

**PIVOTAL RESPONSE TREATMENT CERTIFICATION LEVEL IV:
ADVANCED IMPLEMENTER IN
Initiations Training**

To be certified in Pivotal Response Treatment (PRT) at Level IV: Initiations, individuals must participate in our Remote PRT Training and Certification Program, outlined below.

Pre-requirements: Certification in PRT at Level I, II, and III.

Objective: The objective of the Level IV: Initiations program is to introduce participants to the PRT procedures for teaching self-initiations. Specifically, this program aims to establish participant ability to teach initiated (a) *verbal queries* and (b) *comments*.

Certification at Level IV: Initiations is achieved through teaching initiations (specifically, verbal queries and comments) to three different children with ASD, while meeting criteria for fidelity of PRT implementation.

Summary of Process: Generally speaking, within the Level IV: Initiations Program:

- (1) **TO REGISTER:** Participants complete and submit (via mail or email) the Registration Form and pay the Level IV: Initiations \$600.00 USD fee by sending a check to the address provided on the Registration Form, or online with a debit card, credit card, or PayPal account.
- (2) Participants collect and submit a 15-minute baseline video probe of themselves attempting to teach verbal queries and comments to one child with ASD using the PRT procedures.
- (3) Training materials are sent to the participant through mail (standard UPS shipping). Training materials include *Teaching the Pivotal Behavior of Initiations to Children with Autism: A Training Manual*, research articles, and access to an online video training module.
- (4) Participants work through the training materials independently at their own pace, then video tape themselves (in three 10-minute video probes) implementing the PRT procedures highlighted in the training with three different children with ASD. Specifically, using the PRT procedures to for teaching verbal query initiations and initiated comments.
- (5) Participants submit the three 10-minute video probes through mail, and our team assesses for fidelity of PRT implementation.
- (6) The participant then receives a Score and Feedback Report corresponding to the three submitted video probes.
- (7) If fidelity of implementation *is not* achieved on the three 10-minute video probes, the participant has an opportunity to apply the feedback and collect and submit additional video probes to be assessed for fidelity of PRT implementation.

Once the participant meets fidelity of implementation for teaching initiations (specifically, verbal queries and commenting) with three different children with ASD (across three 10-minute video probes), he or she is certified in Pivotal Response Treatment at Level IV: Initiations, and will receive a formal certificate of completion.

Registration Instructions:

To **register** for the Level IV: Initiations PRT Training and Certification Program:

(A) Complete and submit the Registration Form: The Registration Form is available at <http://www.koegelautism.com/NEW--Certification.html>. Click on the link for “Certification Registration Form” to download the form. Complete the Registration Form and submit through email to kristin@koegelautism.com or through mail to the address provided on the form, also below.

PRT Training and Certification
Attn: Kristin Wheatley
1547 Palos Verdes Mall #416
Walnut Creek, CA. 94597

(B) Payment: The fee for the Level IV: Initiations PRT Training and Certification Program is \$600.00 USD. This fee includes the materials outlined above, fidelity assessment and written feedback on up to six 10-minute video probes, and fidelity assessment only (no written feedback) on an additional three 10-

minute video probes, as well as a formal certificate of completion.

- Please note: If fidelity of implementation is not met on three 10-minute video probes (across three different children) after three sets of three video probes (fidelity assessment and written feedback on up to six video probes and fidelity assessment only on an additional three video probes), participants must pay an additional fee for further scoring and feedback.

The \$600.00 payment can be made *online* with a debt card, credit card, or PayPal account, or by sending a *check* through mail.

To make a secure payment online, please visit our website at the following link:

<http://www.koegelautism.com/Store.html>

In the online store, scroll down to the bottom of the first page, click to the next page, then scroll down until you find the option that reads "PRT Certification Level IV: For US Residents Only." Using the drop down menu, select "Initiations." Click on the "Add to Cart" button below the program title and description, and a window in the upper right hand corner should pop up indicating that you have successfully added the program to your cart. Then, click the "Checkout" button in that same pop-up window in the upper right corner. This will bring you to the PayPal page, where you can pay through a debit or credit card, or with a PayPal account.

Alternatively, participants can send a check for \$600.00 made out to *Koegel Autism Consultants: PRT Certification* to the address below, along with your completed registration form or copy of your registration form (if submitted through email).

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*Please note: International participants pay an additional \$75.00 fee to cover the increased shipping costs, bringing the total cost of the program to \$675.00. International residents please select "PRT Certification Level IV: International Residents Only (outside the US)" if paying online.

(C) Baseline Video Probe: The next step is to collect and submit a Level IV: Initiations baseline video probe:

Specifically, videotape yourself working with one child with ASD. The participant should attempt increase social-communicative initiations across the video probe. The baseline probe should:

- Be 15 *consecutive* minutes of the participant working with one child with ASD employing PRT strategies for teaching initiations.
- Specifically, the video should demonstrate the participant's ability to teach and facilitate:
 - (1) Verbal query initiations.
 - Specifically, "What is it?"/"What's that?" and/or "Where is it?"/"Where's _____?"
 - (2) Initiated commenting.
 - Specifically, commenting on own and others items, own or others actions, and/or occurrences in the surrounding environment.
- The video should not be paused but run continuously.
- In the baseline videotape, participants can feel free to do a variety of activities.

Participants should save the video probe to a CD/DVD or to a USB storage device (e.g., flash drive) and mail to the address below, along with the original registration form or a copy of the registration form (if submitted via email).

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Once we receive (A) your completed Registration Form (B) the \$600 Level IV: Initiations payment, and (C) your baseline video probe, you will receive an email confirming registration for the Level IV: Initiations PRT Training and Certification Program, and your Level IV: Initiations Program materials will be sent out through UPS to the participant address provided on the submitted Registration Form.

The Training Module:

Once the participant receives the Level IV: Initiations package, he or she will work through the included materials independently at his or her own pace.

Fidelity Probe: After reviewing the training materials, participants **videotape** themselves **implementing the PRT procedures for teaching initiations** (outlined in the training manuals and video training module).

- With **3 different children** with ASD.
- In **three 10-minute video probes**.
 - One 10-minute video probe for each child with ASD.
 - Note: each probe must be a *consecutive* 10 minutes.
- **Across teaching procedures for verbal queries and comments.**
 - Each video probe should demonstrate the participant using the PRT procedures to *teach* either verbal queries or comments.
 - Specifically, at least one video probe should demonstrate the participant teaching a child with ASD to initiate verbal queries.
 - Specifically, “What is it?”/“What’s that?” or “Where is it?”/“Where’s _____?”
 - Additionally, at least one video probe should demonstrate the participant teaching a child with ASD to initiate comments.
 - Specifically, comments on the child’s own items and actions and on the items and actions of others.
 - Within a play based activity that includes diverse stimulus items and actions across a progression of play appropriate to comment on.
 - The third video probe can demonstrate the participant teaching either form of initiations (question asking or commenting). However, if two videos for teaching verbal queries are submitted, the participant must be teaching different wh-questions in each video. For example, if the participant teaches “What is it?”/“What’s that?” in one video, he/she must teach “Where is it?”/“Where’s _____?” in the second video.
- For example:
 - **Video probe #1** (Child #1, 10-minutes):
 - Verbal query initiations: Teaching the child with ASD to initiate any of the following wh-questions using the specific procedures highlighted in the training materials.
 - “What is it?” or “What’s that?”
 - “Where is it?” or “Where’s _____?”
 - **Video probe #2** (Child #2, 10-minutes):
 - Initiated commenting: Teaching the child to verbally comment on own or others’ objects and actions, occurrences in the environment.
 - **Video probe #3** (Child #3, 10-minutes):
 - Verbal query (wh-question) initiations *OR* commenting initiations.
 - Note: Again, if you choose to submit a second video for teaching verbal queries, the video must be of the participant implementing procedures for teaching a different wh-question.
 - For example, if in video #1 the participant was teaching a child to ask “What’s that?”, then video #3 (should they want to submit a second video teaching verbal queries) would need to be of the participant teaching “Where is it?”

More detailed instructions related to the collection and submission of video probes will be provided on the Level IV: Initiations package instructions.

Participants then mail the video probes in to be assessed for fidelity of implementation.

Once the three video probes are received, fidelity of implementation will be assessed. Within 2-4 weeks, participants will receive a Score and Feedback Report, outlining fidelity assessment scores and providing written feedback on the implementation of PRT procedures for teaching initiations across each child/video probe.

If fidelity *is* achieved on all three 10-minute video probes (across the three children with ASD for teaching verbal query initiations *and* commenting initiations), the participant is certified at Level IV: Initiations. If the participant does *not* meet fidelity of implementation on one or more of the video probes, he or she will receive the Score and Feedback Report, and will have an opportunity to implement feedback and collect and submit additional video probes demonstrating acquisition of PRT initiation intervention skills.

Please feel free to contact the PRT Certification Project Coordinator, Kristin Wheatley, M.A., at kristin@koegelautism.com or (925) 683-6631 if you have any questions regarding the certification program or how to get started. Thank you for your interest in Pivotal Response Treatment and the Level IV: Initiations Training and Certification Program.