

THE CENTER FOR SELF LEADERSHIP

www.selfleadership.org

Dual/Multiple Relationship Policy for
Training Staff Members in
Level 1, 2, and 3 Internal Family SystemsSM (IFSSM)Training Programs
Organized by The Center for Self Leadership (CSL)

Definitions:

<u>Trainer</u> – For the purposes of this policy, any Lead Trainer, Co-Lead Trainer, Guest Trainer, Assistant Trainer, Assistant Trainer Mentee, Program Assistant, and other person(s) teaching at an IFS Level 1, 2, or 3 training program organized by The Center for Self Leadership (CSL).

<u>Participant</u> – For the purposes of this policy, anyone who is a student in an IFS Level 1, 2, or 3 training program organized by CSL.

<u>Roster</u> – The document generated by CSL for each training that may list training applicants, accepted training participants, trainers, and their personal information. Rosters are routinely updated with additional applicants, participants, and trainers.

- 1. Different states, provinces, and other governmental jurisdictions may have different policies regarding dual/multiple relationships for counselors, therapists, and other professionals for whom dual/multiple relationships may exist. Therefore, trainers are expected to take responsibility for checking with their particular and applicable governing policies, and for adhering to the professional standards for dual/multiple relationships outlined therein. Trainers are also expected to adhere to the governing policies of their professional disciplines regarding dual/multiple relationships.
- 2. It is CSL's policy that a trainer may not enter into a therapeutic or supervisory relationship with a training participant or other trainer in their training until the training is completed. Trainers are expected to adhere to the professional standards as in paragraph 1 above if those standards are more stringent or comprehensive than CSL's.
- 3. CSL is committed to maintaining the safety of its highly experiential IFS training programs. To that end, CSL is sensitive to the potential difficulties of any type of dual/multiple relationship between trainer and trainer, or trainer and participant. Therefore, CSL requires Lead Trainers, Co-Lead Trainers, Assistant Trainers, Guest Trainers, and Assistant Trainer Mentees, to review all applicants for their trainings to determine if they are in dual/multiple relationships with any of them.
 - If you, as a Lead Trainer, Co-Lead Trainer, Assistant Trainer, Guest Trainer, or Assistant Trainer Mentee, believe you are in a dual/multiple relationship with anyone that involves privileged communication, particularly (but not only) supervisory or therapeutic, you must contact the other person(s) and resolve the situation in accordance with this policy before the training begins, and thoroughly work out how the dual/multiple relationship will be managed through the end of the training. CSL acknowledges that dual/multiple relationships that involve privileged communication are confidential and, therefore, CSL cannot be responsible for resolving them or for their existence in its training programs.
- 4. If you, as a Lead Trainer, Co-Lead Trainer, Assistant Trainer, Guest Trainer, or Assistant Trainer Mentee, believe you are in a dual/multiple relationship with anyone that does not involve privileged communication, you may either contact the other person(s) and resolve the situation in accordance with this policy before the training begins, or contact your Lead Trainer before the training begins.
 - If a participant or trainer is going to be asked to withdraw from a training in order to resolve a dual/multiple relationship that does not involve privileged communication, and that person is dissatisfied with being asked to withdraw, then at that time the Lead Trainer will send an email to CSL's Executive Director, and simultaneously send a copy of that email to CSL's Director of Staffing and Training Program Coordinator for their information. The final decision about how to

- handle a dual/multiple relationship that does not involve privileged communication rests with CSL's Executive Director.
- 5. If any trainer wants to disclose their dual/multiple relationship to other trainers in their training, then the trainer with a dual/multiple relationship must have a signed agreement with the person with whom they have a dual/multiple relationship granting permission for such disclosure.
 - If any trainer wants to disclose their dual/multiple relationship to participants in their training, then the trainer with the dual/multiple relationship must have a signed agreement with the participant with whom they have a dual/multiple relationship granting permission for such disclosure. These written agreements must be provided, secured, and held by the trainer, and are not the responsibility of CSL. These written agreements must be completed before the training begins.
- 6. If you are a Lead Trainer, Co-Lead Trainer, Guest Trainer, Assistant Trainer, or Assistant Trainer Mentee, you must access your trainings' rosters on CSL's file sharing system when you need to know more about who is involved with your trainings.
- 7. Dual/Multiple Relationships Involving Program Assistants, and Assistant Trainers' Responsibility for Sharing Rosters with Program Assistant Applicants
 - a. Anyone who has a potentially problematic dual/multiple relationship with a training's Lead Trainer, Co-Lead Trainer, Guest Trainer, Assistant Trainer, and/or Assistant Trainer Mentee is discouraged from applying to be a Program Assistant in that training.
 - b. Assistant Trainers must share their trainings' current rosters with Program Assistant applicants before Program Assistants are chosen so they can screen for dual/multiple relationships.
 - c. Assistant Trainers must share their trainings' current rosters with Program Assistants who have been chosen so they can screen for dual/multiple relationships, and this must be done every 2-3 weeks thereafter, during the time before the training begins.
 - d. If a Program Assistant has a dual/multiple relationship with a participant that involves privileged communication, and the dual/multiple relationship is potentially problematic such that it cannot be ethically managed within the training (as determined by those in the dual/multiple relationship and in accordance with CSL's dual/multiple relationship policy), then the Program Assistant is required to withdraw from the training.
 - e. If a Program Assistant has a dual/multiple relationship with a participant that does not involve privileged communication, then the Program Assistant may either contact the other person(s) and resolve the situation in accordance with this policy before the beginning of the training, and thoroughly work out how the dual/multiple relationship will be managed through the end of the training, or contact the Lead Trainer. If a participant or Program Assistant is going to be asked to withdraw from a training in order to resolve a dual/multiple relationship that does not involve privileged communication, and that person is dissatisfied with being asked to withdraw, then at that time the Lead Trainer will send an email to CSL's Executive Director, and simultaneously send a copy of that email to CSL's Director of Staffing and Training Program Coordinator for their information. The final decision about how to handle a dual/multiple relationship that does not involve privileged communication rests with CSL's Executive Director.