



CONTINUING EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR EAGALA CERTIFICATION RENEWAL

EAGALA INDEPENDENT STUDY PROGRAM

PURPOSE

Eagala Certification requires 20 units of Eagala Approved continuing education every two-year period for renewal of certification. Independent study is provided as an option for those who are unable to attend Eagala Approved hands-on experiential training, conference and networking experiences, yet still fulfill the intent of the requirement that certified members participate in ongoing education specific to Eagala Model practice. Please see the [Global Member Communications from 2022](#) outlining changes in in-person training requirements.

Requiring a renewal strengthens the integrity of any certification and the fidelity to the Eagala Model. It upholds a standard and expectation of those representing themselves as “certified” that they are active in the association and model they are representing. It indicates they must complete ongoing requirements to keep their certification which provides additional confidence to consumers that the service provider is updated and always learning in their specialization, in this case the Eagala Model.

Eagala is dedicated to improving the mental health of individuals, families, and groups around the world by setting the standard of excellence in Equine-Assisted Psychotherapy (EAP) and personal development. Certification renewal assists our organization in having and obtaining that standard of excellence, and by associating yourself with the Eagala name and reputation, also sends a message of the standard you hold as a professional.

WHEN CAN INDEPENDENT STUDY BE USED?

Independent Study may only be used as an option for 10 of your 20 continuing education units for certification renewal every other renewal cycle. Please contact us if you have any questions at support@eagala.org.

Log in to my.eagala.org to learn more about your specific needs for continuing education:

- Other options to fulfill Eagala specific continuing education and professional development requirements can be found under the Continuing Education tab, and you can view past webinars for continuing education [through our store](#).
 - Your continuing education status can be found in this section of your my.eagala profile as well so that you are aware of what you need to complete in your renewal cycle.



INDEPENDENT STUDY PROCESS

1. Read books, listen to audios, watch videos, listen to Inside the Arena podcasts or attend workshops that relate to your practice as an Eagala Model facilitator; participate in approved out of network continuing education opportunities; submit an opportunity through the independent study form below. NOTE: The Independent Study Program is designed for CEUs completed through non-Eagala resources. The only exception is **Inside the Arena**, Eagala's official podcast, which is also documented through Independent Study. Podcast hours submitted this way **are exempt from the 10.0-hour maximum permitted every other renewal cycle**.
2. Complete the online form for each type of independent study resource you do:
3. Pay the fee of \$15 per continuing education unit at <https://eagala.memberclicks.net/independent-study-submission>
4. When 20 units of continuing education have been completed, renew your Eagala Certification in the [Eagala store](#).

DETERMINING QUALIFIED HOURS

CEUs earned through the Independent Study Program are calculated **hour for hour** for education completed outside of Eagala Resources. Please ensure your submission includes accurate documentation of the total hours completed so we can verify and award credit accordingly.

EXCEPTIONS

The following Independent Study **does not require** you to fill out the form identified in #2 above.

Workshops instructed by Eagala Advanced Certified members

While not Eagala sponsored or approved, Eagala Advanced Certified members may provide workshops supporting Eagala Model practice through their organizations. These workshops:

- Must be an Eagala Model focused workshop
- May qualify for up to 8 independent study Eagala continuing education units
- One of the instructors must be Eagala Advanced Certified and has acknowledged they will submit your hours directly to Eagala for approval (you may confirm Eagala Advanced Certification through our Eagala website, or contact Eagala directly)

- The fee for hours is a discounted rate of \$7.50 USD per continuing education unit and is paid by arrangement with and directly to the Advanced Certified instructor
- Hours are only qualified when the Advanced Certified instructor submits the information and payment for their workshop to Eagala. Members themselves do not submit anything directly to Eagala to qualify these hours, however you may want to confirm with the instructor directly that this process has been completed.

The following Independent Study **requires you** to fill out the form identified in #2 above, **however the fee is waived.**

Mental Health / Psychological First Aid / Equine First Aid

Eagala members taking the Mental Health First Aid certification (<https://www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org/> or internationally: <http://www.mhfainternational.org/international-mhfa-programs.html> - note it may be in other countries as well – be sure to do an internet search in your country or contact your local networking coordinator) need to **fill out the independent study activity form, however the fee for the CEU hours is waived.** Up to **6 CE units** qualify.

Additional Psychological First Aid courses which can qualify for up to 6 CE units:

1. Public Health England. COVID-19: Psychological First Aid:
<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/psychological-first-aid-covid-19>
2. Johns Hopkins University. Coursera platform. Psychological First Aid:
<https://www.coursera.org/learn/psychological-first-aid>.
3. Pet Emergency Education. Equine Emergency First Aid Certification Class (in person and location specific): <https://petemergencyeducation.com/equaid-emergency-first-aid-for-horses/>

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Does Eagala Independent Study qualify for continuing education for licensure boards or other certifications?

Most likely it does not, but you can check with your own licensing or certification/registration boards or associations. The Eagala Independent Study Program is specific to Eagala certification renewal. If you attend an out of network training that is acknowledged by an accrediting body, you should check with your licensing board to be sure.



Can I do Independent Study to receive my initial Eagala Certification?

No, independent study is only an option for certification renewal. To receive your initial Eagala certification, you must attend in person the [Fundamentals of Eagala Model Practice training](#) and complete the certification requirements.

If I do the Independent Study program, do all 20 continuing education units needed for certification renewal need to be independent study?

No, you can apply any units from any of the Eagala Approved methods for continuing education towards the 20 units needed for certification renewal. For instance, you may have attended 8 units in approved Eagala networking group meetings and viewed 2 units of Eagala webinars, and then do the remaining 10 units with the Eagala independent study program. Only 10 of your continuing education units during the renewal cycle can be submitted through independent study.

How often can I do Independent Study for my CEs for certification renewal?

Independent Study continuing education can only qualify every other renewal period. 20 units of Eagala approved continuing education and professional development are required every two years. Eagala standards are for members to return to a Fundamentals training or attend a Skillsets Intensive training once every 4 years. If the Independent Study Program is utilized for the current renewal, returning to a Fundamentals training or attending a Skillsets Intensive training must be done for the next renewal period. See the letter hyperlinked in the first paragraph of this document titled “Global Member Communications from 2022” for more information.

What materials qualify for the Eagala Independent Study Program?

Anything that is Eagala Model specific. If it is out of the Eagala network, it must be approved through the independent study form. There is a list of recommended materials below provided by members who have participated in the program. However, it is certainly not inclusive. The online form you will complete about the materials you utilized will ask you to apply it to the Eagala Model.

Why do items have a limit on number of units that qualify?

The purpose is for standardization of the process. We want to encourage diversity in the learning experiences you are choosing to qualify as independent study, even if they take many more hours than what we are allowing to be qualified.

Why do we limit how many hours of independent study can qualify for Eagala Certification renewal?

By being certified and a representative of this specialized model, it is important to also participate in learning that is specific to the model, and where Eagala can ensure that what is being presented is representative of the model as it is currently being taught.

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

If you would like to recommend some excellent resources for Eagala practitioner learning, please send them to us to add to this listing. These are suggestions only. Any materials that relate to your skillsets clinically or in business as an Eagala practitioner can qualify.

VIDEO/AUDIO RECORDINGS

- Video recordings are available on Eagala's website at <https://store.eagala.org/webinars>. Eagala has created a podcast called Inside the Arena: The Official Eagala Podcast and can be found on [Apple Podcasts](#) and [Spotify Podcasts](#)

BOOKS/READING MATERIALS

Not all these books/reading materials are Eagala specific, but they provide insight to the theoretical approaches involved in Eagala. Books and reading materials can count for 1-4 continuing education units, depending on length. This is not an all-encompassing list of reading materials that can be used towards independent study.

- *Introduction to Equine-Assisted Psychotherapy: A Comprehensive Overview* (2nd Edition) – Patti Mandrell
Regular price \$60.00 USD (can be found in our Eagala Store ([Introduction to Equine-Assisted Psychotherapy: A Comprehensive Overview – Eagala](#))) – **4 continuing education units towards independent study**
- *How Change Happens in Equine-Assisted Interventions A Theory of Horses, Humans, and Psychotherapy* by Noreen W. Esposito and Angela K. Fournier - **4 continuing education units towards independent study**
- *Animal-Assisted Intervention: Thinking Empirically* – Angela Fournier - **4 continuing education units towards independent study**
- *Mining Your Client's Metaphors: A How-to workbook on Clean Language and Symbolic Modeling* – Gina Campbell - **4 continuing education units towards independent study**
- *Clean Language: Revealing Metaphors and Opening Minds* – Wendy Sullivan & Judy Rees - **4 continuing education units towards independent study**
- *Beyond the Couch: A Psychoanalytic Approach to Equine Assisted Psychotherapy* – Dr. Natasha Filippides - **4 continuing education units towards independent study**
- [Healthcare Counselling and Psychotherapy Journal, UK: Horse Power](#) – Tracie Holroyd – **1 continuing education unit towards independent study**
- *Horse Brain Human Brain - The Neuroscience of Horsemanship – Getting Smart About How Horse and Humans Think, Act, and Work Together* – Janet L. Jones, PhD. - **4 continuing education units towards independent study**
- *The Empowered Herd – The Role of Horses in the Therapeutic Journey* – Dawn Oakley-Smith - **4 continuing education units towards independent study**



QUESTIONS?

Have a resource you want to share with membership?

Contact us at support@eagala.org