

**Association of Intervention Specialists
AIS**



Advocate Guidelines

AIS ADVOCATE ROLE

To become a member of AIS, applicants provide the AIS office with the information specified in the AIS Membership Application packet for review and consideration. Once this documentation is complete the AIS Membership Committee appoints *an advocate*, a current Full member of AIS willing to serve in this role, for the applicant to provide a means whereby personal contact can be made between the applicant and AIS. The applicant is then provided the identity and contact information of the advocate, and the advocate is provided similar information regarding the applicant. The advocate role continues until the applicant has attained full membership status in AIS; the advocacy relationship continues with those applicants who are voted in as Candidate members.

The purpose of this AIS Advocacy Program is to provide a means for:

1. Ensuring applicants for AIS membership and Candidate members have a means to obtain answers to any questions they may have regarding AIS.
2. Allowing AIS to develop a sense of the applicant/Candidate that documentation only cannot provide.
3. Providing a link between AIS, applicants, Candidate Members and the Membership Committee so that information flows regularly and smoothly in both directions.
4. Providing a personal welcome to our organization.

The responsibilities of the advocate are:

1. Make personal contact with the applicant by initiating contact by any reasonable means including telephone or email and perhaps have face-to-face contact if possible. During this contact the advocate develops a relationship with the applicant by asking if the applicant has any questions about AIS and by inquiring into the applicants professional intervention life (for example, asking how many interventions the applicant has done, what model is preferred, what treatment centers the applicant is fond of, and the like).
2. Once this initial contact has been completed, it becomes the responsibility of the “advocate” to initiate at least twice annual contacts with the Candidate member
3. Invite the Applicant/Candidate member to participate in all AIS Meetings.
4. Be familiar with the AIS process and time line for moving to full membership.
5. Inquire about and encourage the Candidate member to move toward obtaining the BRI-I or BRI-II credential to attain AIS Full membership.
6. While it is not within the scope or responsibilities of the AIS Advocate role, it is acceptable for the Advocate to enter into a trainer/supervisor role to assist a Candidate member with meeting the criteria for BRI Credentialing.
7. Be available to assist with answering any questions about the documentation necessary for the BRI credentialing process.
8. Refer the Applicant/Candidate to other AIS members if the Applicant/Candidate has questions the Advocate cannot fully answer.