



International Council for Education
in Ayres Sensory Integration

Covid-19 adaptations for the onsite components of ASI training programs

Given the current global pandemic and the impact on national and international travel, the ICEASI wishes to clarify its position on possible adaptations to ASI training programs and ensure they continue to be in accordance with the ICEASI MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR TRAINING PROGRAMS IN AYRES SENSORY INTEGRATION.

Minimum Standards for Training Programs in Ayres Sensory Integration include specific references to the duration of the program (minimum 120 hours) and to the content that should be included (theory, assessment, clinical reasoning, intervention, fidelity to ASI). Large portions of the content of ASI training programs can be delivered online as they essentially involve lectures and personal study. However, the ICEASI standards for education also include hands on and onsite learning opportunities in the areas of standardized test administration (minimum 22 hours onsite with access to testing materials for hands on practice in administration) and intervention (minimum 16 hours on site with access to ASI treatment space and equipment; observation of three demonstrations of therapy; discussion and clinical reasoning on the sessions).

Courses or portions of courses which are meant to be onsite but due to the pandemic and travel restrictions are being delivered "Live Online" must be considered carefully in order to ensure that the onsite experiences specified in the standards are not lost. During the pandemic and resultant travel restrictions, ICEASI will consider the following adaptations or combinations of adaptations as acceptable substitutes for the onsite components of ASI training programs:

- ✓ "Live Online" tutoring/demonstrations using a technology that allows the instructor and the participant to interact (see and hear) in real time. For example, the instructor can see the participant administer the test to another person and opportunity for discussion and questions are provided.
- ✓ Feedback on assignments (case studies and test administration) using technology that allows the instructor and the participant to interact in real time; or through instructor review of videos of the participant (for example for test administration); or through instructor review of case study reports.
- ✓ Complement "Live Online" sessions with the main instructor, with hands-on experience with local mentors to ensure that the fundamental aspects of the onsite course experience are not lost. For example, participants may observe live sessions of ASI intervention (M6 complement) in a fully equipped space and carried out by a local certified therapist (mentor level).
- ✓ Opportunities to experiment with the SI equipment in a fully equipped space in a local clinic.

ICEASI hopes that these guidelines will provide support to organizations who are currently challenged with the delivery of ASI training due to COVID-19. If there are any questions or uncertainties, please feel free to contact ICEASI at iceasi.ec@gmail.com for further support.

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