

Credentialing Parameters for Risking Connection® Associate Trainers (Rev. 3/2024)

What Are *Risking Connection* (RC) Associate Trainers?

RC Associate Trainers are trainers who, after going through the steps in the trainer certification process, are entitled to provide RC training within their organization or designated program(s). The trainer certification process is described below. RC Associate Trainers are distinguished from RC Faculty Trainers, who are Traumatic Stress Institute staff or are hired as subcontractors by TSI to conduct RC and other trainings.

Why a Credentialing Process for RC Associate Trainers?

The Traumatic Stress Institute has developed the RC Trainer credentialing process in order to maintain and strengthen the quality of RC training that occurs in organizations that are conducting RC training with their staff. Being a RC Associate Trainer is a vitally important role in organizations that are attempting to implement and sustain trauma-informed care. To be effective, RC must be taught in a way that is faithful to the model and its core concepts and RC Trainers must stay current with their knowledge about trauma and trauma-informed care.

What Are the Requirements for Running RC Training at Your Organization?

1. Organizations must define the target for their trauma-informed change effort. The target could be the whole organization or designated program(s). Risking Connection training can only happen in the organization or part of the organization targeted.
2. The organization or designated program(s) must agree to conduct RC trainings in the following manner:
 - a. Standard RC Basic trainings must be a minimum of 16 hours training time (not including breaks and lunch).
 - b. RC IDD Basic trainings must be a minimum of 10 hours training time (not including breaks and lunch).
 - c. Each RC training must use at least 2 RC Associate Trainers unless there are unusual, extenuating circumstances.
 - d. Ideally at least one of the RC Associate Trainers leading an RC training has an advanced degree in mental health or human services (recommended).
 - e. RC Associate Trainers must use the *Teaching Manual for Risking Connection* as the basic structure for their trainings. Within the basic structure, adaptations are permitted.
 - f. Each RC Training can have no more than 40 participants.
3. Organizations or designated program(s) must comply with the credentialing standards for RC Associate Trainers outlined in the section below.

What Are the Credential Requirements for RC Associate Trainer?

You must attend at least two RC Trainer events *per calendar year*, although we encourage you to attend as many as you are able. Each RC year starts on January 1st. Below are the specifics you should know.

1. **For New RC Associate Trainers that Have Completed the Train-the-Trainer (TTT) in the Current Calendar Year.**
 - a. The RC TTT counts as one event. You **MUST** attend at least one other event this
 - b. year *unless* your TTT occurs after October 1st of that year. Then you do **NOT** need to
 - c. attend another event this year.

- d. TSI offers 6 to 8 webinars per year for you to choose from. We occasionally may
 - e. structure webinars differently but will give advance notice. The cost of webinars is
 - f. built into the price of the RC TTT, so there is no additional cost during the year of
 - g. your RC TTT. You can attend as many webinars as you like at no additional cost.
2. **For RC Associate Trainers that Have Completed the Train-the-Trainer in Previous Calendar Years**
- a. You must attend at least 2 Trainer events during each calendar year.
 - b. If you are in a Recertification year, that training counts as one of your events.
 - c. TSI offers 6 to 8 webinars per year for you to choose from. We occasionally may
 - d. structure webinars differently but will give advance notice.
 - e. Your agency pays an annual fee per Trainer to cover webinars. You can attend as
 - f. many webinars as you like for the same annual fee.
 - g. There is a separate cost for the Recertification training.
3. **Trainers must attend a Recertification training every *two* years.** This is a one-day training that is offered virtually. There is a separate cost for this training.
4. **Upon completing the RC TTT, you will be added to our email list and receive emails about Trainer events.** It is important that you do not opt out of emails. Information about Trainer events is also on the TSI website at <https://www.traumaticstressinstitute.org/events/>.

What Are the Current Privileges for RC Associate Trainers?

RC Associate Trainers:

- 1. Can offer as many RC trainings for their organization or designated program(s) as they choose.
- 2. With the expressed permission of TSI, can have selected stakeholders from outside organizations attend the RC Basic training.
- 3. Benefit from the continuing education webinars noted above.
- 4. Have full access to all the resources on Trainers' Corner located on the Traumatic Stress Institute website.

What Are the Current Restrictions for Associate Trainers?

RC Associate Trainers:

- 1. Are NOT permitted to provide RC training outside of the organization or designated program(s) without the approval of the Traumatic Stress Institute.
- 2. The organization is not permitted to open internal trainings to participants other than staff of the organization. Are NOT permitted to offer RC training for a new employer without the permission of the Traumatic Stress Institute unless the organization is already a client agency of TSI. If you would like to advocate for your new employer to use Risking Connection, please contact us.

PLEASE CONTACT US AT TSISUPPORT@KLINGBERG.COM IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THESE REQUIREMENTS.