



## **DIRFloortime® Advanced Certification**

Interdisciplinary Council on Development and Learning (ICDL)

DIRFloortime® is a revolutionary approach to identifying, preventing and treating developmental and learning disorders in young children, especially those on the autism spectrum. It focuses on social-emotional functioning as the basis for all other aspects of development, and on relationships as the vehicles for promoting children's capacities to relate, communicate and think. DIR® is a **D**evelopmental, **I**ndividual-differences, & **R**elationship-based approach which has become the foundation for understanding child development and providing support and intervention to help children reach their fullest potential. DIRFloortime® (also known as Floortime) uses the DIR® foundation to provide an intervention for children with Autism and other mental health and developmental disabilities that has been shown through research and practice to be very effective.

TTI is proud to offer DIRFloortime® Advanced Certification program with ICDL. This is a progressive assessment-based certificate program which means that you must successfully complete one course at a time to progress to the next. As an assessment-based certificate program, each participant's Floortime skills are assessed using an assessment rubric and each participant must earn a passing rating in order to earn the official certificate.

This program efficiently and effectively meets the needs of those who want to start using DIRFloortime® principles in their communities, and make a difference in the lives of so many children and adults while being respectful of their interests and right for self-determination.

### **Fast Program Facts**

- 13-month part-time program.
- Women only.
- Class is held online every Sunday via a digital classroom platform.
- Program includes an introductory course (3 weeks) plus three 14 week courses: DIR Floortime® 201, 202 and 203
- Class times are:
  - Sunday Morning:  
Introductory course; 10am-2pm, Sunday  
DIR Floortime® 201, 202 and 203: 10am-12pm
  - Weekday Evening (exact day and time TDB):  
Introductory course  
DIR Floortime® 201, 202 and 203
- Approximately two hour of class-time and 2-4 hours of homework during the week.
- Experienced, professional, and culturally sensitive professors.
- Program structured around the Yomim Tovim and Jewish Calendar.

### **Prerequisites**

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A bachelor's degree with a 3.0 GPA is required for completion of program.

Highly recommended for Occupational Therapists, Speech Therapists, Psychologists, Counselors, Social Workers, Teachers, Early Intervention Specialists, Day Care Professionals, Art Therapists, Music Therapists, and any other professional that supports or wishes to support the development of infants, children, young adults, and adults.

### More information about Floortime Therapy

- Floortime therapy, as part of a proposed treatment plan, must be determined by a QHP (Qualified Healthcare Professional) capable of making a diagnosis of autism. Providers must meet license qualification determined by each state.
- Floortime is an alternative to ABA and is sometimes used in combination with ABA therapies.
- Different types of professionals seek special training in Floortime techniques, including (but not limited to):
  - Child psychologists
  - Special education teachers
  - Speech therapists
  - Occupational therapists
- All Medicaid plans must cover treatments that are medically necessary for children under the age of 21. If a doctor recommends Floortime and says it is medically necessary for your child, Medicaid must cover the cost. (source: Autismspeaks.org)
- Taking care of a child with autism can be overwhelming at times, but there are services available to help. Effective July 1, 2020, Horizon NJ Health covers medically necessary DIR (Developmental, Individual-differences and Relationship-based model) services for children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). DIR services are clinical services intended to help providers understand how each person individually perceives and interacts with their environment and how this contributes to their social-emotional development. The need for DIR services must be determined by a health care professional who is qualified to make an autism diagnosis. DIR services require prior authorization. (source: HorizonNJHealth.com)
- Occupational therapy, speech therapy, and mental health appointments can receive varying amounts of out-of-network insurance coverage dependent on the insurance provider and the insurance plan's out-of-network coverage.

### Course Outcomes

Students receive a certificate of attendance (for continuing education) per course, and a certificate of competency. When all three courses are completed successfully, they may call themselves a DIRFloortime® provider.

### Program Costs

Application Fee: \$100

Program fee for nonmembers: \$750

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Program fee members: \$500  
Tuition: \$2600 (payable to ICDL)

### **Important Dates**

Application Deadline: August 25, 2022  
Start Date: September 4, 2022

### **How to Apply**

Fill out the application on the TTI website: <https://testingandtraining.com/floortime-application/>  
\*Information provided in this overview was taken directly from the ICDL website. For more information about ICDL, visit [www.icdl.com](http://www.icdl.com)

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