

Q. What are the benefits of certification?

- A. Certification authorizes you to use the FGNA service marks and certification marks in the USA and Canada, on electronic and printed materials directly related to the practice of the *Feldenkrais Method*®, and training programs accredited by FGNA. Certification supports your right to work in states and provinces that regulate hands-on work, and protects the profession and the public by requiring completion of educational and professional practice requirements, implementation of written Continuing Competence Plans, and adherence to FGNA Policies “E2.3.2.1 *Feldenkrais Method* Standards of Practice”, “E2.3.3.2 Code of Professional Conduct”, and “E2.4.2.1 Service Marks, Certification Marks and Trademarks”.

Q. How do I become certified?

- A. Forms and information are available on the Membership and Certification page at www.feldenkraisguild.com, or by contacting the FGNA office.

Q. What are the annual requirements for certification renewal?

- A. As provided in FGNA Policies “E2.3.1.2 Continuing Competence” and “E2.3.1.1 *Feldenkrais* Practitioner Certification,” the requirements for certification renewal are:
1. **Professional Experience:** Each year you must engage in at least 100 hours of professional practice of the *Feldenkrais Method* (prorated for periods of less than one year).
 2. **Continuing Competence:** Each year you must:
 1. Reflect on the plan of the previous year and certify that you have completed it (if applicable)
 2. Complete a self-assessment based on the FGNA *Feldenkrais* Practitioner Profile or the IFF Competency Profile (“FGNA Policy E2.3.2.4 IFF Competency Profile 2008”)
 3. Identify learning needs
 4. Write a plan which includes at least twenty hours of learning
 5. Certify that you intend to implement the current plan
 3. Agree to comply with the FGNA Policies “E2.3.2.1 *Feldenkrais Method* Standards of Practice”, “E2.3.3.2 Code of Professional Conduct”, and “E2.4.2.1 Service Marks, Certification Marks and Trademarks”.
 4. Complete the applicable form(s) and pay the applicable fee by December 1.

Q. How long does certification last?

- A. Certification is effective for one calendar year or less, and expires each year on December 31, with the exception that practitioners graduating after June 30 are eligible to receive initial certification with an effective date ending December 31 of the calendar year following the year of graduation.

Q. I haven’t met the requirements for certification renewal, or my certification has lapsed. What do I do?

- A. You may apply for Provisional Certification, which allows you to continue to be certified, while fulfilling the requirements for professional experience and Continuing Competence.

Q. How do I apply for Provisional Certification?

- A. Forms are available at www.feldenkraisguild.com or by contacting the FGNA office. In order to apply, you will need to complete at least ten hours of learning. You must agree to complete the remaining ten hours before your Provisional Certification expires. You must also agree to follow FGNA Policies, complete the applicable form(s) and pay the applicable fee. While you are provisionally certified, you must complete all of the annual Certification requirements in order to be eligible for Certification the following year.

Q. Who needs to write a Continuing Competence Plan?

- A. All certified practitioners are required to write a Continuing Competence Plan, unless they have received Twenty Year Certification or Lifetime Certification.

Q. Why does the Continuing Competence Policy specify a minimum number of hours of professional practice and learning?

- A. This ensures that you continue your professional development. The requirement assumes that you are capable of self-identifying the kinds of competencies that you need to develop, and determining the amount of time that you need to devote to Continuing Competence activities, which may be over and above the requirements.

Q. Is there a list of "Approved" providers and types of learning?

- A. FGNA does not approve providers or types of learning. You are encouraged to develop your own learning opportunities to meet your individual learning needs.

Q. Why doesn't FGNA specify that certain topics must be reviewed each year?

- A. The Continuing Competence process includes an annual cycle of reflecting on the previous year's plan, completing a self-assessment, identifying learning needs, and writing a new plan. This will lead to greater competence, over a series of years, than requiring specific topics in a year.

Q. What activities meet the requirement for 100 hours of professional practice?

- A. See the Competencies and Areas of Activity that are detailed in the FGNA *Feldenkrais* Practitioner Profile, and the IFF Competency Profile.

Q. Do I have to keep records?

- A. You need to keep copies of your written Continuing Competence Plans for three years. Please do not send these to FGNA. However, during a certification audit or investigation, it may be necessary to submit your records.

Q. Can I take time off from meeting the professional practice and Continuing Competence requirements?

- A. You may receive a 'sabbatical' from the Professional Practice and Continuing Competence requirements for up to one year out of any seven-year period. During your 'sabbatical' you must still renew your certification, and fulfill other certification requirements, including payment of the applicable fees.

Q. For how many years must I fulfill the Continuing Competence and Professional Practice requirements?

- A. If you have twenty cumulative years of certification and practice, you are eligible for Twenty-Year Certification, and can become exempt from Professional Practice and Continuing Competence requirements, provided that you meet other requirements. If you graduated from an accredited *Feldenkrais* training program prior to 1984 and have practiced the *Feldenkrais Method* continuously for at least 20 years, you are eligible for Lifetime Certification, provided they meet other requirements.

Q. Can I lose my certification?

- A. You can lose your certification by not fulfilling the requirements, not sending in the renewal form, or not paying the required fees. In addition, the Board of Directors may revoke certification for violations of FGNA policies, or for other cause.

Q. If I lose my certification, what are the consequences?

- A. If you lose your certification, you may not refer to yourself as a *Feldenkrais* practitioner or teacher, and you may not use any words or phrases that are service marks, trademarks or certification marks of FGNA, in association with any services or products that you offer.