

## FAQs for Becoming a Certified Validation Worker

**What is a Certified Validation Worker?** This is a person who has taken and passed a Certified Validation Worker Course (level 1) taught by a Certified Validation Teacher or Master.

**Who can become a Certified Validation Worker (CVW)?** Anyone who is empathetic, a good listener, non-judgmental, and respects the elderly, and can handle their own feelings as well as others.

**Do I have to have a college degree to become a CVW?** No you do not have to have a degree to practice Validation. You do need to read and write competently in the language the course is being taught.

**What is a Certified Validation Worker course?** The level one or Certified Validation Worker course is a 9 month course designed to train people to integrate Validation techniques into their interactions with the elderly, in order to help them regain self-worth, reduce the need for chemical and physical restraints, and to help families communicate with their disoriented elders.

**What are the course requirements?** You will need to attend all five scheduled course sessions; practice Validation with an appropriate elder for 26 sessions (sessions are typically 5-15 minutes long) and write reports on your sessions. Video record yourself practicing Validation with elders; take and pass a written and practical test; commit to spending approximately one hour per week for the length of the course. You will receive a certificate after handing in documentation for 26 weeks of practice and passing written and practical tests.

**What can I do with a Certified Validation Worker certificate?** When you receive your certificate you will be authorized to:

- ♥ practice individual Validation
- ♥ tell others in your work place about Validation
- ♥ give support to interested people

You will also be qualified to take the level 2 or Validation Group Practitioner course.

**How much does it cost to take the Worker course?** Depending on the location, prices range from \$799-\$1,250. You will need to contact the hosting organization's representative for the exact cost. If the course is outside of your city, then you will need to factor in travel to and from the course, meals during the course and hotel costs if you have to stay overnight. If you do not own a video camera or a video recording device such as a tablet or iPod/iPad then you will need to purchase one.

**What if I can't afford to travel 5 times to where the course is being held?** Then you have the option of taking the internet supported course or taking the online tutorial. The online course is mostly done on your computer, by attending bi-weekly webinars, completing assignments on the website, reading the assigned text, practicing Validation and attending **two** in-person meetings in a city previously determined (based on interest). You can also take the online tutorial where you pay for a one year subscription for \$50 to access lessons on Validation. However, taking the tutorial does not qualify you to be a Certified Validation Worker.

