



January, 2016

This notification is to inform you of some recent changes that have occurred with Canadian RPT and RPT-S registrants. The changes referenced below affect a small number of our Canadian registrants. Since APT has no way of knowing if its vast number of members, registrants, Approved Providers, and Approved Centers are affiliated in some way with Canadian supervisees, training attendees, and/or fellow Canadian play therapists interested in the RPT/S credentials, this notice has been made available to all on our website.

As APT's understanding of Canadian licensing regulations deepens, it has come to our attention that we erroneously approved registrants that did not at time of approval, nor currently, meet the Registered Play Therapist/Supervisor licensing requirement.

In order to meet APT's credentialing licensure requirement, an applicant **MUST** hold a current license, issued by a licensing board, which is the government agency assigned to regulate and investigate the mental health profession regulated by an established mental health act.

Certification or membership to mental health associations does not meet the RPT/S licensing requirement, but are fine as secondary credentials. The following are examples of mental health associations that do not meet the credentialing licensure requirements (this list is not exhaustive): Canadian Professional Counsellors Association; British Columbia Association of Clinical Counsellors; Canadian Counselling & Psychotherapy Association; Ontario Association of Consultants, Counsellors, Psychometrist & Psychotherapists; Manitoba Institute of Registered Social Workers; Registry of Marriage & Family Therapists in Canada, Inc.; and American Association for Marriage & Family Therapy.

The licensing requirements are in place at the advisement of our attorney to reduce legal liability to APT. Since the error in approval lies with us, APT in consultation with its legal team decided to "grandfather" current, active registrants -- allowing those registrants without a license to maintain the RPT/S credential.

We hope this solution minimizes any inconvenience to the registrant and demonstrates responsibility to our stakeholders by maintaining legal compliance. However, now that we have a clear understanding of Canadian licensing vs. certification, we will no longer approve any applicant that does not hold a current license, issued by a licensing board as specified in the RPT/S Guide.

Please note "grandfathered" Canadian RPT registrants may not obtain the RPT-S credential unless they meet the RPT-S licensing requirement.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact APT. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Lebbby, CAE, CMP  
President & CEO