

T'ai Chi Chih[®] Accreditation Journey Framework

We believe the experiences that a candidate has when exposed to a variety of learning opportunities and instructors are invaluable. And therefore insure greater success for the candidate and the Tai Chi Chih[®] community as a whole. In an effort to insure continued support to potential teacher candidates, we want to provide clarity on a recommended journey or path toward accreditation.

The first step is to go <u>www.taichichih.org</u>, click on "teacher" and go to the "accreditation" tab. Read the information provided under "Overview" for a sense of the Teacher Training course, costs, and registration. Also, under the "Guidelines" section, great care has been taken to specifically outline the expectations of teacher candidates. It is critical that candidates read and fully understand the importance of the information contained in both of these sections.

The ideal framework and foundation of experiences for each candidate consists of opportunities that include, but may not be limited to:

- Attendance at various *workshops* or *retreats* lead by the Tai Chi Chih[®] Guide and Teacher Trainers
- Attendance at a Tai Chi Chih[®] Intensive [Although attendance at an Intensive is not required, it is strongly recommended and encouraged as a precursor to the Teacher Training experience. A great deal of information, preparation and personal growth are benefits received as a result of participation]
- Familiarity with Justin Stone's writings and recordings.
- Working in depth with a primary teacher for a period of time to be determined by the primary teacher, based on the needs of the candidate.
- Referral by a primary teacher to work with a secondary teacher for a period of time to be determined by the primary & secondary teachers, based on the needs of the candidate.
- Working one-on-one with both the primary and secondary teachers to enhance the movements, deepen the understanding, and assess the integrity, inner sincerity, and appropriate attitude of the candidate. These sessions are designed for additional preparation, depending upon the candidates learning style and progress. Each teacher will have his/her own fee scale for such sessions.
- Opportunity to "audit" beginning Tai Chi Chih[®] classes to observe teacher/student interactions and teaching styles.
- Opportunity to assist an accredited teacher in working with beginning Tai Chi Chih[®] students to experience a teaching environment. And therefore, an opportunity for the teacher to observe the candidate's communication/teaching style and interaction with students.
- Attendance at teacher preparation workshops hosted by local certified Tai Chi Chih[®] teachers.

A period of 6 months to one year of teacher preparation, working with both primary and secondary teachers, would be advisable for the candidate to experience the deepest maturation of his/her journey.

As presented and adopted at the 5/2011 MN TCC Quarterly Meeting