

ATSS Association of Traumatic Stress Specialist

The Mission of the Association of Traumatic Stress Specialists is to Help the Traumatized through International Service, Education and Professional Development

The Association of Traumatic Stress Specialists (ATSS) has internationally recognized certifications for trauma responders. It is a membership Association which develops standards of service and education for those who provide critical emotional care to trauma victims and survivors. ATSS has always endeavored to recognize and support both service providers and the consumers affected by all aspects of trauma in the international setting. ATSS is dedicated to excellence in training, education and experience to ensure that victims of crime, abuse, war, terrorism and disasters receive the most compassionate and effective care as possible.

Our Membership

ATSS members represent, emergency responders, peer counselors, victim assistance staff, emergency preparedness and disaster workers, child and adult victim advocates, grief counselors, fire fighters, the clergy and chaplaincy, public safety officers, addictions specialists, psychiatrists, psychologists, social work, marriage and family counselors, hospice staff nurses, school and college counselors, employee assistance and others engaged in helping victims and survivors heal. ATSS members are actively involved in crisis intervention and disaster management, victim services, emergency and trauma response and longer-term treatment of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and other disorders.

Graduate Certificate Program in Trauma.

CTS certification was created for counselors, clinicians, and treatment specialists who provide individual, group, and/or family counseling, therapy or support to trauma victims. Individuals who are certified may engage in clinical practice with trauma survivors.

Program Description

The Certified Trauma Specialist (CTS) is appropriate for counselors and treatment specialists who provide individual, group, and/or family counseling and support to trauma survivors, and/or conventionally recognized trauma treatments and interventions and/or are facilitators of trauma recovery groups.

The graduate certificate program in trauma is designed to provide graduate students with specialization in trauma which includes the necessary core functions and competencies of trauma intervention, counseling and therapy. This body of knowledge will allow the student to earn their Certified Trauma Specialist (CTS) credential from the National Association of Trauma Specialist Certification Board. (ATSS).

The certificate classes will be offered as electives in the graduate counseling curricula. ATSS certifies the students qualify under ATSS for minimum Standards of Education and Training in trauma and trauma treatment. After completion of the Graduate Certificate program, students will be required to meet the additional requirements in order to be certified such as documented 2,000 providing counseling, therapy, group treatment, support group facilitation specific to trauma. This certificate will not waive other ATSS requirements.

Program Objectives

The certificate in Trauma is designed to equip select counseling graduate students with specific skills and knowledge in the area of substance abuse counseling. The primary objectives are to increase the educational knowledge (cognitive) and skills (practice) in Trauma counseling, intervention and support among mental health professionals, and to increase the number of trauma counselors in the state who are academically prepared to become trauma practitioners.

Admission Requirements

- Completion of an undergraduate degree
- Current enrollment in graduate mental health program
- Completion of the four academic courses and a second year field placement

NOTE: These academic courses can be utilized by others holding a master's level degree in psychology, social work, criminal justice, psychiatry or other human services field as partial fulfillment of the ATSS requirements. Such candidate would have to comply with all other requirements for certification by the Board.

ATSS Association of Traumatic Stress Specialist

Offering international certification in traumatic stress services, response and treatment for the programs.

Certified Trauma Specialist (CTS)

Program Certification

For Master level Graduate programs related to Counseling

Certified Trauma Specialist (CTS)

Instructions & Application Kit

Association of Traumatic Stress Specialists

c/o

MHANJ

88 Pompton Ave

Verona, NJ

Attn: Lauren De Poto

Phone: 973-559-9200 Fax: 973-857-0682

E-mail: Admin@atss.info

www.atss.info



Title of the Program _____

School Affiliation (if any) _____

Name of Program Coordinator/Applicant _____

Certification & Membership Number _____

Contact Address, e-mail _____

Phone & Fax Numbers _____

For Headquarters Use Only

Program certification Number _____

Expiration Date _____

ATSS Association of Traumatic Stress Specialist

CTS Application Checklist

Please submit your application with the documents in the following order with this checklist and the cover page:

1. Non-refundable Certification fee in U.S. funds only: USD 250.00
2. Letter of Intent which would indicate type of sought certification (CTS, CTR or CTSS); School name, Program name, Address/Phone/Website
3. Program Coordinator information
4. Program Description: goals, objectives, terminal degree, license, certifications
5. Program Curriculum.

Send the check and original application to ATSS Headquarters

Faxes will not be accepted

All the supporting certification documents and the Certification fee must accompany your application.

Allow 90-120 days after your packet is received for notice on the certification status. Questions should be directed to Elena Cherepanov at elena.cherepanov@cambridgecollege.edu

The above information has been submitted and is correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of the Program Coordinator_____

Date_____

ATSS Association of Traumatic Stress Specialist

Certified Trauma Specialist Application Instructions

Applicants are responsible for compliance with application requirements and instructions. If you submit an incomplete application, the Certification Board will not be able to complete the review of the application.

Your application fee is non-refundable.

1. Application Package

2. Documentation of Education and Training (See Below)

The package must be sent to the address:

Association of Traumatic Stress Specialists
c/o MHANJ • 88 Pompton Avenue - Verona, NJ 07044

Documentation of Education and Training

Master level in Counseling Field

Trauma Counseling Certification Program

Curriculum

1. The Graduate degree in the Counseling field will automatically satisfy 90 hours of the 240 hours:

2. Intake/Initial Assessment
3. Differential Diagnosis/Dual Diagnosis
4. Treatment Planning/Case Management
5. Counseling-Individual, Family, and Group
7. Community Recourses/Referral
11. Ethical Issues

TOTAL.....90 clock hours (*Below See Suggested Breakdown)

Documentation and verification of 90 hours training & education in those six areas will be required if you do not have proof of a graduate degree in a counseling field

2. Other Core Courses.....74 clock hours

CTS Course	Corresponding School Course	Clock Hours
1.Post-Traumatic Stress Reactions		24
6. Special Populations**		18
8. Advocacy /Legal systems		12
9. Crisis Intervention		12
10. Community/Large Scale Disasters/Disaster Mental Health		8
	TOTAL	74 clock hours

These courses must be accompanied by Course Outlines.

3. Elective Courses76 clock hours

Prior to signing up for the electives, student must receive written approval from the Program Coordinator. It is student's responsibility to make sure that the courses outlines are available for the Program Coordinator beforehand. Without that there will be NO GUARANTEE that the hours will be accepted.

Below is the list of the courses workshops which can be offered by training program or taken in the continuing education format. Their contents are satisfying the CTS requirements.

Some elective hours may be taken in the required areas of training from the following:

- **Crime Victimization**
- **Terrorism**
- **Social & Political Oppression**
- **Sexual Assault**
- **Counter-Transference**
- **Domestic Violence**
- **Hostages**
- **Childhood Abuse:**
- **Holocaust Survivors**
- **Suicide**
- **Homicide**
- **Death, Dying and Grief, Traumatic Grief**
- **Treatment Modalities (TFT, EMDR, TIR, Hypnosis)**
- **Workplace Violence and Trauma**
- **Substance Abuse**
- **AIDS/HIV**
- **Chronic Mental Illness**
- **Compassion Fatigue and Secondary Trauma**
- **School Violence and Response**
- **Trauma & Spiritual Issues**

- Advocacy/Policy Making/Legislation
- Combat/Military Veterans
- Emergency Rescue/Fire/Law Enforcement
- Refugees/War Victims
- Secondary PTSD
- PTSD
- Pharmacology
- Catastrophic Injury/Illness/Physical
- Refugee Mental Health
- Disaster Mental Health/Psycho-social responses

*** Suggested Breakdown .The Graduate degree in the Counseling field will automatically satisfy 90 hours of the 240 hours:**

2. Intake/Initial Assessment	12 clock hours
3. Differential Diagnosis/Dual Diagnosis	12 clock hours
4. Treatment Planning/Case Management	12 clock hours
5. Counseling-Individual,	12 clock hours
Family, and	12 clock hours
Group	12 clock hours
7. Community Recourses/Referral	12 clock hours
11. Ethical Issues	6 clock hours

TOTAL.....90 clock hours

Documentation and verification of 90 hours training & education in those six areas will be required if you do not have proof of a graduate degree in a counseling field

****Special Population course.** Various populations often require culturally-sensitive approaches. Contexts for assessment, treatment, management, etc. might be different for Multicultural or cross-cultural populations, which could include Ethnic Minorities; socially excluded groups ; Children; Adolescents; Adults; Older Adults; Suicidal Clients; Substance Abusers; Disabled and/or Chronically Mentally Ill.

Attachment 1.

Course Outlines

1. Post Traumatic Stress Reactions Total Hours (24 hours Required)

The assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of all types of reactions that occur after a trauma, including posttraumatic stress disorder. Only

training that is specific to post trauma reactions and treatment can be included in the required 24 hours. Some courses or workshops on diagnosis and treatment of psychological problems do include trauma, but only the hours that are specifically about trauma can be counted toward the required 24 hours. Examples of courses that include, but are not limited to, diagnosis and treatment of trauma reactions are EMDR, TFT, TIR, hypnosis, or crisis management.

2. Intake/Initial Assessment/Psychosocial Total hours (12 Required)

Training in a number of areas: Simple-Complex PTSD; Multicultural factors (relating to trauma); Demographic Influences); Suicide (risk assessment); Vocational Assessment; Community Resources; Grief; Addictions.

3. Differential Diagnosis/Dual Diagnosis Total Hours (12 Required)

Issues of Simple-Complex PTSD; the role of the DSM-IV; Multicultural factors; Psychopharmacology; Research;

Addiction and Psychiatric Disorders.

4. Treatment Planning/Case Management Total Hours (12 Required)

This covers Vocational Planning & Assessment; Grief; Psychopharmacology; Referrals; Case Management of Traumatized;

Addiction; Developmental Issues; and Aftercare.

5. Counseling - Individual, Family and Group

Counseling: (Total of 36 Required)

Various topics include Systems Theory; Spirituality or Faith-based Treatment Models e.g., Native American, Metaphysical); Psychological Theory-based Models (e.g., Cognitive, Gestalt, Psychodynamic, Contextualistic); Grief; Self-care, Multicultural Counseling , Stress Management and Counseling Skills.

6. Special Populations

Total Special Populations Hours (Total of 18 Required)

Various populations often require culturally-sensitive approaches. Contexts for assessment, treatment, management, etc. might be different for Multicultural or cross-cultural populations, which could include socially excluded populations; Children; Adolescents; Adults; Older Adults; Suicidal Clients; Substance Abusers, Disabled,

And/or or Chronically Mentally Ill.

7. Community Resources/Referral

Total Community Resources/Referral Hours (Total of 12 Required)

Topics include Community Mental Health, Preventions, Substance Abuse Resources; Vocational resources; Spiritual Systems/Resources; Education/Preparational;

Employment Training; Community Ecology; Advocacy; and Comprehensive Trauma Centers.

8. Advocacy/Legal Systems

Total Legal Systems (Criminal Justice) Hours (total of 12 required)

Advocacy for, protection and advancing the legal, human and service rights of the trauma victims, eg,victims of domestic violence, abuse, crimes, and others. Jail Diversion and Advocacy. Justice Systems; Public Policy and Legislation; Family and Juvenile Courts; Divorce; Social Justice Mediation;.

9. Crisis Intervention

Total Crisis Intervention Hours (total of 12 required)

Contents include: Grief; Models of Crisis Response (e.g., CISM, NOVA, Process Oriented, Red Cross, etc.); Assessing victim needs, Suicide Risk of Clients; and Psychological First Aid, and other interventions used to alleviate acute trauma and stress.

10. Community/Large Scale Disasters

Total Community/Large-Scale Disasters hours (total of 8 required)

Contents include: Bio-Terrorism; Incident Command & Control Centers; National Incident Management Systems; Protocols of Local/Regional/Federal/International Agencies or Organizations; Access by/to Internal/External Providers;

Responding to Natural, Man-made & Technical Disasters.

11. Ethics.

Total Ethics Hours (total of 6 required)

Includes: Confidentiality; Informed Consent; Conflict of Interest; Record Keeping; Data protection & information sharing protocols; Boundaries; Termination strategies; Duty to Warn; Mandated Reporting.