



Certified Narcissistic Abuse Treatment Clinician (NATC) Certification Standards

1.0 Professional Standards

1.1 To be eligible for certification, the applicant must have earned a minimum of a master's degree in their profession AND hold a state or national license as listed below, with all training hours and supervision requirements completed 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)
- 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
- Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner (NP)
- Psychiatrist (MD)
- Psychoanalyst (LP)
- Addiction Counselor

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 36 hours of continuing education):

Diagnosis and Assessments: gain knowledge on the use of various diagnostic frameworks used when working with an individual with a personality disorder characterized by antagonism and/or impulsivity, and able to recognize co-occurring disorders.

Personality Disorders: gain knowledge of the differences and similarities, including behaviors amongst antagonistic and high conflict personality disorders with a primary focus on narcissism, assessment of these personality patterns, and the presentation of antagonistic patterns in a variety of relationship. Gain knowledge varying issues in personality disorders and maladaptive personality patterns. Gain knowledge of cultural factors that influence the development of personality disorders.

Trauma: understand the relationship between trauma, post-traumatic stress, complex trauma and any other forms of trauma and the experience of persons who have been impacted by a person who has an antagonistic personality style including narcissism.

Abuse: gain knowledge of the cycle of abuse as it pertains specifically to the narcissistic abuse/antagonistic relational stress cycle; gain awareness of types of abuse beyond physical and sexual abuse including psychological, verbal,

emotional, financial, court abuse, workplace abuse, and coercive control. Gain awareness of relational dynamics such as gaslighting which can foster client confusion and self-blame. Learn the meaning of narcissistic abuse/antagonistic relational stress cycles (within the family, in adult intimate relationships and workplace relationships). Understanding the continuum of narcissistic abuse/antagonistic relational stress including but not limited to post-separation abuse.

The Fallout of Narcissistic Abuse: gain knowledge on the emotional, cognitive, behavioral, perceptual, and physical impacts of narcissistic abuse; understand the heterogeneity of survivor patterns and how this may vary as a function of relationship, exposure, and pre-existing history.

Relationships: learn about the dynamics of antagonistic relationships, abuse in different types of relationships including romantic/intimate, family of origin, adult children, friendships, workplace, etc. Learn how to gain knowledge about the client's relationship with themselves, how clients conceptualize, establish, and maintain healthy boundaries and foster strengths-based practices around healthy self-appraisal, resilience, recovery capital, and social support.

Treatment: understand how to use a trans-theoretical approach to treatment and intervention with clients experiencing narcissistic/antagonistic relationship including the following, but not limited to:

- Learn how to employ an antagonism -informed framework.
- Comprehensive assessment of client history informed by their current and history of narcissistic/antagonistic relationships. Address co-occurring mental health issues, grief, and betrayal.
- Enhance radical acceptance and fortifying supports.
- Application of psychoeducation which is a key element of intervention with clients experiencing narcissistic abuse/antagonistic relational stress.
- Gain awareness of the differences and similarities in approaching clients who maintain ongoing contact with these relationships versus those who end these relationships.
- Learn how to remain aware of the client's propensity for self-blame, the limited choices often available to clients.
- Learn how to be antagonism informed when engaging in treatment planning and case conceptualization.
- Gain awareness of the effectiveness of complementary therapeutic approaches such as group therapy and support groups, trauma informed therapy, and mindfulness informed therapies.
- Learn how to utilize culturally and intersectionally informed interventions.
- Learn how to foster subjectivity, individuation, and autonomy in clients.

Cultural/Intersectional Awareness and Competency: Understand narcissistic abuse/antagonistic relational stress within a framework of power asymmetries the client may be experiencing not just in their interpersonal relationships but in the world at large including but not limited to dynamics inherent in therapy, intersectional factors including race/ethnicity, social class, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, nationality, religion, immigration status, age, etc. Gain awareness of disparities and how this may impact the client's engagement with institutional systems and access to therapy.

Legal and professional considerations: Learn strategies to manage family court, custody, and co-parenting issues, basic familiarity with related systems (such as family court, DV systems, CPS, divorce attorneys, mediators, custody evaluators), and common errors clinicians make in these cases. Learn about unique confidentiality issues raised by these cases. Explore how to avoid common ethical and legal pitfalls made by clinicians. Types of consultation to consider when managing these cases. Highlighting suicidality assessment; child abuse, neglect, maltreatment reporting, elder abuse reporting; and awareness of domestic violence.

2.2 Suitable education sources are approved continuing education 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 Skills Application

- The applicant must obtain a passing score of least 70% on the clinical skills application exam.

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 application form with attestation that the candidate has met all the requirements as detailed herein
2. Payment of certification application fee

Evergreen Certifications will certify applicants 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 license
 - b. Completion certificate for 15 hours of continuing education in any of the following topics:
 - i. Narcissistic abuse/Antagonistic relational Stress
 - ii. Psychological/emotional abuse
 - iii. Personality disorders
 - iv. High-conflict custody/divorce issues
 - v. Domestic abuse/violence/intimate partner violence
 - vi. Coercive control
2. Payment of renewal 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 and instead can reapply for certification.