GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN PLAY THERAPY

The Graduate Certificate in Play Therapy provides specialized academic training in therapeutic play modalities in 12 semester credit hours. It is offerred to graduate students pursuing degrees within the Department of Counselor Education at SHSU (M.A., M.Ed., or Ph.D.) and mental health care professionals with a master's degree.

Students pursuing this graduate certificate may choose to pursue their credential as a Registered Play Therapist (RPT) through the Association for Play Therapy (APT). The Registered Play Therapist credential has additional requirements above the graduate certificate (i.e., clinical experience, PT specific training, licensing, and supervision). Consult the APT for complete details.

The Play Therapy Training Institute at SHSU is an Approved Provided by APT; however, APT holds the right to accept or deny any continuing education training at its discretion. SHSU is an APT Approved Provider #07-211.

This Graduate Certificate is eligible to receive Title IV funding – Direct Unsubsidized Loans. To be considered for aid, students need to submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Additional information: Reference the Program Landing Page (https://www.shsu.edu/programs/certificate/play-therapy/) for additional information, such as cost, delivery format, contact information, or to schedule a visit.

Applicants seeking admission to work on their Graduate Certificate in Play Therapy must submit the following directly to the Office of Graduate Admissions:

1. Graduate Application (http://www.shsu.edu/admissions/apply-texas.html)
2. Application fee (http://www.shsu.edu/dept/graduate-studies/application-fee.html)
3. Official transcript from current program
4. Minimum undergraduate GPA of a 3.0, either overall or in the last 60 credit hours

This certificate does not equate to an official Play Therapy certification by the Association of Play Therapy (APT). Students wishing to become certified Play Therapists must complete all requirements, application, and clinical experiences for consideration by APT. More information about Play Therapy certification is available here. (https://www.a4pt.org/)

Students enrolled in the 12-credit hour Graduate Certificate in Play Therapy may be taking courses alongside SHSU students pursuing a master's or doctoral degree in Counseling. Course work for the Graduate Certificate in Play Therapy (3 credit hours each) are listed below.

This certificate does not equate to an official Play Therapy certification. Students wishing to become certified Play Therapists must complete all requirements and application through the Association of Play Therapy.

Code	Title	Hours
Graduate Certificate in Play Therapy		
Specified Courses		
COUN 5399	Play Therapy Basics	3
COUN 6331	Advanced Play Therapy	3
COUN 5391	Child & Adolescent Counseling	3
COUN 5398	Sandtray Therapy	3
Total Hours		**12**

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) marketable skills initiative is part of the state's 60x30 plan and was designed to help students articulate their skills to employers. Marketable skills are those valued by employers and/or graduate programs that can be applied in a variety of work or education settings and may include interpersonal, cognitive, and applied skill areas.

The Play Therapy Certificate is designed to provide graduates with the following marketable skills:

- Advanced knowledge of challenges encountered by children
- Advanced skill and intervention training when providing counseling services to children
- Evidence-based counseling services to children
- Foundational education for specialized training toward Register Play Therapist designation managed by Association for Play Therapy