



EASA Certification Process



The purpose of certifying EASA staff is the following:

1. To honor the work of EASA clinicians.
2. To assure all EASA clinicians receive training and support on all the treatment modalities that have an evidence base to assist individuals with early symptoms of psychosis and that the EASA steering committee (made up of clinicians, administrators, EASA families and participants) found essential in defining EASA work.
3. To assist in certifying non-certified clinicians.
4. To establish a list of trainers that the EASA Center for Excellence can reach recruit to assist in the training of The EASA Program Clinicians and other national early psychosis programs.

The EASA certification is not:


1. A profession based certification. The reason for this is to honor the transdisciplinary nature of the program and to foster an understanding and respect for the work that all disciplines do within the program.

We now have three levels of EASA Certification achievement – Preliminary, Intermediate, and Advanced. Once the preliminary level of certification is met, a CEU certificate will be awarded to the clinician for the consultation hours (training not included) necessary to meet certification. The lower level of certification must be met before a higher level of certification can be awarded. Below is a description of the three levels to the certification process.

Preliminary EASA Certification:

2-day EASA Intro Training – This is met when the clinician attends the EASA Intro Training offered by the EASA Center for Excellence. 

26 Hours of Supervision – These 26 hours are met via the clinical consultation calls, which all disciplines are encouraged to attend or with onsite individual meetings or group consultation meetings with staff from the EASA Center for Excellence or a Certified EASA Clinician (defined as a clinician who has completed the advanced level of certification).

Differential Diagnosis Training – This is met when the clinician attends the Differential Diagnosis with Psychosis and (Structured Interview for Psychosis Risk Syndromes) SIPS training offered by the EASA Center for Excellence. 

Community Education – This is met with a community education demonstration is reviewed and feedback is provided by an EASA Center for Excellence Staff or a Certified EASA Clinician.

Letter of Support (from supervisor) – This can be met with either a letter of support from any level of supervisor indicating support for the clinician's role in EASA and the fidelity process. It also can be met with a verbal commitment to the program and its fidelity.

Supervisor Attended Supervisor Training – This can be met by any level of supervisor attending a specific training offered by EASA for supervisors or attending the EASA Intro Training.

Intermediate EASA Certification:

Multi-Family Psychoeducation Groups (MFG) 2-day Training – This is met after a clinician has completed the MFG training offered by the EASA Center for Excellence or another equivalent MFG training. 🌐

36 Hours of Differential Dx Supervision – This is met after the clinician has received 36 hours of consultation around differential dx issues with EASA clients and/or EASA referrals by staff from the EASA Center for Excellence. The consultation can occur via the EASA Screeners consultation call or during clinical calls where diagnosis is discussed. The consultation can also occur during individual or group consultations outside the consultation calls.

10 Case Presentations for Differential Dx – This is met after a clinician either during a consultation call or other consultation presents 10 individual cases for diagnostic clarification or confirmation. This can be for an individual suspected of experiencing a first episode of psychosis or where a Structured Interview for Psychosis Syndromes (SIPS) was completed. For clinicians that do not routinely complete assessments or EASA screenings, this can be met by reviewing an assessment or screening completed by another EASA clinician with a member of the EASA Center for Excellence or Certified EASA Clinician. For example a Supported Employment/Education specialist can meet this by being present during a case presentation (one are familiar and/or working with) completed by an EASA screener with a member of the EASA Center for Excellence or Certified EASA Clinician present.

3 Screenings/Assessments Reviewed for Differential Dx – This is met after a clinician reviews and receives feedback of a written assessment and/or EASA screening with a member of the EASA Center for Excellence or another certified EASA clinician. The assessments that can be reviewed to meet these criteria include an EASA Screening, a Mental Health Assessment, a Psychiatric Assessment or an Occupational Therapy Assessment. For clinicians that do not routinely complete assessments or EASA screenings, this can be met by reviewing an assessment or screening completed by another EASA clinician with a member of the EASA Center for Excellence or Certified EASA Clinician. This does include assessments/screening reviewed during an EASA fidelity review.

Assessment and Tx Planning – 3 copies each of:

- Strengths assessments
- Risk assessments
- Recovery Plans
- Relapse Prevention Plans
- Transition Plans

This is met after a clinician reviews and receives feedback of a written above materials with a member of the EASA Center for Excellence or another Certified EASA Clinician. For clinicians that do not routinely complete the above assessments, this can be met by reviewing an assessment by another EASA clinician with a member of the EASA Center for Excellence or Certified EASA Clinician. This does include review of the above materials during an EASA fidelity review.

****Any of above documents can also be reviewed by uploading document to VCP****

Advanced EASA Certification:

Psycho-social Practices/Certification –

- Motivational Interviewing (MI)
- Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (CBT)
- Strengths-Based Treatment Planning (SB)
- Dual Diagnosis (DD)
- Client Outcomes (CO) (examples include Feedback Informed Treatment, ACORN etc.)

Supported Education/Employment –

- Individual Placement and Support (IPS)
- Career Information System (CIS)

This is met when a clinician receives or indicates that they have completed training in the above treatment models. This can be met by either attending a training offered by the EASA Center for Excellence staff or by another equivalent training. Examples of equivalent training would be a course taken as part of a graduate program or a minimum of a 6 hour CEU training in any of the above areas. Knowledge of the above models is considered essential in the treatment of individuals in the early stage of psychosis.

Video Review – This is met when a video is reviewed demonstrating one of the above skill sets by a member of the EASA Center for Excellence or an EASA Certified Clinician. The video can be reviewed by uploading it to the EASA Center for Excellence VCP and notifying the EASA Clinical Director it is uploaded for review.

Review of 3 Feedback Forms – This is met when a clinician reviews feedback received by an EASA participant with an EASA Center for Excellence Staff or a Certified EASA Clinician (3x). Ideally this would be done by reviewing feedback and outcome forms from the FIT or ACORN model, however that is not required.

Review of 3 FACT Meetings – This is met when an EASA Center for Excellence Staff or a Certified EASA Clinician observes and provides feedback either in person or via video of a FACT meeting where the clinician was present. This does include observation of the FACT meeting as part of the EASA fidelity review.

15 Hours of MFG Supervision – These hours are met via the clinical consultation calls, which all disciplines are encouraged to attend or with onsite individual meetings or group consultation meetings with staff from the EASA Center for Excellence or a Certified EASA Clinician.

Fidelity Review of:

- Joining
- Workshop
- 3 problem solving groups

The above reviews are met when a video of each of the components of the MFG are reviewed and feedback is provided from an EASA Center for Excellence Staff or a Certified EASA Clinician.

Passed Medication Exam – This is met when a clinician completes and passes (80%) the on-line open book medications exam. LMPS and RNs do not have to complete this exam. The knowledge is assumed as part of their training.

Data Collections – This portion of the EASA is certification is suspended as we develop the new EASA database. It may be reintroduced once the new database is completed. It may require training on use of the database and demonstration of entering 5 clients' information accurately.

**You can check your certification status at any time by contacting
Halley Doherty-Gary (hal7@pdx.edu) or Katie Hayden-Lewis (kah@pdx.edu)**

A user-friendly rubric for the evaluation of certification elements is coming soon!