CranioSacral Teaching Assistant Qualifications

All Teaching Assistants should have the legal license to practice in their locale, as required by their local licensing agency. For those who wish to assist, and live in a country, state or province that does not require a healthcare hands-on license to practice CST, they must meet the requirements for applying to be CST Certified at the Technique Level. For any state/province that does not require a hands-on license to perform CranioSacral Therapy, the following documentation is required: • Language from your state/province indicating this ruling • Documentation of your training in the following minimum requirements: o Anatomy and Physiology – 80 hours of Pathology – 15 hours of Ethics – 3 hours such as our video-Ethics in Action, or other accredited organization program.

TA Program Details

To help make each workshop successful and enjoyable for all involved, the following TA guidelines have been developed based on evaluations received over the years from participants, instructors and facilitators.

The objective is always to create a safe, supportive environment for each student's growth and education. Remember, we are working as a team. The better the assistants and instructor work as a unit, the better the class will run.

• Instructors are in charge of the course and Facilitators are in charge of the overall seminar.

• Meet with your workshop Instructor prior to the beginning of the first day of class.

• On the first day, be a little early to meet the Facilitator and socialize with participants during registration.

• Before class begins, make sure you know how the lights and temperature controls work and where the bathrooms are located. The following days, be on time.

• Avoid side conversations during lectures.

• Use electronic media with permission of instructor only.

• Very important: Do not treat anyone, especially another TA, at any time during class days. You must abide by this rule for liability reasons. If you have your hands on a

participant during a practice session for more than a couple of minutes, you are treating, not assisting. This is a disservice to all participants.

• Although there is no strict dress code, please keep in mind you are representing UII and should dress comfortably, but professionally. This includes, but is not limited to slacks, khakis, capris, leggings, golf shirts, shirts with a finished neckline, skirts, dresses, turtlenecks, and sweaters. Please do not wear any revealing clothes such as crop tops, tank tops, shorts, or very short skirts. Please do not wear Tshirts, shorts or flip flop shoes. We understand that when attending a class as a student you will wish to dress comfortably for trades; please keep in mind when choosing your wardrobe, as you are still a representative of UII.

• We are honoured to have a diverse international population of staff, faculty, assistants and students from around the world. We have pronoun selection on nametags at classes for those who wish to share their preference, and we encourage use of first names as it's the most personal way to address a person.

• When assisting, use the same hand positions that are used by the Instructor. Variations tend to confuse participants. If you have a differing opinion, discuss it privately with the Instructor during a break as it is very disruptive to debate techniques in front of class participants.

• Be aware of your personal hygiene and avoid disturbing others with strong or offensive odours. Breath mints are recommended, especially after lunch or if you smoke. Remember many people are highly allergic to perfumes (even essences) and while we ask that you wear deodorant, refrain from those that are heavily scented.

• Make yourself available - the most frequent complaint we hear is that it is difficult to get a TAs attention. Divide the room up and circulate as much as possible, attempting to anticipate problems. Do not spend more than a few minutes at a table at any one time.

You may be requested to act as a table partner if there is an odd number of people in attendance. Please do so when needed and alternate with the other TAs.

• If you find you are answering the same question repeatedly, or you see several participants having difficulty applying a certain technique, please tell the instructor so that the issue can be addressed with the whole class. Also, if a student is asking an important or interesting question, you may suggest that they ask the instructor so that the entire class can benefit from the answer.

• Positive reinforcement is very important. Tell participants what they are doing correctly and when they've got it right. Praise is the best learning motivator.

• If you have advanced questions, see the instructor at the break or after class.

• If you have any suggestions about these guidelines, the class, the meeting site, or products, please give a note to the facilitator. You are our experts in the field and we value your input.

• Please refrain from selling your own inventory items when assisting.

• At the end of the class, you will be asked to fill out a form that globally evaluates student skills. You only need to note "extreme" students: those who are really good, or those who are really having trouble. Ideally the teacher will have already provided guidance early in the class about this form and how and when to document helpful documentation.

• You will also be evaluated by the instructor, participants, facilitator and fellow TAs. These evaluations will be used to determine your progression as a TA. The score scale is: 5=excellent; 4=very good; 3=good; 2=fair; 1=poor.

Evaluation scores are averaged. To progress as an assistant, you need an average score of 4.0 or better from the instructor, participant and facilitator evaluations. To become a certified teaching assistant, you will need average scores of 4.5 or better from the participant evaluations and 4.0 or better from the instructor, TA and facilitator evaluations from each TA assignment. TA certification status will be reviewed annually.

Maintaining TA Status

It is crucial that the information conveyed by Instructors and TAs be timely and consistent. To ensure this level of quality information, you must attend or TA a CST class at least once every 3 years. If there is a lapse of three or more years, you may be required to review or attend another CST course before assisting again. TA certification status is reviewed annually. You must assist at least once every three years with satisfactory scores to maintain certification. Scheduling an Assignment TA assignments are given primarily on a first come, first served basis.

If you are unable to keep your scheduled assignment, notify us at least 60 days in advance of the class. Three cancellations of confirmed assignments with less than 60 days notice, within a 12-month period, may subject you to a suspension of up to one year. During that time you will not be assigned to assist any classes, permitted to schedule a TA assignment, nor be listed as a TA in any UII publication. Following this period you will be required to reapply to the TA program.

Benefits

• Networking

• Hearing the course material again, perhaps with a different instructor

• Become known as a specialist in your area for clinical referrals

• Be listed as a Teaching Assistant on iahp.com

• Helping as a teaching assistant makes you a better therapist; TO TEACH IS TO LEARN

If you are a Teaching Assistant and would like to TA please register through purchasing a course you want to TA on and selecting “Teaching Assistant”.

You will receive a follow up email confirming if the position is available.

Any further information or questions email info@upledger.ie