdom are welcome to apply. If you are unsure if your professional background meets the standards for Certification, please email a copy of your educational background, professional scope of practice, membership or registration and CV to [info@evergreencertifications.com](mailto:info@evergreencertifications.com)

1.2 By applying for Certification, the applicant agrees to adhere to Evergreen Certifications' Professional Code of Ethics, available at [www.evergreencertifications.com/codeofethics](http://www.evergreencertifications.com/codeofethics)

## **2.0 Educational Standards**

2.1 The candidate must meet the following education criteria (total minimum of 12 CDP hours):

- Types of grief and their implications for treatment/interventions with children and adolescents
- Intake assessment of grieving children and adolescents, including assessment for depression, suicide, and co-occurring disorders
- Differentiate between normal, complicated, prolonged, and traumatic grief in children
- Common grief and loss reactions in each stage of childhood development
- Interventions and strategies for grief therapy or counseling based on child's developmental level
- Death vs. non-death losses, including divorce
- The process of mourning for children and adolescents
- Working through loss of a parent or sibling
- Cognitive components of understanding grief in childhood
- The importance of using concrete terms in grief work with children
- The concept of magical thinking in childhood grief
- The role of attachment and continuing bonds in childhood bereavement
- Working through regret, forgiveness, and reconciliation with children and adolescents
- Considerations for impact of loss on the family system
- Factors influencing the grief process, including multicultural and spirituality considerations, nature and type of loss, and support system
- Boundaries of professional competence and ethical considerations for working with minors and families

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 3 years of initial application for Certification.

## **3.0 Required Documentation for Certification Eligibility**

1. A copy of the candidate's professional registration, credential or membership
2. Copies of completion of training as outlined in the Educational Standards
3. 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.*

## **4.0 Required Documentation for Renewal of Certification**

To maintain Certification, a reapplication is required. The steps to apply for a 1-year reapplication are as follows:

1. Submit, via email, a copy of your professional registration, credential or membership as well as a completion certificate for six (6) CPD hours of training on any of the following topics to [info@evergreencertifications.com](mailto:info@evergreencertifications.com)
  - a. Grief and loss in children and adolescents

- b. Depression in children and adolescents
  - c. Suicide, suicide loss, suicidality, or self-harm in children and adolescents
2. Payment of re-certification application fee

You can also apply for reapplication for 2 or 3 years. Follow the process above, submitting twelve (12) CPD hours of training for a 2-year reapplication, and eighteen (18) CPD hours of training for a 3-year application.

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

*If you allow your Certification to lapse for more than 3 years, you are no longer eligible to renew your Certification and instead can reapply for Certification.*