

Basic training for Human-Dog-AAI-Teams: general information

- For reasons of better readability, the generic masculine is used -

ISAAT accredits curricula for the basic training of human-dog teams working in animal-assisted interventions (AAI) or who will do so in the future. In contrast to the accreditation of professional training in animal-assisted therapy, pedagogy, coaching or activities, which only aim at training humans, in basic training humans and dogs are trained as a joint team.

The corresponding training must include an aptitude test of the team at the beginning, a theoretical basis for the human, practical training sequences and defined tests or exams at the end of the training (theory for the human, practical/setting sequences TGI for the human-dog team). The curriculum explicitly does not certify the dog as an independent assistance dog for animal-assisted intervention, but the dog has this function only in the team together with the human, who has successfully completed the basic training together with him. The qualification is not transferable to other dogs (animals) or to other people.

The teams are certified depending on the qualification,

- 1) to work as a visiting dog team or. TGA team if the human has no specific training in the field of pedagogy, coaching, psychology, therapy or medicine,
- 2) to work as a team in the field of the human's professional qualification (AAT team for therapy, psychology, medicine; AAP team for pedagogy; AAC team for coaching; alternatively AAI companion dog team),
- 3) to accompany and support pedagogues, social workers, medical doctors, psychologists or therapists in their TGI approach.

The specification and orientation to the individual requirements are made by the content of the respective curriculum of the basic training.

The curriculum of the organization providing the **basic training** must **be reaccredited after three years**. The accreditation period noted in the logo applies, provided that there are no premature changes. Changes and deviations of contents or lecturers compared to the accredited curriculum must be reported immediately and independently to the ISAAT Executive Board. In this case, the ISAAT Executive Board, with the involvement of the Accreditation Commission and, if necessary, external experts, decides whether the quality of the accredited curriculum is still guaranteed and meets the requirements for basic training; an early re-accreditation or new accreditation may be necessary in this case.

The fees for the accreditation process of the basic training are EUR 500, payable with the submission of the accreditation application. You'll not receive a separate invoice.

The reaccreditation fee is EUR 500.

The annual membership fee is currently EUR 150.

Procedure

The application form must be completed in German, signed and sent as a PDF file by mail to ISAAT at info@isaat.org. The responsible coordinator in the ISAAT Board forwards the application to independent reviewers, who report their recommendations to the case coordinator. The Board votes on the application based on the recommendation of the reviewer(s) and the coordinator. The President reports acceptance or rejection of the application back to the applicant. If the curriculum is accredited, the applicant/organization/institute becomes a voting ISAAT member.

Accreditation of the described curriculum does not mean that the other curricula of this institute/organization are ISAAT certified - this must be clearly declared so on the website as well as other materials. The institute/organization becomes an ISAAT member in connection with the valid accreditation, but the certification of other curricula is independent of it.

If the reaccreditation of the basic training is not successful or if the curriculum is not reaccredited in time (at least 3 months before the reaccreditation period expires) within one year, the Board of Directors will decide whether the ISAAT membership will lose its validity.

**Application for
Accreditation of Basic Training Human-Dog-AAI-Team and ISAAT Membership**

Applicant (name of institute, organization, applicant):

.....
.....
.....
.....

Name of contact person/contact person:

.....
.....

Function of the contact person/contact within the organization:

.....
.....

Address:

.....
.....
.....

Country / State:

.....

Phone:

.....
.....

Email address:

.....

Homepage:

.....

Legal form of the organization (association, e.V., institute, other; proof enclosed):

.....
.....

Exact title of the curriculum to which the application refers

(note: for different or deviating curriculum contents in several human-dog team training variants, a separate application for accreditation must be submitted in each case)

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

General information on the application for re/accreditation

1. Re/accreditation is limited to three calendar years and is not renewable automatic. Violation of ISAAT standards and specifications during this period may result in immediate expulsion or revocation of the curriculum's accreditation. Members have a duty to inform ISAAT regarding changes in the curriculum and/or a relevant area.
2. An application and the transfer of the application fee do not automatically lead to accreditation. The fee is non-refundable. Accreditation decisions are based on the recommendations of the independent evaluators and the coordinator.
3. After the first accreditation, reaccreditation must be applied for every three years without being asked and with a deadline of 3 months before the end of the valid accreditation period. **The documents for reaccreditation must be complete and updated** (changes are to be marked in color) and sent to the secretariat **electronically** (by e-mail, PDF file) **no later than three months before the end of the accreditation period.**

Email address secretariat: info@isaat.org
or to the contact person for accreditations in the Executive Board: Bettina Freimut,
b.freimut@isaat.org

Application documents

The following documents must be enclosed with appropriate numbering:

1. Information about the structure of the organization, the provider
 1. Organization offering the curriculum (incl. proof)
 2. Persons responsible for the basic training and the content of the curriculum

3. Proof of qualification of those responsible (minimum requirement: certified human-dog AAI team with at least 25 practiced interventions with different target groups, also dog trainer qualification and/or recognized specialist AAI qualification).
4. Spatial conditions (inside, outside), facilities and technical equipment
2. Curriculum information (full documentation including access links and authorization to, for example, internal learning platforms, online course forums, etc.)
3. Structure of the curriculum
 1. Number of hours theory, practice and self-study
 2. Compulsory entry examination of the human-dog team as an admission criterion
 3. Curriculum content and materials (literature, teaching scripts, time required per subject area) Theory and practice
4. Assessment criteria / performance records
 1. Participation criteria (course participation obligation, contract documents, GTC, ...)
 2. Tests/examinations (contents theory, practice as well as evaluation of the human-dog teams, examination regulations)
 3. Supervised hands-on animal-assisted interventions implemented by the team, supervision documentation; internships/hospitalizations.
5. Lecturer

Name, qualifications (including resume, brief CV), and topics the individual covers within the curriculum.
6. Cost of basic training
7. Certificate (with the exact wording)
8. Inspections, re-inspection or re-certification of teams after completion of basic training (at least every two years), required continuing education certificates of graduates (at least 16 teaching units within 2 years).

Accreditation Requirements Basic Training Human-Dog AAI Team

Please refer to the mandatory **checklist** (see appendix) on the minimum requirements according to the ISAAT criteria as well as the mandatory **ISAAT Basic Training Framework Curricula** when preparing the application.

Fees

Accreditation fee: EUR 500,-

Date of bank transfer:

Annual membership fee: EUR 150,-.

(must also be paid in the first year of membership, invoicing is done by ISAAT)

Payee:

BGL BNP PARIBAS SA 40, avenue J.F. Kennedy L-2951 LUXEMBOURG Account holder: ISAAT

IBAN: LU59 0030 1237 1574 0000

SWIFT/BIC: BGLLLULL

Conditions for re/accreditation and ISAAT membership

1. Receipt of the re-accreditation/accreditation fee in full amount
2. Application for re/accreditation and membership with all required documents
3. The recommendation for acceptance of the application by the reviewers and the coordinator
for the attention of the ISAAT Executive Board
4. Presence of the signed membership agreement and logo usage agreement (will be sent after
sent to you after a successful accreditation application)
5. Receipt of membership fee (annual)

Binding agreements on the application for re/accreditation

1. I hereby certify that the information provided in this application and the enclosed materials are accurate and current.
2. I certify that I have read, acknowledged, and understand the information and regulations pertaining to Basic Training Accreditation and ISAAT Membership.
3. I, or on behalf of the above organization, hereby apply for ISAAT membership and accreditation of the described curriculum.

Name:

.....

Place, date:

.....

Signature:

.....

Checklist - Minimum requirements for accreditation of basic training Human-Dog-AAI-Team according to ISAAT criteria

Please follow the checklist when preparing your application. The checklist includes the minimum curriculum requirements required by ISAAT. Please adopt the numbering when presenting your application.

1. Applicant or applicant organization

1.1 Organization offering the curriculum

Describe the structure and legal form of the organization

- Society/association: official documents (statutes, registration etc.), number of members
- Company: official papers/registration
- Other legal forms

1.2 Persons with TGI knowledge who are responsible for the content and implementation of the curriculum.

Name, qualifications, short CV: Education in the field of therapy/education/psychology/coaching/medicine/other, related expertise e.g. dog trainer, specialist for animal-assisted interventions (ISAAT/ESAAT certified), qualification as human-dog-AAI-team with at least 25 active practical interventions with different target groups.

1.3 Rooms, facilities and technical equipment

Rooms and training facilities, as well as available equipment, used for basic training (facilities must allow for good conduct of the course; approximately 2/3 of the training should be able to take place indoors)

2. Information about the curriculum

- Outline the curriculum materials/brochures that are available for interested future participants. Indicate how the basic training will be advertised (flyers, homepage, advertisements, etc.)
- Attach application forms, admission criteria, contract documents (e.g., terms and conditions), proof of attendance, study regulations, etc.

3. structure of the curriculum

The ISAAT framework curriculum basic training is a mandatory part of the curriculum of basic trainings and the application, valid from 2024!

3.1 Minimum hourly requirement

- At least 50 UE* (*45 min = 1 teaching unit) Theory
- At least 50 UE* practice and practical AAI units of the human-dog team.
- At least 25 UE* Self-study, documentation, examination/preparation

3.2 Curriculum content and documentation

- Contents with number of hours in UE (=lesson units*)
- Documents (literature/recommendations, manuscripts, teaching scripts (electronic, hard copy, etc.))
- Description of the courses/types, the content of the practical training of the team (describe the ethical guidelines they follow, as well as the training philosophy, specific and TGI practical training content; training based only on subordination as well as aversive training methods will not be accepted) as well as the other media available to the participants

3.3 Minimum Curriculum Content Requirements Basic Training

- Theoretical Content:

Mandatory content to be included in theory: TVT leaflet Dog in Social Action, IAHAIO Whitepaper, Isaat Standards, Animal Welfare Dog Regulation - in each case in the currently valid versions.

Health care, anatomy, first aid for dogs	10 teaching units
hygiene/risk management	2 teaching units
(Animal) Ethical Aspects, Animal Welfare	6 teaching units
Law, regulations, animal welfare, liability	4 teaching units
Dog behavior/ethology, communication	10 teaching units
Learning behavior, training basics	8 teaching units
Transfer theory-practice, preparation for practice	4 teaching units
Free topics and required focal points** of the qualification-related training (variable!) **for example: basics of pedagogy, basics of psychology, basics of medicine, therapy (especially geriatrics)	6 teaching units

- Entry examination of the human-dog team before or at the beginning of training as a mandatory admission criterion.

Contents: Human-dog bond, dog behavior assessment, training status, training philosophy/methods, command safety, impulse control, stress regulation and conflict resolution strategies.

- Practical training (required in presence; about 2/3 of the training should be indoors, as assignments are often indoors as well).

- Social and communication behavior toward people
- Social/behavior toward other animals/dogs
- Influence/control, signals, handling, human-dog communication, Stress signs/regulation, conflict behavior, individual signals
- AAI-specific situations, role plays, setting sequences

- Different forms of teaching (e.g. face-to-face teaching, PowerPoint presentations, small group work, video conference-based seminars, teaching videos, etc.)

- list each with corresponding number of teaching units
- in the case of teaching videos, video lectures, etc. on relevant content as part of the

curriculum, a final learning objective check or a competence test must be attached to check the teaching of the content

4. assessment criteria / performance records

4.1 Active course participation (at least 80% of the theory hours must be attended. There must be documentation of attendance)

4.2 Appropriate examination regulations are required

Description of the number of persons and the qualification of the examination board (who develops the theoretical and practical tests, who conducts them) as well as a description of the requirements for an examination admission and possibilities to repeat the examination in case of failure.

a) Examination on theoretical knowledge (may be oral or written in at least 30 questions; must be documented and archived).

b) Assessment or testing of the team (practical test, which includes social behavior in everyday situations, social behavior towards people in direct and indirect contact and especially towards people with special needs/behaviors, and acceptance of treats and play behavior.

show.

Teams as a whole and dog-human interactions must be evaluated. At least 2/3 of the test should take place indoors. For the test it is also necessary to present the evidence of a veterinary check (health certificate), which confirms a good health of the dog and suitability for animal-assisted use.

4.3 Supervised practical animal-assisted interventions as a team (at least three interventions, documentation of these interventions, supervision by a person experienced in working as a human-dog-AAI-team or representing an experienced organization), and optional specific internships or job shadowing (insight into AAI practice).

5. Lecturer

Provide an overview of all lecturers in the curriculum with the relevant topics they cover and the qualifications of all lecturers (short CV, resume).

6. Costs

Provide information on the cost of basic training for each participant, including exam fees and fees for retaking the exam (if required)

7. Certificate

Attach an example of a certificate that participants receive after successful participation in the basic training. The certificate must state the qualification for the specific field of work of the human-dog-TGT team (pedagogy, therapy, medicine, nursing, social work, etc.). If the human has no such qualification, the certificate must state "certified for animal-assisted activities".

8. Controls / Re-examination of the teams after completion of the course.

Provide information on at least biennial inspections and documentation of ongoing team training. ISAAT requires that all human-dog-AAI-teams be checked at least biennially, including the dog's training level, the team's interaction, and veterinary health checks. The organization is required to verify that the human-dog-AAI-team, after **two years** has attended **at least 16 units of specific continuing education** (courses, conferences, etc.). The continuing education certificates as well as the re-verification must be documented and archived for the period of ISAAT accreditation.

The following **options** are available for the **checks / rechecks**:

Option 1: Individual appointment with individual coaching, minimum 30 minutes

Option 2: Group appointment (3-6 participants) with individual coaching, minimum size 60 minutes

Option 3: Presence observation at a practice setting with subsequent Consultation, minimum 60 minutes (30 min. practice setting, 30 min. consultation)

Option 4: Videoconference-based observation at a practice setting followed by a consultation, minimum minutes (30 min. practice setting, 30 min. consultation)

Option 5: Supervised video sequences of 2 practice sessions: to be submitted are 2 unedited videos of practice sequences of approx. 30 minutes each; final consultation 30 minutes (by telephone or video conference)

The checks / rechecks can also be completed at a provider other than the previous training institute, providing that it has a valid ISAAT accreditation of a basic training.

The agreement of the providers among themselves is assumed here, on the part of the participant a corresponding declaration of consent to the passing on of relevant data and information must be obtained.