

Updated October 8, 2017

IAYT Board Charge to the Certification Committee

Certification Committee Structure

The Certification Committee (CC) shall be a semi-autonomous, standing committee of the IAYT board of directors appointed by the IAYT president in consultation with IAYT board members, the executive director, and current members of the CC. The CC shall conduct its work in accordance with a set of bylaws approved by the board, and shall work in partnership with a CC manager appointed by the executive director in consultation with CC members. The CC manager shall report to the executive director, and shall be responsible for the administration and operations of the CC; see below for further information on the role of the CC manager.

Primary Charge to the Certification Committee

The primary charge to the CC is to develop the criteria, policies and procedures—including the application materials—to grant IAYT certification¹ as a yoga therapist in a manner that is consistent with (i) the IAYT Educational Standards, (ii) the IAYT accreditation process for yoga therapy programs, and (iii) the general certification guidelines and avenues articulated previously by IAYT, as outlined below.

The CC may also develop other proposals to present to the IAYT board related to the certification process, and may be charged with other tasks that are essential—or directly related—to its primary charge, including overseeing continuing education requirements for renewal, establishment of Approved Professional Development courses, and the possible development of a certification exam in the future.

Certification Guidelines and Avenues

IAYT Yoga Therapist Certification (C-IAYT) opened in May 2016 for Grandparenting under two pathways and for graduated of Accredited programs. Grandparenting closed June 30, 2017. Currently, the only avenue to C-IAYT is graduation for an IAYT Accredited Program. Details of the grandparenting pathways are in previous versions of the Charge.

IAYT certification will only be available to yoga therapists who are IAYT members in good standing.

Once the certification process is fully developed and implemented, it is anticipated that the actual granting of certification will be primarily an administrative process carried out by IAYT staff, based on the criteria, policies and procedures established by the Committee. It is further anticipated that the Committee will be the decision-making body for cases that fall outside of established policies, a situation that will likely occur more frequently in the first few years, and will serve as an appeals body for applicants who are denied certification administratively.

Timetable

- The Committee should provide a progress reports two weeks prior to the IAYT board meeting in February of each year.

Role of the Certification Manager

It is anticipated that the certification process will be managed by a certification manager, who will generally be responsible for developing the actual application materials, and for

overseeing and administering the entire application submission and review process, consistent with the broad criteria, policies and procedures developed and/or approved by the CC. The CC manager will also be responsible for overseeing the development and implementation of an IT system that meets the needs of the certification process and integrates with IAYT's current membership management system. Other responsibilities include taking minutes of CC meetings, sharing information with the Committee and staff, and handling Committee logistics.

Financing the Certification Process

The committee is responsible for recommending appropriate fees to IAYT for submitting the certification application and maintaining certification and for all other programs which fall under their purview. Fee recommendations shall be developed in consultation with the IAYT executive director. In general, fees should be set at a level sufficient to support the costs of providing the various services, including an appropriate contribution to IAYT's overhead expenses; additionally, fee income should be sufficient to reimburse IAYT over time for the expenditures required to create and implement the certification and related processes.

Continuing Education

The committee is responsible for recommending a continuing education requirement for the IAYT certified yoga therapist designation. Attendance at IAYT's annual conference will count as one way to satisfy the continuing education requirement.
