



# **New Mexico Association for Infant Mental Health**

## **Competency Guidelines**

### **LEVEL 1, INFANT FAMILY ASSOCIATE**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The Level 1 Competency Guidelines have been adopted by the New Mexico Association for Infant Mental Health to clearly describe the areas of expertise, responsibilities, and behaviors that demonstrate competency at this level. Level 1 practitioners have earned a minimum of an Associates degree or a Child Development Associate (CDA), and/or have at least two years paid work experience in the infant, early childhood, and family field, and meet the competencies defined in the Competency Detail for Level 1. Examples of practitioners for whom Level 1 competencies are appropriate include but are not limited to child care professionals, home visitors, Developmental Specialist I, Doulas, and Promotoras. Each professional who works with families, infants and toddlers deserves and requires supervision and/or consultation that enhances his/her ability to be self aware, and to examine his/her professional and personal thoughts and feelings in response to work within the infant and family field. Reflective supervision and/or consultation are recommended for Level 1 practitioners.





## NMAIMH ENDORSEMENT REQUIREMENTS INFANT FAMILY ASSOCIATE LEVEL 1

<b>Education, Work Experience and Training</b>	<b>Requirements: Preparation of a Portfolio</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. a) Official transcript from Child Development Associate (CDA) <b>or</b> b) Official transcript from Associate's degree (AD) in related area <b>or</b> c) two years early childhood-related paid work experience (include official transcripts from any college courses completed toward CDA or AD); and</li><li>2. 30 clock hours of relationship-based education and training pertaining to the social and emotional development of infants, toddlers and families</li></ol>
<b>Professional Reference Ratings:</b>	Three ratings from: Teacher, CDA mentor, instructor, supervisor, consultant and/or colleague  At least one of the ratings must be from a current teacher, CDA mentor, instructor, or supervisor. Also, at least one of the ratings must come from an individual who meets NMAIMH Endorsement requirements at Level 2, 3, or 4 (see Level 2, 3, or 4).
<b>Code of Ethics Statement, Agreement, Candidate's Waiver:</b>	Signed
<b>Documentation of Competencies:</b>	Written examination is not required for applicants seeking Endorsement at Level 1
<b>Professional Membership:</b>	Membership in NMAIMH or another infant mental health association
<b>Education and Training:</b>	<b>Continuing Endorsement Requirements:</b>  15 clock hours per year of relationship-based education and training, approved by the organization, specific to the social and emotional well-being of infants, toddlers and families (e.g. regional training, related course work at colleges or universities, infant mental health conference attendance, local training); documentation of training hours submitted with membership renewal
<b>Professional Membership:</b>	Annual renewal of membership in NMAIMH or another infant mental health association.

