

Infant Family Associate (IFA) or Early Childhood Family Associate (ECFA) (PROMOTION)	
Education and/or Work Experience	any academic degree* or Child Development Associate (CDA) OR minimum of two years with children birth to 3 years work or volunteer* experience, in an applicable role**(volunteer experience may be considered when in a supervised setting with women during pregnancy or with infants, toddlers, and families, which included specialized training with Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), Doula, Child Life Specialist, or similar setting)
Training	minimum 30 hours, average 40 hours
Professional Membership	Iowa Association for Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health
Reference Ratings	three completed rating forms - contact the Iowa Endorsement Coordinator for details
Application	submit application to demonstrate meeting requirements and competencies specified for the Infant Family Associate (IFA) Endorsement® or for the Early Childhood Family Associate (ECFA) Endorsement® <i>Competency Guidelines</i> (MI-AIMH © 2017) - contact the Iowa Endorsement Coordinator for details
Registration Fee	\$15
Processing Fee	\$25
Total Fees	\$40

Who may apply: Any professional with experience working with, or on behalf, of pregnant women, infants, young children, parents, and/or other caregivers; and meets the education, work, training, and Reflective Supervision/Consultation (RSC) requirements for the specific category of Endorsement® may apply.

Why apply:

- a. grow and develop as a professional in the expanding infant, young child, and family mental health field
- b. gain recognition by employers and peers by attaining a level of competency in a culturally sensitive, relationship-focused practice that promotes infant and early childhood mental health
- c. improve support for infants, young children, families, students, agencies, and institutions

Steps to Endorsement^o

1. register on [EASy](#). Click “Register” under “New Applicant”
2. provide description of work, education, and Reflective Supervision or Consultation (RSC) experiences; and submit, including payment of the *EASy Registration Fee* and current Iowa Association for Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health [membership](#)
3. log into EASy using the username and password issued by EASy and prepare application (minimum of four weeks to complete), and submit application with payment of the *Processing Fee*
4. provide documentation of competencies, including an application review - Infant Mental Health Specialist and Infant Mental Health Mentor applicants provide successful completion of written exam

Annual Endorsement^o Renewal:

1. ongoing Iowa Association for Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health [membership](#)
2. annual participation in a minimum of 15 clock hours of relationship-based training to promote social-emotional development, and the principles and practice of infant and early childhood mental health
3. recommended participation in a minimum of 12 hours of Reflective Supervision/Consultation (RSC) - does not apply to Infant Family Associate applicants