




University Hospital
of Psychiatry Zurich



Intercantonal training for Early Intensive Intervention in Autism

Our institutions have joined forces to offer an intercantonal training course specializing in Early Intensive Intervention in Autism to Swiss intervention centers. This training is spread over three years. After completing the three years of training a postgraduate certification in Early Intensive Intervention for Autism will be obtained.

References of the training institutions:

Fondation Pôle Autisme

Place du Cirque 2
1204 Genève
Tel. 022 322 89 20

Klinik für Kinder – und Jugendpsychiatrie und Psychotherapie

Universität Zürich
Neumünsterallee 3
8032 Zürich
Tel. 058 384 66 00

**Ente Ospedaliero Cantonale
Istituto Pediatrico della Svizzera Italiana**

Viale Officina 3
6500 Bellinzona
Tel. 091 811 13 03

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1 PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Intercantonal Training for Early Intensive Intervention in Autism offers professionals a postgraduate certification in Early Intensive Intervention for Autism.

By founding a joint training institute, we are establishing a quality standard that will allow professionals from centers that are recognized or newly created in Switzerland to become trained on effective early interventions for autism.

A large number of specifically trained therapists will be needed to meet the demand for interventions in Switzerland over the next two decades.

Thanks to the intercantonal collaboration between the KJPP University of Zurich, the Fondation Pôle Autisme in Geneva (University of Geneva), the Istituto Pediatrico della Svizzera Italiana and other partners of accredited centers, our expertise, clinical experience, and resources will be optimally shared in order to offer this program at a high level of quality.

This program is open to different professional groups from mental health or education.

The method and type of training is crucial for the effectiveness of the intervention.

The prerequisite for training is master's degree in psychology (bachelor's degrees students in the process of completing a master degree are considered upon request of the institute where the clinical activity takes place), therapeutic pedagogy, speech therapy, occupational therapy (exceptions are possible in consultation with the directors of the institute).

The three-year training will focus on early intensive evidence-based interventions for children with autism. Participants will receive theoretical training in Early Intensive Behavioural Intervention (EIBI) based on Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) and Naturalistic Developmental Behavioural Intervention (NDBI), such as the Early Start Denver Model (ESDM).

The Early Start Denver Model (ESDM) is an NDBI specifically designed for the needs of very young children with ASD, practiced in Geneva by Fondation Pôle Autisme as well as other centers in Switzerland, like Ticino for example. The *Frühe Intensive Verhaltenstherapeutische Intervention* (FIVTI) is an Early Intensive Behavioural Intervention (EIBI) which is practiced in Zurich and is carried out using a combined home and center-based approach. ABA type interventions are also commonly carried out at EOC in Ticino.

ESDM and FIVTI form the basis of this training. Participants will learn these two approaches and receive additional evidence-based tools to expand their repertoire to enable graduates to provide highly qualified early intensive intervention for young children with autism under supervision and over time independently in all cantons of Switzerland. The complementarity of the different tools is intended to prepare trainees for the different challenges that professionals face, as well as the diversity of ASD both in terms of clinical presentation and the evolution of ASD throughout early development.

The different days of training per year are partly live and partly by videoconference.

In addition, knowledge is acquired through self-paced online learning modules (MOOCs on Autism Spectrum Disorders by University of Geneva and online teaching on EIBI and ABA by KJPP University Zurich) and supplementary reading.

While participants are enrolled in the training, they work with children in early intensive intervention under supervision provided by certified ABA or ESDM trainers.

State or public utility provider for intensive early intervention is a prerequisite for the clinical experience portion (participants should attest of two years of work experience at 100%; people who work part time can cumulate % over more years to reach criteria). Additionally, participants should be working on at least 10 clinical cases of children with ASD receiving intensive early interventions (of the 10 patients followed, 4 of them

must be followed for at least 100 hours) and 2 parent coaching interventions must be documented (at least 10 hours per case). A total of 150 hours of supervision, of which at least 50 hours of individual supervision are required for graduation.

As summarized hereafter, the program is over three years: the first year include the Autism Module and the ESDM Module. The second year include the EIBI and ABA module and the third year, optional, a certification to the ESDM (which is a one-by-one, therapist to trainer 5- to 6-steps process) or an EIBI/ABA certification module.

Recognition is granted by the examination committee and the supervisors, and by testing acquired knowledge (multiple choice). Additionally, a minimum of 80% of presence during the courses is required to validate each module.

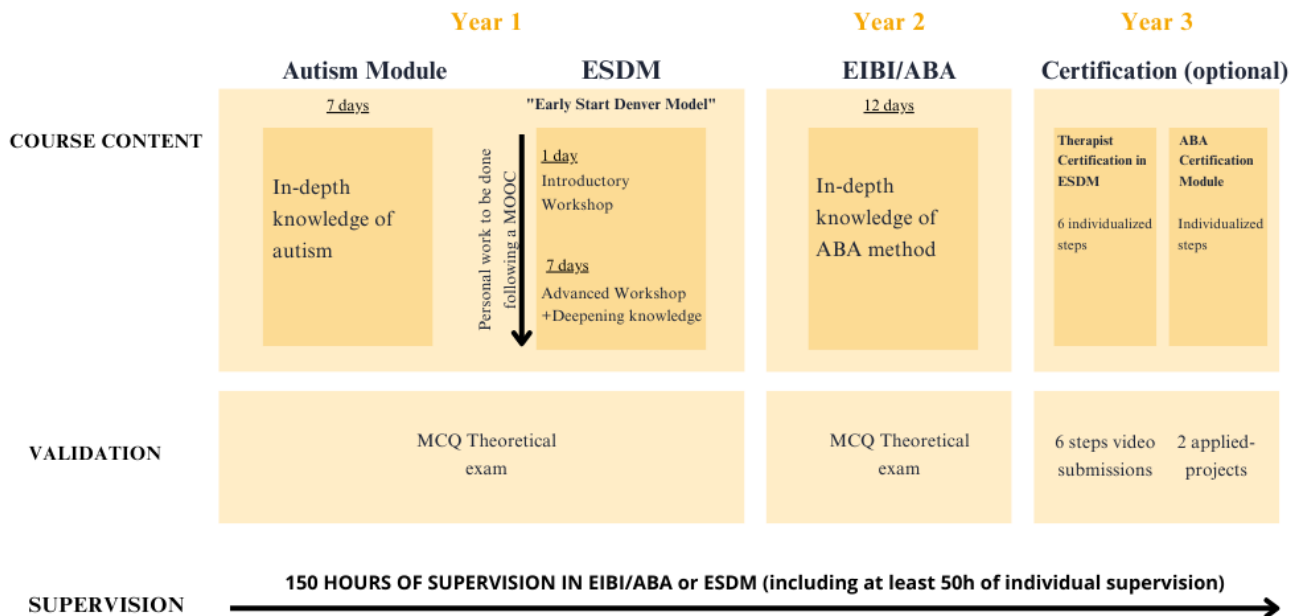
The training will cost 7822,5CH per person for the whole training. The cost for individual and group supervision is not included in the total costs, as well as the ESDM certification and the EIBI/ABA certification module, which is optional.

If you have any questions about the Intercantonal Training, please contact the e-mail address itp@pole-autisme.ch.

2 INTERCANTONAL TRAINING PROGRAM IN EARLY INTERVENTION IN ASD

2.1 OVERVIEW

Intercantonal Training for Early Intensive Intervention in Autism



In the following section the day-by-day program is presented for the three years in order to get a detailed understanding of the content.

Autism module

Date	Time	Topic	Lecturer	Location
2 nd sept 2023	9:00-16:30	Introductory workshop	M. Etienne A. Costes	Geneva
15 th sept 2023	13:00-15:15 15:45-18:00	General introduction to the program Introduction in Autism, introduction to neurobiology of autism	M. Schaer	Online
6 th oct 2023	13:00-15:15 15:45-18:00	History of NDBI Sensory social routine, Back-and- forth interactions, nonverbal communication	M. Franchini	Online
20 oct 2023	13:00-15:15 15:45-18:00	Imitation, joint attention, ABC	M. Etienne C. Robertson	Online
17 th nov 2023	13:00-15:15 15:45-18:00	Play skills, symbolic play, verbal language Assessment in ESDM	C. Robertson	Online
1 st dec 2023	13:00-15:15 15:45-18:00	Early signs, diagnostic tools, parental experience	M. Franchini	Online
15 th dec 2023	13:00-15:15 15:45-18:00	Fidelity tool, video cotation Parental involvement	C. Bouamri	Online
19 th jan 2024	13:00-15:15 15:45-18:00	Risk factors and genetic of ASD	S. Eliez E. Ranza	Online
9 th fév 2024	13:00-15:15 15:45-18:00	Heterogeneity of autism & Comorbidities	M. Schneider	Online
15 th mar 2024	13:00-15:15 15:45-18:00	Typical development (0-4 y.o.)	G. Seeger	Online
19 th apr 2024	13:00-15:15 15:45-18:00	Dealing with sleep problems, food selectivity and feeding issues	M. Schaer A. Burkhart	Online
17 th may 2024	13:00-15:15 15:45-18:00	Alternative communication skills, structured approaches and sensoriality	A. Burkhart B. M. Iseli	Online
30 th may 2024	9:00-16:30	Advanced Workshop 1	M. Etienne C. Bouamri M. Franchini C. Robertson	Geneva
31 may 2024	9:00-16:30	Advanced Workshop 2	C. Bouamri M. Franchini C. Robertson	Geneva
1 st jun 2024	9:00-16:30	Advanced Workshop 3	C. Bouamri M. Franchini C. Robertson	Geneva

2.2 PROGRAM YEAR TWO (lecturer & location may change)

EIBI/ABA

Date	Time	Topic	Lecturer	Location
20 th sept 2024	9:00-12:15 13:15-16:30	History ABA and ESDM/EIBI and development in Switzerland Definition and Characteristics and Basic Concepts of ABA Ethics and professionalism in ABA	Nicole Rohrer	Zürich
21 st sept 2024	9:00-12:15 13:15-16:30	Basic Skills in EIBI/FIVTI	NicoleRohrer	Zürich
16 th nov 2024	9:00-12:15 13:15-16:30	Selecting and Defining Target Behaviors, Measuring Behavior, Improving and Assessing the Quality of Behavioral Measurement	Nadja Studer	Online
30 th nov 2024	9:00-12:15 13:15-16:30	Constructing and Interpreting Graphic Displays of Behavioral Data Analyzing Behavior Change Treatment Desings Planning and Evaluating ABA Research	Nadja Studer	Online
20 th jan 2025	9:00-12:15 13:15-16:30	Assessments in EIBI	Nadja Rohrer	Online
27 th jan 2025	9:00-12:15 13:15-16:30	Defining and dealing with problem behavior	Silja Wirth	Online
7 th mar 2025	9:00-12:15 13:15-16:30	Advanced Skills in EIBI/FIVTI	Silja Wirth	Zürich

8 th mar 2025	9:00-12:15 13:15-16:30	Team Training in EIBI and FIVTI Transition to group settings	Nicole Rohrer	Zürich
9 th may 2025	9:00-12:15 13:15-16:30	Program tracks and flowcharting in EIBI and FIVTI Writing teaching objectives and goals in EIBI and FIVTI	Silja Wirth	Online
10 th may 2025	9:00-12:15 13:15-16:30	Parent training and collaboration with parents	Nadja Studer	Online
27 jun 2025	9:00-12:15 13:15-16:30	Teaching alternative communication skills and alternative language programs	Silja Wirth	Online
28 jun 2025	9:00-12:15 13:15-16:30	Other interventions beyond intensive intervention (toilet training, motivation and token economy)	Nadja Studer	Online

Therapist certification in ESDM

As an option, during the third year of training, participants can involve in the ESDM certification, which is a 5 to 6 steps provided by a ESDM certified trainer. The certification is organized one by one (one therapist with one trainer). The certification includes individual supervision over the therapy plan (Curriculum Checklist and objective writing) as well as feedback on the quality of the therapy attested by video submission.

According to the fulfilment of quality standards decided by the MIND institute, this process allows to obtain an official certification as ESDM therapist from the MIND institute.

Prerequisites to ESDM certification are participation to the Introductory and Advanced Workshop (see ESDM Module program). Participants also have to attest a clinical practice with young children with ASD.

The duration of the certification is generally one year but can be longer according to the quality and timing of the submission of the participants.

The cost of the certification is 2800CH per person for the 5 to 6 steps.

Therapist certification in EIBI

As an option, during the third year of training, participants can involve in an EIBI/ABA certification module. Since it is no longer possible to become certified in Behavior Analysis (BA) by the Certification Board of Behavior Analysis (BACB) for people that work outside of the US/Canada currently it is not possible to get an international certification. We are working on a Swiss and a European Certification which our program will adhere to, as soon as it is in place.

In the meantime, you will be able to receive a certification by the Psychiatric University Hospital. If you want to receive this certification in addition to passing the EIBI/ABA module you will have to complete two applied-projects that are directly related to your clinical work.