

Overview of Auriculotherapy Certification Process

The Auriculotherapy Certification Institute was incorporated as an international, non-profit, educational organization in August of 1999, in Los Angeles, California. ACI received 501(c)(3) non-profit status by the United States Internal Revenue Service in 2008. By certifying well qualified practitioners of auriculotherapy, and by establishing high standards of ethical practice in this domain, ACI has received national and international recognition for its advanced training in this specialized clinical skill.

The Auriculotherapy Certification Institute offers an ACI Written Exam and an ACI Practicum Exams for certification in auriculotherapy and auricular acupuncture. The purpose of obtaining ACI certification is to provide professional acknowledgement of those health care practitioners who have received advanced training in the clinical utilization of auricular reflex points. Individuals who are granted the ACI Certificate are required to demonstrate high excellence in their academic knowledge and clinical skills in the field of auriculotherapy. These practitioners will have their name and contact information published on the ACI website www.auriculotherapy.org in the *List of Practitioners*, which informs potential patients of a practitioner in their area who can provide the specialized benefits of auriculotherapy.

An ACI certificate does not replace the need for state licensure in a specific health care field in order to comply with state healthcare regulations. It is thus necessary for an individual to check with their individual state in order to assess how ACI Certification will apply to their practice of this modality in that state.

Requirements for ACI Certification

- Completion of the *ACI Application Form* (AAF) at the time of registering for the ACI certification exam, either at an Onsite seminar or as part of the Online Registration process.
- Payment of *ACI Exam Registration Fee* of \$225 USD that covers verification of information on the ACI application, scoring the written and practicum exams, and evaluation of clinical cases. Requests for reductions in the amount of the registration fee are determined by the ACI Board.
- Completion of *Coursework in Auriculotherapy Training* form (CAT) provided by ACI, which requests applicants to indicate their educational training(s), instructor(s), and the names and dates of courses previously taken on auriculotherapy. This information is included in the Online Registration process.
- Copy of *Official Transcript*, or a copy of diploma, from the applicant's graduate degree granting institute. This information should be submitted to ACI by at least one month following the submission of the *ACI Application Form*. An original copy of your academic transcript is not required.
- Copy of current *State Health Care License* or the license information of a health care practitioner that the applicant will be working with. There are instances when an applicant can use other forms of licensure.
- Obtain a passing score of 70% on the *ACI Written Exam*, consisting of 60 multiple choice, objective questions. This exam covers an applicant's knowledge of auricular anatomy, auricular master points, musculoskeletal auricular points, internal organ auricular points, neuroendocrine auricular points and functional acupoints on the ear. Both the Chinese ear acupuncture points and the European (Nogier) auriculotherapy systems of somatotopic representations on the external ear are included on the exam.
- The "*Terms to Know*" is a form with the information covered on the ACI exam and is available on the ACI website www.auriculotherapy.org. These terms provide the certification applicant specific information on the content on the ACI exam. There is also a *Practice ACI Exam* that is available on the website.
- Obtain a passing score on the *ACI Practicum Exam* given by an authorized ACI examiner. The practicum evaluation will require discussion of applicant's clinical experience with auriculotherapy and a demonstration of clinical skills using auriculotherapy techniques, procedures and equipment. The applicant will need to have access to another individual whose external ear is available to demonstrate the location of specific auricular reflex points that can be viewed by the ACI examiner. The practicum exam may be offered Onsite at an auriculotherapy seminar or Online at the ACI website.
- Submission of *20 Clinical Cases* treated by the certification applicant within 6 months of passing the ACI Written and Practicum exams. These clinical cases must be documented on the *Auriculotherapy Treatment Form* (ATF) for each of the 20 different individuals treated by the applicant. The ATF form is available on the ACI website www.auriculotherapy.org.