INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR

Animal Assisted Play Therapy ®

Training Course Information

Level 1 Workshop Package

Animal Assisted Play Therapy®:

Theory, Research, & Practice

All Level 1 workshops include video segments of AAPT Co-Founders Risë VanFleet, PhD, RPT-S, CDBC and Tracie Faa-Thompson, MA, AASW, PGdipNDPT in action!

Why THIS workshop? ***Because of our unique and acclaimed focus on therapist-animal relationships & animal well-being, use of humor and play to enhance top-notch integrative therapy, and lots of hands-on skill-building experiences taught by highly experienced instructors!! Plus, it is the first big step toward full certification.***

The International Institute for Animal Assisted Play Therapy® is the only authorized provider of workshops on Animal Assisted Play Therapy® in the world.

Animal Assisted Play Therapy®

Level 1 AAPT Workshop - Certified Instructors

Only individuals who are Certified Animal Assisted Play Therapy® Instructors are qualified to teach the 4-day Level 1 course or other AAPT training courses beyond short overviews. It's a good idea to check the credentials of the instructors of ***any*** program you are considering. Our current CAAPT Instructors are listed below with their home regions where they usually offer this training program.

If you wish to set up a training in your geographic area, please contact Dr. Risë VanFleet at rise@risevanfleet.com for full information. This is a rather complex program to host.

Full biographical and contact information about the individuals below can be found on our website, www.iiaapt.org, under *Certified AAPT Professionals*.

Co-Creators of AAPT

Risë VanFleet, PhD, RPT-S, CDBC, CAEBC-I	Pennsylvania USA; worldwide
Tracie Faa-Thompson, MA, AASW, PGdipNDPT, CAEBC-I	Northumberland UK; worldwide

Certified Instructors

Teri Holamon, LPC-S, RPT-S, CAAPT-S, CHST	Texas USA
Lucy Llewellyn, CAAPT-S-I, PGdipNDPT, AASW, NNEB	West Yorkshire United Kingdom
Tara Moser, LCSW, RPT-S, CAAPT-S-I	Florida USA
Jodi Smith, LCSW, RPT-S, CAAPT-S-I	California USA

Certified Animal Ethology and Behavior Specialists (specialty faculty)

Diane Dioguardi, LPC, RPT, CAAPT, CAEBS	Connecticut; New York USA
Kirsty MacQueen, MA, MAPDT[01229], CAEBS	Scotland, United Kingdom

Current Schedule

To see the currently available Level 1 workshops, please visit the Training section of www.iiaapt.org or use the link below:
http://risevanfleet.com/shop/product-category/training/level-1/

The dog was created specially for children. He is the god of frolic.

--Henry Ward Beecher

Who Should Attend

This training program is designed for play therapists, psychologists, social workers, counselors, psychiatrists, family therapists, school counselors, and other experienced mental health, medical, allied health, and educational professionals. The training is relevant to a wide range of clinical, developmental, and educational problems for clients throughout the lifespan. Canine and equine professionals interested in the topic are also welcome to attend. This workshop is an intermediate-level experience in how to conduct AAPT effectively and ethically.

AAPT Level 1 Course Description

This training is designed for mental health, allied health, and education professionals who wish to learn about the exciting field of Animal Assisted Play Therapy®. Properly selected and prepared animals are incorporated into therapy sessions for clients of all ages, while the power of humor and play is harnessed to create a safe environment for therapeutic change. The 2 online courses and the 4-day in-person hands-on workshop that comprise this course provide ***52 hours of detailed instruction*** on topics such as human-animal interactions, ethology/animal behavior, animal assisted therapy, research, natural environments, and the full integration of animal-assisted therapy with play therapy to address a wide range of client challenges. The program emphasizes a ***relationship-based approach***. The Level 1 course focuses on dogs and horses with information about other species included since AAPT principles and practices apply across species. AAPT can be applied from virtually any theoretical orientation, as well as integrative models of intervention.

Participants in this training program will learn…

- definitions in the AAI field, including for AAPT
- the values and guiding principles for the practice of AAPT
- the five major goal areas that are typically addressed with AAPT for clients of all ages
- how to access information about the selection of dogs
- skills for observing, understanding animal body language fluently, especially dogs and horses
- the importance and skills for using humane, animal-friendly methods of training
- the critical importance of building healthy reciprocal relationships with therapy animals, and how
- the role of playfulness & humor in therapy with clients of all ages and with a wide range of problems
- how to build play, lightness, & emotional safety into the interactions between clients and animals
- a sound, research-based approach to animal involvement in play therapy and other forms of psychotherapy/counseling/intervention/education
- how to provide effective treatment while reducing risks
- how to apply AAPT in a variety of settings and formats, including individual, group, and family

Emphasis is on the use of client-animal play/humor interactions for therapeutic benefit. Many specific AAPT interventions are covered, including nondirective and directive play therapy, as well as AAPT approaches with varying degrees of structure. Participants learn how to conduct therapy in a manner that enhances the achievement of goals while ensuring the well-being of the animals involved. Considerable attention is paid to the human and animal preparatory phases of involving animals in professional work, as well as on the selection, facilitation, and processing of therapeutic material within AAPT for a full range of client ages and problem areas.

The workshop is very hands-on. The online courses provide background that is then applied in a practical manner during the in-person training. Video and live demonstrations as well as experiential portions are followed by skills-practice components with encouraging feedback from the training leaders. It is expected that most participants will develop competence and confidence during the workshop and will be ready to implement AAPT with an appropriate

animal partner at the end of the training. Supervision for further skill development is strongly encouraged and discussed.

The workshop gives participants a chance to explore this exciting field and learn how to develop, implement, and research their own programs. Ideas for working collaboratively with animal professionals are included. The workshop is limited to 10-20 participants, depending on location and the need for pandemic mitigation/social distancing.

This training is for people only. Dogs and horses will be present and available for demonstration and practice segments. The Level 2 training held later features Risë VanFleet and provides opportunities to work with participants' own dogs, and equine clinics featuring Tracie Faa-Thompson continue participants' development of Equine Assisted Play Therapy® skills.

Prerequisites

In general, participants should have prior experience conducting therapy as well as some familiarity with both nondirective (child-centered) and directive play therapy approaches. They should be familiar with basic behaviorism and learning theory, attachment theory, and family systems. Allied health and education professionals should have prior experience working in their fields. If you have questions about the prerequisites, please contact Dr. VanFleet at *rise@risevanfleet.com*. Those without a strong play therapy background, or canine/equine/other professionals interested in attending, are asked to read the book, ***Child-Centered Play Therapy*** (VanFleet, Sywulak, & Sniscak, 2010, Guilford) prior to the in-person training, and Dr. VanFleet or other course instructors can discuss your unique background and what is needed with you.

2 Prerequisite Online Courses are included in the registration fee and must be completed prior to the in-person training. Together the online courses are eligible for 24 additional continuing education (CE) credits. The courses are *Introduction to AAPT* and *Canine Communication for AAPT*. The powerpoints, written articles, and video links are all included in the overall registration fee. Two books and a CD serve as additional "texts" for the online courses and are available for purchase separately at low or discounted cost. Information about accessing the online courses is sent to you after you register, and more information is available via *www.risevanfleet.com/shop*. *The two online courses take approximately 24 hours to complete and must be completed 3 weeks prior to the live training to be eligible to attend the live training.* (Cancellation policies apply if the online courses are not completed.)

Special Needs

We are committed to making workshops accessible to everyone. Please contact us as early in the process as possible if you have special needs. Training is generally held in a country environment with contact with dogs, horses, and other animals.

Schedule

The training runs daily from **9:00 am to 5:45 pm**, with a 5:00 pm dismissal on the last day. There are 28 actual contact hours in the in-person training, and the online courses include 24 hours of instruction, for a total of 52 CE credits/clock hours for the entire program.

Venue

Detailed venue and other information will be sent to participants after they have registered. The live training will be held in a rural environment with dogs and horses present.

Continuing Education

The Family Enhancement & Play Therapy Center is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. The FEAPT Center maintains responsibility for this program and its contents. The Family Enhancement & Play Therapy Center is an NBCC-Approved Continuing Education Provider (5732) and may offer NBCC-approved clock hours for events that meet NBCC requirements. The FEAPT Center solely is responsible for all aspects of the program. It is also an Association for Play Therapy (APT) Approved Provider 95-014. This program has been approved by a number of state social work boards (please contact us for this info). **52 total continuing education credits/clock hours** will be awarded to participants who attend the ***entire*** training (24 for the online courses and 28 for the live training). Partial credit cannot be given. No exceptions can be made to this policy. Please contact us re. various canine and equine credits, which are often available.

Dress

The training will involve work with dogs and horses in a rural environment, including outdoors. Please dress comfortably with this in mind. Rain gear and footwear for muddy areas are also advised. Closed-toed shoes are mandatory for the equine segments.

Fees - Discounted Package

This training package includes registration fees for 2 online courses and the 4-day live AAPT Level 1 workshop (52 CE credits total). 2 textbooks and a CD for the online courses are separate. All amounts are listed in U.S. dollars. Currency conversions are made automatically when you register. We regret that installment payments are not possible.

Early Bird Fee: $1025 USD (fully paid 4 months prior)
Regular Fee: $1200 USD (paid w/in 4 months of workshop start)

GREAT PRICE
for 52 hrs of state-of-the-art hands-on learning!!!

Please note:

During the COVID-19 pandemic or other public health emergencies or disasters, offerings of this workshop will be conducted (or rescheduled) in accordance with the Centers for Disease Control and other country, state, or local public health or emergency management guidelines and restrictions. Please stay in touch with your instructors for more information.

Cancellation Policy:

Registrations are accepted on a first-come-first-served basis. Fees include 4 days of training (28 hours), extensive handout, 2 online courses (24 hours), morning and afternoon snacks and beverages. Lunches/dinners are on your own.

$285 is nonrefundable. Written cancellations received 4 months prior to the start of the workshop will receive a full refund of the balance of the fees. Cancellations after the 4-month point will forfeit a total of $435, with the remainder being refunded.

We regret that NO refunds can be given in the final month preceding the workshop. When someone from the waiting list can substitute, credit toward future trainings may be given. [Failure to complete the prerequisites on time is considered a cancellation in the final month.] **We urge you to consider purchasing travel or other insurance to protect against unforeseen circumstances**.

In the very unlikely event that the workshop must be completely cancelled by the organizers, the International Institute for AAPT® or its assigns will provide a full refund of the registration fees. Participants will be responsible for their own travel fees, another reason to consider purchasing travel insurance that covers this. During the pandemic period or other public health or disaster emergencies, rescheduling might become necessary depending on CDC recommendations, as well as country, state, or local public health/emergency management recommendations and restrictions designed to ensure participant health and well-being. In that case, the cancellation policy above will apply to the rescheduled dates.

Origins and Presentation of This Training

This course was created over many years through the collaboration of Dr. Risë VanFleet and Tracie Faa-Thompson, and includes the input of many past participants and animals. They are also the coauthors of the acclaimed and Maxwell-Award-winning book, *Animal Assisted Play Therapy* (2017; Sarasota, FL: Professional Resource Press).

The Level 1 workshop is offered by fully Certified AAPT Instructors who are highly experienced and who have gone through a rigorous program of certification based on demonstrated competencies. The Level 1 training uses the same PowerPoint, videos, activities, and hands-on practice segments regardless of the instructors.

Bios of the co-founders of AAPT, and the developers of this workshop, can be found in the AAPT Directory under *Certified AAPT Professionals* in the *Co-Founders* section at *www.iiaapt.org*. They have a combined 80 years of experience in the field and are fully dedicated to the highest quality of client service and animal well-being. Names and locations of other presenters are found earlier in this flyer, and their bios can be found in the same Directory under *Certified AAPT Professionals* in the section near the top called *Certified AAPT Instructors*, all at *www.iiaapt.org*.

If you wish to set up a Level 1 workshop near your location, please contact Dr. VanFleet at rise@risevanfleet.com. She will provide an information sheet that details the many considerations and requirements that are needed.

Currently Scheduled Level 1 Workshops

To see the currently available Level 1 workshops, please visit the Training section of www.iiaapt.org or use the link below:
http://risevanfleet.com/shop/product-category/training/level-1/

The IIAAPT organization, the instructors, and the instructors' individual organizations have no conflicts of interest in offering this program, nor is there any commercial support.

Co-Founders of AAPT, Tracie Faa-Thompson and Risë VanFleet, experienced and popular speakers and authors of the award-winning and internationally acclaimed book, *Animal Assisted Play Therapy*, the *Manual of AAPT Techniques*, and dozens of articles, blogs, and chapters.

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR Animal Assisted Play Therapy®

Registration: Level 1 AAPT Workshop

Register early as this workshop often sells out quickly!

Questions? Please contact Dr. VanFleet at *rise@risevanfleet.com* or the instructor of the workshop in which you are interested.

To register securely online:

For all Level 1 trainings: *www.iiaapt.org* (in the Store) or directly at *http://risevanfleet.com/shop/product-category/training/*
Registration links are provided in the store for each of the instructors/locations.

AAPT Training Program in Action

AAPT animals must enjoy the work, not merely tolerate it!

THANK YOU!