

## GAIN Certification Levels

This is a basic description of requirements for different levels of GAIN certification. More information on GAIN certification can be found in chapter 8 of the GAIN manual or by contacting [GAINSupport@chestnut.org](mailto:GAINSupport@chestnut.org).

- 1.) **GAIN Site Interviewer Certification** – This level of certification is for people who have been trained by a certified Local or National Trainer to administer the GAIN at a training other than one sponsored by the GAIN Coordinating Center. Certifications are issued by the GCC based on the recommendation of the certified Trainer and a review of a final written feedback form of Administration QA feedback. A certified Site Interviewer may not go on to Local Trainer certification without attending a subsequent GCC-sponsored national training and achieving Administration certification.
- 2.) **GAIN Coursework Certification** – This is the most general level of certification and the first step toward all other certifications.
  - **Prerequisites**
    - ✓ None
  - **Requisites**
    - ✓ Actively participating in and completing at least 90% of training hours at a GCC-sponsored GAIN training (either a four-day national Train the Trainer event in Bloomington, Illinois or a full on-site 3.5 day GCC-sponsored training).
    - ✓ A signed GAIN usage agreement.
- 3.) **GAIN Administration Certification** – This level of certification enables a paraprofessional or clinician to administer the GAIN. Note: a supervisor should continue to review the Administrator’s interviews over time to guard against any deterioration in the quality of the administration.
  - **Prerequisites**
    - ✓ GAIN Coursework certification.
  - **Requisites**
    - ✓ Ratings of sufficient or excellent by a GCC A-QA reviewer on all areas of the feedback form based on reviews of audio-recorded administrations.
- 4.) **GAIN Local Trainer Certification** – This level of certification is available for those who will be responsible for leading local GAIN trainings at their own agency. These trainings are for staff members at the Local Trainer’s site and are covered under the same GAIN license as the Local Trainer. The Local Trainer performs quality assurance reviews on trained interviewers and recommends them to the GCC for Site Interviewer certification. In most cases people who wish to become GAIN Local Trainers must attend a GCC training. A certified National Trainer who is also a certified GAIN National QA Reviewer can, on a limited basis and with permission from the GCC, train GAIN Local Trainers. Most Local Trainers are trained at GCC-

sponsored GAIN trainings and work directly with the GCC to attain this level of certification.

- **Prerequisites**
  - ✓ GAIN Administration certification.
- **Requisites**
  - ✓ A signed GAIN Local Trainer's Agreement.
  - ✓ Pass Stage One and Stage Two of the Local Trainer process by writing feedback for GAIN interviewers and submitting the audio-recorded interview and feedback to the GCC until mastery level is reached.

5.) **GAIN National Trainer Certification** – This level of certification is available on an invitation-only basis for people who will train nationally and be eligible for paid consultant training work with GCC on national and on-site trainings. Certified National Trainers can train others as Site Interviewers outside their own agency or project with proper communication with the GCC. National Trainers can train Administrators and Local Trainers if they are collaborating with the GCC in a GAIN Train the Trainer event. Additionally, certified National Trainers may train a limited number of Administrators and Local Trainers if they also achieve National QA Reviewer certification (see below) and have written permission from the GCC to do so. Requirements for certification:

- **Prerequisites**
  - ✓ GAIN Local Trainer certification.
- **Requisites**
  - ✓ Invitation to apply from GCC training team.
  - ✓ A signed GAIN National Trainer's Agreement.
  - ✓ Approval of an application by senior certified National Trainers.
  - ✓ Successful participation at a week-long GAIN Trainers Institute and successful participation in national GAIN trainings (usually one or two) until mastery of all GAIN training material is demonstrated.
  - ✓ Successful completion of a general competency exam and exams in areas of specialization (e.g. clinical, GAIN-Q, GAIN ABS user).
  - ✓ Submission of participant evaluations of each regional non-GCC sponsored training conducted.
  - ✓ Paid participation in at least one national or onsite training with GCC each year (or videotaped submission of training with GCC permission).

### **Specialty Certification**

**GAIN National QA Reviewer Certification** – This level of certification is available to people who wish to review audio-recorded submissions for the GAIN Coordinating Center on a consultant basis. It is available on an invitation-only basis. More information on this level of certification is available by e-mailing the GAIN research projects manager at [GAINInfo@chestnut.org](mailto:GAINInfo@chestnut.org).