



## **Tobacco Treatment Specialist Training Course**

### **Overview**

The Breathing Association's Tobacco Treatment Specialist Training Course (TTS) is appropriate for health professionals from many disciplines, such as nursing, medicine, psychology, dentistry and dental hygiene, social services, counseling, addiction treatment, respiratory therapy, and health education. This course prepares professionals to provide treatment for tobacco dependent persons in many clinical and community settings.

This course, like those offered at several other institutions across the country has been designed to meet the standards of Association for the Treatment of Tobacco Use and Dependence (ATTUD) and is accredited by the Council for Tobacco Treatment Training Programs (CTTTP) for training, competencies and credentialing of TTS trainees.

### **Prerequisites**

Requirements to participate in the course are as follows:

- A Bachelor's Degree or higher in a health-related discipline, preferably with at least one year's experience in counseling, health education, and/or patient care. Applicants must provide 1) a copy of the highest degree earned and a Statement of Work Experience form.
- Documented status as a tobacco-free person; at least six months tobacco-free (for recovering tobacco users)

#### **OR**

- If you do not have a Bachelor's Degree, you must provide 1) a Statement of Work Experience for and 2) copies of significant professional licenses/credentials in related fields.
- Documented Status as a tobacco-free person; at least six months tobacco-free (for recovering tobacco users).

### **Requirements for Certification**

Persons who attend the Tobacco Treatment Specialist course and pass will receive a Certificate of Completion. However, full certification as a Tobacco Treatment Specialist is a process that goes beyond the didactic coursework we offer. Requirements to receive a Provisional Certification or a Full Certification are as follows:

- Provisional Certification: those who attend and complete the course, but have not fulfilled the patient care requirements of the course will receive a Provisional Certificate.
- Full Certification: Those who attend and complete the course AND provide proof of experience in providing tobacco dependence treatment will receive a Full Certification

Contact time in tobacco cessation patient care may be either prior to or subsequent to the Tobacco Treatment Specialist course. For those with a Bachelor's Degree or less, applicants should demonstrate a total of 480 hours of clinical activity related to tobacco use cessation. Persons with a graduate degree or post-Bachelors qualifications in a health-related field (e.g. advanced-practice nursing) should show 240 hours of patient care activity in tobacco use cessation. Several types of activity related to cessation can count toward this requirement:

- Delivering direct patient care in tobacco cessation via group or individual counseling sessions, and/or telephone interventions and follow-up.
- Preparation time involved with cessation sessions or training class
- Supervision of other healthcare personnel who provide tobacco cessation services

Candidates for Full certification should complete the requirements for patient care activity within TWO years of taking the tobacco Treatment Specialist training course.