The Internal Family Systems Model

Internal Family Systems℠ is at the forefront of a movement toward a more collaborative therapeutic approach that relies on clients’ intuitive wisdom. IFS℠ offers a clear, non-pathologizing, and empowering view of human cognitive and emotional life and provides a dynamic therapeutic approach that allows both therapist and client to enter into a transformational relationship in which healing can occur.

Richard C. Schwartz, PhD, has been developing the IFS model for more than 30 years, with IFS now practiced by thousands of licensed therapists and other professionals throughout the United States and internationally. Mental health care professionals and others trained in the IFS model can easily integrate it into a wide variety of practices using the unique methods IFS offers to create safe environments for clients to become Self-transforming. Internal Family Systems therapy is a simple yet sophisticated integration of psychology, spirituality, and intra-psychic and family systems theory that:

- Works well with couples, families, groups, and children;
- Can effectively treat trauma;
- Is a client-led approach that respects each client’s pace and goals;
- Establishes a productive, trusting, and collaborative partnership between therapist and client;
- Helps therapists remain centered and open-hearted.

Internal Family Systems: An Evidence-Based Practice

Internal Family Systems (IFS) is now posted on NREPP as an evidence-based practice. NREPP is the National Registry for Evidence-Based Programs and Practices, a national repository that is maintained by the U.S. government’s Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Interventions listed in NREPP have been subject to independent, rigorous scrutiny, and are deemed to show significant impact on individual outcomes relating to mental health.

As a clinical treatment, IFS has been rated effective for improving general functioning and well-being. In addition, it has been rated promising for improving each of: phobia, panic, and generalized anxiety disorders and symptoms; physical health conditions and symptoms; personal resilience/self-concept; and depression and depressive symptoms.

These scientific findings and the listing of IFS on NREPP affirm the vast potential of IFS therapy for advancing emotional healing and mental well-being. In particular, they indicate promising effects on mind (depression, anxiety), body (physical health conditions), and spirit (personal resilience and self-concept).

IFS & Training Information Sources

This brochure contains many important details about this program, including continuing education credit, certificate of completion attendance requirements, trainer biographies, finances, session and daily schedules, required readings and more. For more information about IFS, please visit other tabs of our website.

IFS Institute contact information is at the end of this brochure and on the website.
Curriculum

Overview: In addition to thoroughly learning IFS theory and technique, the Internal Family Systems Level 1 training program invites participants to explore their own inner worlds in a safe, nurturing context. The training will help participants:

- Understand the conceptual base of the IFS model;
- Apply basic IFS techniques to various clinical populations; and
- Take advantage of the opportunities IFS offers for personal development.


Format: The training includes lecture, discussion, demonstration, video review, experiential exercise, and small group practice.

Program Hours:

This training comprises six, 3-day sessions totaling 90 program hours (15 hours per session), plus 5 supplemental practice meetings totaling 12.5 hours (2.5 hours per meeting), for a total of 102.5 hours for the whole training.

Trainers

Lead Trainer: Chris Burris, LMFT, LPC, is a senior IFS trainer who has taught Level 1 and 2 programs in the US and Europe. Chris uses mind/body therapeutic approaches to alleviate traumatic stress, depression, and anxiety related issues, working extensively with individuals and couples. Chris is an AAMFT Approved Supervisor, is on the advisory board for The Joshua Project, and has been active with men's groups and rites of passage ceremonies since 1990. As former Director of Counseling at The North Carolina School of the Arts, Chris has considerable experience with performance enhancement for artists of all types, and has a private practice in Asheville, NC.

Assistant Trainer: Gwen Hurd, LCSW, graduated from the University of Chicago with her MSW in 1994. She was introduced to IFS during her graduate program and began her IFS training in 1998. Gwen has worked as a Child Protection Investigator in the Chicago area, and with at-risk youth and families as a therapist and program director in northwest Indiana. She is now the Clinical Director and Therapist/Custody Evaluator at Sage Circle Counseling Center in St George.
Training Schedule

This online training will meet according to the dates and daily schedule below using the U.S. Eastern time zone in effect during each session of the training. Please refer to www.24timezones.com, www.timeanddate.com, or a similar resource to determine how this relates to your own time zone. Please be sure you account for Standard vs. Daylight Savings time.

You can use New York, NY, in the U.S. Eastern time zone as a reference location to determine how the Eastern time zone relates to your own time zone for each training session.

Training Dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3-day sessions:</th>
<th>December 13-15, 2020</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 10-12, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 21-23, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 21-23, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 25-27, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 6-8, 2021</td>
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Practice meetings (10:00am – 12:30pm)

2021: January 5
February 2
March 9
April 13
May 11

Daily Schedule for 3-Day Sessions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Morning Session</th>
<th>Morning Break</th>
<th>Afternoon Session</th>
<th>Afternoon Break</th>
<th>Training/CE Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Day 1</td>
<td>10 am - 12:45pm</td>
<td>15 min</td>
<td>1:45 - 4:30 pm</td>
<td>15 min</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day 2</td>
<td>10 am - 12:45pm</td>
<td>15 min</td>
<td>1:45 - 4:30 pm</td>
<td>15 min</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day 3</td>
<td>10 am - 12:45pm</td>
<td>15 min</td>
<td>1:45 - 4:30 pm</td>
<td>15 min</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td></td>
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<td><strong>15 Total</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Certificate of Completion

A Certificate of Completion (non-CE) is awarded by IFS Institute and **a participant must complete 85 of the 102.5 program hours offered in order to be eligible to earn this certificate**. Participants are responsible for ensuring that they attend sufficient training hours to earn the Certificate of Completion.
IFS Certification

Participants are not Certified IFS Therapists or Practitioners until they successfully complete the IFS Certification process. Information about the criteria and procedures for becoming IFS Certified is available on the IFS Institute website certification page, or by emailing Certification@IFS-Institute.com.

Eligibility for Future Trainings

By earning IFS Institute’s certificate of completion for this training, a participant is eligible to apply for a Level 2 IFS training program. Participants are not required to be Certified IFS Therapists or Certified IFS Practitioners to enroll in IFS trainings.

To Apply

Who Should Apply: We welcome applications from:

- Mental and medical health care practitioners
- Pastoral counselors
- Masters or doctoral students
- Dance, art, and music therapists
- Health care professionals in allied fields

Application Form: The application form for this training is on our website. Application forms from other IFS trainings cannot be used for this training.

Enrollment: 48 participants may enroll in this training.

Continuing Education Contact Hours

- This training program is co-sponsored by IFS Institute and The Institute for Continuing Education (ICE).

- Continuing education contact hours are offered for the professional disciplines as listed.

- The course offers 15 contact hours per session (total of 90 contact hours per course). CE covers all scheduled course sessions. The supplemental practice meetings (which happen outside of the 3-day training sessions) are not eligible for CE.

- CE hours are awarded on a session-by-session basis, with full attendance required at sessions attended. Partial session CE credit is not offered.

- Attendees must complete all CE materials, comply with attendance monitoring requirements, and complete a session evaluation.

- Applications for continuing education contact hours will be provided by IFS Institute at the initial course session, along with other pertinent continuing education information.
• If you would like CE credit for this training, you need to sign up for it at the first session. You will need your license information (as applicable) to complete the CE forms.

• CE verification is mailed to participants by ICE following each session (within 30 days of receipt of completed CE materials).

• There is no additional fee to make application for CE credit.

• It is the responsibility of attendees to contact their state licensing/certification board to determine if CE credit offered by The Institute for Continuing Education meets the regulations of their state licensing/certification board.

• Learning objectives are available on the FAQ page at www.IFS-Institute.com.

• If you have questions regarding continuing education credit, please contact The Institute for Continuing Education: 800-557-1950. Email: instconted@aol.com.

• Instruction Methodology: May include didactic, lecture, audio-visuals, demonstrations, experiential exercises, case examples, small and large group discussions.

Psychology: The Institute for Continuing Education is approved by the American Psychological Association (APA) to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. The Institute for Continuing Education maintains responsibility for this program and its content.

Counseling: Four counseling seeking CE credit, The Institute for Continuing Education will submit a co-sponsorship application to NBCC for this program. This website will be updated regarding approval. **New York:** Institute for Continuing Education is recognized by the New York State Education Department's State Board for Mental Health Practitioners as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed mental health counselors. Provider MHC-0016.

Social Work: This program has been approved for 15.00 social work continuing education hours for re-licensure, per session, in accordance with 258 CMR ASW-MA Chapter CE Approving Program. Authorization No. D-81702-1 – D-81702-6. **New York:** The Institute for Continuing Education is recognized by the New York State Education Department's State Board for Social Work as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed social workers. Provider SW-0025. **New Jersey:** CE credit is not offered for New Jersey social workers.

Marriage/Family Therapy: **New York:** The Institute for Continuing Education is recognized by the New York State Education Department's State Board for Mental Health Practitioners as an approved provider of continuing education for Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists. Provider MFT-0012. **Illinois:** The Institute for Continuing Education is recognized as a provider of continuing education by the Illinois Board of Marriage and Family Therapy, Provider 168-00108. **California:** The Institute for Continuing Education, Provider 56590, is approved by the California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists to sponsor continuing education for LMFTs, LCSWs, LPCCs. The Institute for Continuing Education maintains responsibility for this program and its content. This Course meets the
qualifications for 15.00 hours per session of continuing education credit for LMFTs, LCSWs, LPCC, as required by the California Board of Behavioral Sciences. Ohio: The Institute for Continuing Education is recognized as a provider of continuing education by the Ohio Board MFT, Provider RTX 05001

**Required Pre-Training Reading and Other Materials**

1. **Reading Materials:** All books listed below are available at IFS Institute’s website store ([www.IFS-Institute.com](http://www.IFS-Institute.com)). Bundle pricing may be available. If you need assistance with the Store, please call 708.383.2659 or email [Sandy@IFS-Institute.com](mailto:Sandy@IFS-Institute.com).

   **Required reading before the training begins:**


   **Suggested reading before the training begins:**

   Schwartz, RC (2001), *Introduction to the Internal Family Systems Model*, Oak Park IL: Trailheads Publications, The Center for Self Leadership, ISBN 0-97211480-0-0. **This book is required reading for those with no prior experience with the IFS model.** Class content is designed on the assumption that the reading is completed.

   **Other suggested reading:**


2. **Additional Training Materials:** Each program’s trainers may ask participants to purchase up to $20 in additional training materials. If additional training materials are required, participants will be notified by the trainers as the starting date of the training approaches.

**Financial Assistance**

**Payment plans:** Payment plans are listed on the program application. If you have questions about the plans, please contact IFS Institute Controller, Mary Mitrovich, at [Mary@IFS-Institute.com](mailto:Mary@IFS-Institute.com).

**Costs for the training may be tax-deductible:** Please consult with your tax advisor.

**Employers can be a good source of funding for continuing education.** Please check with your supervisor and/or human resources department.
Tuition scholarships from IFS Institute: All the details, including the scholarship application deadline and application form, are on the website's Training FAQ page.

Repeater tuition: Information regarding tuition if you are repeating a training is on IFS Institute's website FAQ page.

**Tuition and Fees**

**Program Tuition:** $3,400 ($500 of which is the program deposit)

**Program Deposit:** The $500 deposit is charged when you are accepted into the training, and this is required to secure your place. Payment plans are available for the balance (see program application for details).

**Application Fee:** A $55 non-refundable, non-transferrable application fee is charged when your application is received.

**Withdrawals/Refunds:** Participants who wish to withdraw from the training program must do so in writing. Participants are responsible for paying for sessions attended or missed prior to withdrawal. Deposit: The $500 deposit is refundable if written notice of withdrawal is received by the IFS Institute office 45 or more days before the 1st day of Session 1. The deposit is transferable to another IFS Institute-organized Level 1, 2, or 3 IFS training program if written notice of withdrawal is received by the IFS Institute office 44-21 days before the 1st day of Session 1. A transferred deposit must be used within 18 months of withdrawal or else it is forfeited; a transferred deposit may only be used by the person who is withdrawing. The deposit is forfeited if written notice of withdrawal is received by the IFS Institute office 20 or fewer days before the 1st day of Session 1, or if withdrawal occurs after the program begins. Tuition Balance: The tuition balance (total tuition less deposit) is refundable if written notice of withdrawal is received by the IFS Institute office 21 or more days before the 1st day of Session 1. One-half (1/2) of the tuition balance is forfeited if written notice of withdrawal is received by the IFS Institute office 20 or fewer days before the 1st day of Session 1, and 21 or more days before the 1st day of Session 2. The full tuition balance is forfeited if written notice of withdrawal is received by the IFS Institute office 20 or fewer days before the 1st day of Session 2. The application fee and payment plan carrying fee are non-refundable. IFS Institute reserves the right to postpone, cancel or otherwise change any training program schedule prior to its beginning. At no time is IFS Institute responsible for training students’ travel, lodging, or incidental expenses.

**IFS Institute Contact Information**

Please also see the “contact us” page at [www.IFS-Institute.com](http://www.IFS-Institute.com)

Billing and Credit Card matters for this training: 708.848.9963, Mary@IFS-Institute.com

U.S. Trainings (Level 1, 2, 3): 708.383.2519, Maryanne@IFS-Institute.com
Canadian & Organizational Trainings (Level 1, 2, 3): 301.655.6671, Jeff@IFS-Institute.com

International Trainings (Level 1, 2, 3): Ashley@IFS-Institute.com

Webinars – IFS Circle/Continuity: 406.962.5598, Help@IFS-Institute.com

IFS Certification: 828.215.6307, Certification@IFS-Institute.com

Annual Conference: 401.601.0445, Ashley@IFS-Institute.com

Everything Else IFS (Store, Workshops, etc.): 708.383.2659, Sandy@IFS-Institute.com

IFS Institute office:
  Fax: 708.383.2399
  Postal Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3969, Oak Park, IL 60303, USA