

# OHIO INFANT MENTAL HEALTH CREDENTIAL CODE OF ETHICS

The Ohio Infant Mental Health Credential is a cross-sector and multidisciplinary credential for professionals including, but not limited to, those working in one of the following fields: psychology, early care and education, social work, occupational therapy, early intervention, psychiatry, child and/or human development, nursing, and others. The Ohio Infant Mental Health Credential indicates an individual's efforts to specialize in the promotion/practice of infant mental health within their own discipline. Each credentialled professional is also bound by their own discipline's ethical standards, as well of those defined here.

## Ohio Infant Mental Health Credentialled Professionals:

### 1. Values and respects the importance of relationships

- Develop relationships of mutual trust and create partnerships with the families we serve
- Understands the importance of early relationships being the primary instrument for growth and change
- Uses knowledge and skills to promote, support, restore and sustain nurturing relationships for families
- Works to establish strong, collaborative relationships with community professionals to enhance services to all infants and families
- Understands the importance of past relationship experiences to support the development of current relationships
- Listens to families, acknowledge and build upon their strengths and competencies, as we support them in the task of nurturing their children

### 2. Values and respects ethnicity, culture, individuality and diversity

- Understands and respects the uniqueness of everyone with respect for ethnicity and culture
- Respect and understand the values and preferences of each family and to try to learn about its structure, culture, ethnicity, language, customs, and beliefs to ensure consistent delivery of culturally competent services
- Continues to expand skills and knowledge in the areas of ethnicity, culture and diversity
- Report and always oppose any form of discrimination, oppression or exploitation of children

### 3. Practices with Integrity

- When working with families, interactions are authentic, responsible and reliable
- Demonstrate the highest standards of personal integrity, truthfulness, and honesty in all our professional activities in order to inspire the trust and confidence of the children and families with whom we work
- Establish and maintain relationships of respect, trust, confidentiality, collaboration, and cooperation with co-workers

### 4. Confidentiality

- Uses information appropriately, respecting the privacy of families, maintaining confidentiality where necessary, respecting the right of parents to be informed of matters concerning their infant up to 18 months

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## 5. Knowledge and Skill Building

- Base program practices upon current knowledge and research in the field of early childhood education, child development, and related disciplines, as well as on knowledge of each child and family. Continuously acquire new knowledge and skills to enhance the understanding and application of recent evidence-based practices
- Monitor and evaluate the quality of services provided to families
- Facilitate the optimal growth and development of each infant/family to achieve their full potential

## 6. Reflective Practice

- Seeks out and uses supervision, consultation, and engage in infant mental health communities of practice as appropriate, to reflect on professional development and personal growth related to work with or on behalf of infants and families

## 7. Abides by own applicable professional code of ethics

- Ensuring compliance with this code of ethics as well as relevant professional code of conduct and ethics

### Attestation:

I will abide by all the Ohio Infant Mental Health Credential Code of Ethics

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature & Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### References:

- <https://www.decdocs.org/member-code-of-ethics>
- <http://www.ances.lu/index.php/fice/sarajevo-2006/69-a-code-of-ethics-for-people-working-with-children-and-young-people>
- <https://mi-aimh.org/infant-mental-health-code-of-ethics>
- [https://www.naeyc.org/sites/default/files/globally-shared/downloads/PDFs/resources/position-statements/Ethics%20Position%20Statement2011\\_09202013update.pdf](https://www.naeyc.org/sites/default/files/globally-shared/downloads/PDFs/resources/position-statements/Ethics%20Position%20Statement2011_09202013update.pdf)