

## LETTER OF REFERENCE

*To the Applicant:*

Please ask two experienced psychoanalysts who know your work to complete these letters of reference. These may be colleagues, supervisors, or consultants and may be from any IPA or APsaA institute. However, each individual submitting a letter of reference on your behalf must have five years of postgraduate psychoanalytic experience, be certified in psychoanalysis or be eligible for board certification. You may meet with one or both colleagues to discuss your work and the letters of reference.

*To the Applicant's Colleague, Supervisor or Consultant:*

A colleague has requested that you provide a letter of reference in support of his or her application for Board Certification in Psychoanalysis. Letters of reference include a short questionnaire of 27 items as well as space for additional comments about the applicant and his or her work. When you have completed the letter of reference, please send or email the completed form to the CIPS Board of Examiners Administrator at the following:

Connie Stroboulis  
Administrator, CIPS Board of Examiners  
Address: 11 Bunker Hill Drive, Manalapan, NJ 07726  
Email address: [Connies3@aol.com](mailto:Connies3@aol.com)

Thank you for your participation.



CONFEDERATION  
OF INDEPENDENT  
PSYCHOANALYTIC  
SOCIETIES

## LETTER OF REFERENCE

Name of Applicant for Board Certification: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Analyst submitting this letter: \_\_\_\_\_

Institute Affiliations of the Analyst submitting this letter: \_\_\_\_\_

### PART ONE: APPLICANT'S PROFESSIONAL CHARACTER

1. The applicant describes his or her analytic work clearly and openly, including uncertainties, technical problems, and personal challenges arising in his or her work with patients.

\_YES      \_NO      \_DON'T KNOW

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

2. The applicant reflects productively on challenges arising in the course of clinical work in order to learn from his or her ongoing clinical experience.

\_YES      \_NO      \_DON'T KNOW

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

3. The applicant is aware of his or her own personal as well as clinical limitations in working with certain types of patients or situations.

\_YES      \_NO      \_DON'T KNOW

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

4. The applicant actively engages in continuing efforts, through study and other forms of continuing education, to grow as an analyst.

\_YES      \_NO      \_DON'T KNOW

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Is aware of own sensitivities and potential blind spots, and the effects of one's own style and personality on the patient

\_YES      \_NO      \_DON'T KNOW

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

## **PART TWO: ASSESSMENT OF PSYCHOPATHOLOGY AND ANALYZABILITY**

6. Has broad diagnostic knowledge and applies it in treatment.

\_YES      \_NO      \_DON'T KNOW

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Demonstrates the ability to assess and understand the phenomena of the patient's psychopathology and make a clinical diagnosis.

\_YES      \_NO      \_DON'T KNOW

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Understands the effects of and interplay among various intrapsychic factors such as internalized cultural norms, object relations, development, conflict, and deficit, as determinants of the patient's problems and psychopathology.

\_YES      \_NO      \_DON'T KNOW

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

9. Studies and considers the analyst's strengths and weaknesses, cultural influences, interpersonal influences, and environmental stressors and supports as part of the assessment process.

\_YES      \_NO      \_DON'T KNOW

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

10. Demonstrates the ability to make a psychodynamic formulation, consistent with espoused theoretical orientation.

\_YES      \_NO      \_DON'T KNOW

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

11. Demonstrates the ability to assess the patient's suitability for psychoanalysis.

\_YES      \_NO      \_DON'T KNOW

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

12. Exercises mature, integrated judgment during the initial assessment when reflecting on the history, pathology, interview process, and the pros and cons of analysis for any given patient with this analyst.

\_YES      \_NO      \_DON'T KNOW

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

### **PART THREE: CONDUCT OF TREATMENT**

13. Collaborates with the prospective analys and in determining treatment goals and plan for treatment.

\_YES      \_NO      \_DON'T KNOW

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

14. Thinks and works analytically to establish, cultivate, and maintain the treatment frame and the analysand's capacity to work within it.

\_YES      \_NO      \_DON'T KNOW

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

15. Maintains a mature, ethical, and appropriate analytic attitude throughout the treatment.

\_YES      \_NO      \_DON'T KNOW

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

16. Maintains a steady capacity for analytic listening, including empathy, openness, respect, and attunement to latent content throughout the treatment.

\_YES      \_NO      \_DON'T KNOW

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

17. Demonstrates and promotes an ongoing spirit of inquiry, curiosity, openness, and a nonjudgmental attitude.

\_YES      \_NO      \_DON'T KNOW

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

18. Thinks flexibly and imaginatively (can change perspective, tolerate uncertainty, complexity and contradiction, and be open to surprise).

\_YES      \_NO      \_DON'T KNOW

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

19. Integrates theory with experience near clinical processes, working both at surface and depth.

\_YES      \_NO      \_DON'T KNOW

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

20. Demonstrates clarity, succinctness and sensitivity to the tone and timing of interventions.

\_YES      \_NO      \_DON'T KNOW

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

21. Demonstrates a mature understanding and use of transference phenomena and effective use of interpretation within the transference.

\_YES      \_NO      \_DON'T KNOW

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

22. Demonstrates steady competence in working analytically with intense and persistent Transferences

\_YES      \_NO      \_DON'T KNOW

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

23. Demonstrates a mature understanding of countertransference phenomena, including the analyst's personal and unconscious reactions to the patient and the use of countertransference as a means of understanding the patient's mental life.

\_YES      \_NO      \_DON'T KNOW

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

24. Works effectively with defenses, resistances and transferences that obstruct treatment progress, including when these become entrenched.

\_YES      \_NO      \_DON'T KNOW

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

25. Demonstrates a reliable capacity to work analytically with challenging developments occurring in the course of treatment, including enactments, acting out, negative transference, ruptures in the treatment relationship, impasse, and negative therapeutic reaction.

\_YES      \_NO      \_DON'T KNOW

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

26. Demonstrates a reliable capacity to assess and address, within the treatment or with ancillary measures, psychological emergencies occurring in the course of treatment such as suicidality, homicidality, and psychotic regressions.

\_YES      \_NO      \_DON'T KNOW

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

27. Demonstrates awareness and attention to social and cultural issues affecting the patient and the treatment, including gender, race, ethnicity, and sexual orientation.

\_YES      \_NO      \_DON'T KNOW

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_