

Proposed Revisions to APsA Standards and Principles for Psychoanalytic Education –

Re: Candidate's Adult Supervision Clarification

Section III. C. Supervision of Adult Psychoanalysis

Deleted language is stricken. New language is shown in red text.

American Psychoanalytic Association

Standards and Principles for Psychoanalytic Education

III. Components and Principles of Psychoanalytic Education

C. Supervision of Adult Psychoanalysis

Supervision of analytic cases aims to teach the relationships between theory, clinical process, and technique, and thereby impart the knowledge and skill to conduct effective psychoanalysis. APsA requires for graduation the completion of at least two acceptable supervisions of psychoanalytic treatment of adults as determined by the appropriate group of the institute. Institutes are encouraged to offer alternative supervised experiences during adult training, e.g., a child or adolescent psychoanalysis, a psychoanalytic psychotherapy, a psychoanalytic research project, or a clinical psychoanalytic activity in the community. An institute requiring more than two cases may accept such an alternative training experience as one of a candidate's required cases.

Candidates shall have a different supervisor for each case. The supervision of cases will occur over a length of time that allows the candidate to develop sufficient knowledge and skill to conduct psychoanalysis independently and competently. Demonstration of competency is a prerequisite for graduation. The length of time of supervision will vary but the candidate should meet with the supervisor of each case weekly for one year or longer. The cumulative total hours of supervision for all cases shall be at least 150 hours. This minimum is a threshold standard and additional supervision during training and/or consultation post-graduation is expected. As the psychoanalytic treatment progresses, and as the candidate advances in the educational program, the supervisor and candidate, at the discretion of the institute, may change the frequency of supervision.

Ongoing assessment and feedback are crucial dimensions of the candidate's supervision and learning. Each supervisor is expected to periodically assess the progress of the candidate's ability to conduct psychoanalytic treatment through written reports or evaluations; such assessments will be communicated to the candidate and the Progression Committee, the Education Committee, or its functional equivalent. This evaluation will address candidates' understanding of didactic material and ability to apply it in their clinical work. Clinical competence is expected to evolve as candidates progress through their psychoanalytic education. Assessment of progress will begin at the first opportunity upon admission and continue until graduation. Consultation with the DPE is available regarding specification of analytic competencies.

Candidates are expected to work with cases that reflect a diversity of identity characteristics, including but not limited to gender, sexual orientation, age, religion, race, ethnicity, culture, ability status and socioeconomic status. At least one case should have reached the midphase of analysis; it is preferable that one case is near termination prior to the candidate's graduation. Candidates graduating before a case terminates are expected to obtain consultation when their first termination occurs. The required frequency of sessions for supervised cases and the candidate's own analysis is 3-5 times weekly.

Candidates are encouraged to begin a first case as soon as the institute deems them ready. Once a first case is established, candidates will be encouraged to take on additional cases as appropriate. The Education Committee or equivalent committee of an APsA Institute may permit cases to be conducted via teleanalysis on a regular basis when distance sessions are necessary for an analysis to occur. In some training cases, many sessions, or, on occasion all sessions, may need to take place by teleanalysis. It is desirable for all candidates to experience clinical work that takes place both in the consulting room and via teleanalysis.

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