

# ZERO TO THREE Certified Trainer: *The Growing Brain* Certification Criteria Overview



There are two stages of ZERO TO THREE Trainer Certifications: Stage 1. Provisional Trainer; and Stage 2. Certified Trainer. ZERO TO THREE digital Membership is included in both stages of certification. This overview summarizes the ZERO TO THREE Certified Trainer: *The Growing Brain* timeframe, criteria, and evidence options by certification stage. This page outlines the Provisional Trainer information; page 2 outlines the Certified Trainer information. Please visit [www.zerotothree.org/trainercertification](http://www.zerotothree.org/trainercertification) or contact [trainercertification@zerotothree.org](mailto:trainercertification@zerotothree.org) for additional information.

Stage 1. PROVISIONAL TRAINER		Timeframe: valid for 1 year; candidates document meeting full Certification criteria within this provisional year
Step 1: You must have an active ZERO TO THREE profile. Create or confirm your learner profile on <a href="#">ZERO TO THREE   Learn</a> .		
Step 2: Complete the Provisional Trainer certification application for <i>The Growing Brain</i> . Submit the application on <a href="#">ZERO TO THREE   Learn</a> .		
Applicant Criteria ( <i>What are the requirements to become certified?</i> )	Application Evidence Options ( <i>What evidence does the application require?</i> )	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Be a current approved early childhood trainer in your home state or country <b>OR</b> meet specified standards as an adult educator</li> </ul>	<p><b>Applicants provide at least 1 of the following evidence options as part of the trainer certification application process:</b></p> <p><b>Early Childhood trainer:</b> A copy of an official certificate, designation letter, or other written designation of approved early childhood trainer or adult educator status awarded by your state or country professional development system, higher education institution, or other appropriate governance entity</p> <p><b>–OR–</b></p> <p><b>Adult educator:</b> A current resume noting the following evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A minimum of a bachelor’s degree in early childhood or a related field; <b>AND</b></li> <li>● At least three years of experience as an adult educator; <b>AND</b></li> <li>● Active participation in professional activities through at least 1 of the following options:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Membership in an early childhood focused professional organization like ZERO TO THREE, or</li> <li>○ Participation in a community, state, or national initiative related to early childhood, or</li> <li>○ Evidence of ongoing professional development (e.g., an organized professional learning community), or</li> <li>○ Participation in at least 1 state, regional, or national early childhood development related conference</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Successfully complete <i>The Growing Brain</i> Training-of-Trainer sessions:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Attend all sessions</li> <li>● Pass the course’s knowledge assessment with at least an 80% score within 14 calendar days of completing the course</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Applicants upload the following documentation as part of the trainer certification application process:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>The Growing Brain</i> Training-of-Trainers certificate of attendance</li> </ul> <p><b>ZERO TO THREE will verify this evidence for applicants; DO NOT submit documentation for these criteria</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Verified passing scores on knowledge assessment within specified timeframe</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Review and agree to uphold the ZERO TO THREE Code of Practice, Values and Ethics Statement, and Trainer Agreement</li> </ul>	<p><b>Applicants must click the “Agree” button as part of the trainer certification application process:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sign the ZERO TO THREE Code of Practice, Values and Ethics Statement, and Trainer Agreement by clicking the “Agree” button in the application</li> </ul>	

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Stage 2. CERTIFIED TRAINER		Timeframe: valid for 1 year; candidates document and maintain certification annually
Step 1: Confirm you are a current Provisional or Certified Trainer: <i>The Growing Brain</i> on <a href="#">ZERO TO THREE   Learn</a> .		
Step 2: Complete the ZERO TO THREE Trainer Certification renewal process. Submit the renewal application and pay \$99.00 USD application and processing fee on <a href="#">ZERO TO THREE   Learn</a> . Annual fee includes ZERO TO THREE digital Membership for 1 year.		
Applicant Criteria (What are the requirements to become certified?)	Application Evidence Options (What evidence does the application require?)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Be a current approved early childhood trainer in your home state or country <b>OR</b> meet specified standards as an adult educator</li> </ul>	<p><b>Applicants update or provide additional evidence of at least 1 of the following evidence options as part of the trainer certification application process:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current approved trainer status in your home state or country</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>–OR–</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That they meet specified standards as an adult educator (see examples of evidence under the Provisional Trainer information on page 1)</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Successfully deliver 3 units in their entirety using <i>The Growing Brain</i> Participant Manual OR 9 hours of training across <i>The Growing Brain</i> curriculum units since last certification award date</li> </ul>	<p><b>Please Note: All evidence</b> for meeting this criterion <b>must</b> contain the name of training , date(s) of delivery, location, and trainer name.</p> <p><b>Applicants upload the following evidence as part of the trainer certification application process:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved training event record(s) <b>OR</b> training agenda(s); <b>AND</b></li> <li>• A personal reflection on and with at least 1 of the following evidence options:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A summary of your training participants’ evaluations</li> <li>○ A letter of recommendation from a peer or mentor trainer, or other formal observer of your <i>The Growing Brain</i> training delivery of ; letter must be dated within the last year and include the observer’s contact information</li> <li>○ Brief video clip of a <i>The Growing Brain</i> training delivered since last certification date with a written or video summary</li> <li>○ Other trainer requested documentation options pre-approved by ZERO TO THREE</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Participate in at least 1 ZERO TO THREE <i>The Growing Brain</i> trainer support offering since last certification award date</li> </ul>	<p><b>ZERO TO THREE will verify this evidence for applicants; DO NOT submit documentation for this criterion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Verified attendance in a ZERO TO THREE trainer support offering since the last certification award date</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Participate in at least 5 clock hours of professional development in the areas of social-emotional, cognitive, or language and literacy development for children P-5; or other areas of early childhood development which support a child’s growing brain since last certification award date</li> </ul>	<p><b>Applicants upload training certificates or transcripts as part of the trainer certification application process:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At least 5 clock hours of professional development in ZERO TO THREE approved areas since last certification date                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Total clock hours may include ZERO TO THREE trainer support offerings or membership events</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Review and agree to continue upholding the ZERO TO THREE Code of Practice, Values and Ethics Statement, and Trainer Agreement</li> </ul>	<p><b>Applicants must click the “Agree” button as part of the trainer certification application process:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sign the ZERO TO THREE Code of Practice, Values and Ethics Statement, and Trainer Agreement by clicking the "Agree" button in the application</li> </ul>	