**Last Revised: 6/8/2025**

**SAMPLE HANDOUT – Please modify to meet your needs**

**Overview T'ai Chi Chih® Teacher Candidate Preparation**

There comes a time for some students of T’ai Chi Chih (TCC) when they begin to feel a desire or calling in their hearts to share the gift of T’ai Chi Chih with others. This desire or calling is the Chi at work. Trust it! It is through students answering this call that this loving and healing practice will spread and touch the lives of many others.

**Becoming an Accredited T’ai Chi Chih Teacher**

To become an accredited teacher, you must attend a six-day **Teacher Accreditation Course** facilitated by one of the four Teacher Trainers (Sandy McAlister, Pam Towne, and Daniel Pienciak and April Leffler). There are usually two Accreditation Courses held every year. You can find the upcoming Accreditations on the main taichichih.org website and in the monthly Guide’s Newsletter. Would be helpful to put the actual date of an upcoming Accreditation here. The course fee is $650, and does not include travel, meals, or lodging. The courses are usually offered in retreat settings that provide attendees with meals and lodging for a reasonable price. Partial financial scholarships are available. **There is required preparation before attending the course. A quick overview of the preparation is given below but a more detailed explanation is given on taichichih.org under “Become a Teacher/Guidelines” and “Become a Teacher/ Accreditation.” It is important that your read through these.**

**Teacher Candidate Preparation for Accreditation**

* Your practice is the number one thing you can do to prepare for Teacher Training. If you have not done so already it is time to establish a consistent personal T’ai Chi Chih practice versus once a week in class.
* Attend a **T’ai Chi Chih Intensive led by a teacher trainer** 4-6 months before your Accreditation Course. This is a three-and-a-half-day course designed for accredited T’ai Chi Chih teachers and students that have been practicing at least a year. Intensives are offered in-person and there is usually a once a year Zoom option. The course is $300 and does not include travel, meals, or lodging when in-person. Would be helpful to put the actual date of an upcoming Intensive here. Partial financial scholarships are available. The Intensive helps candidates deepen their practice and gives them several months to integrate what they learned before attending Teacher Accreditation.
* A referral form signed by two accredited T’ai Chi Chih Teachers is needed to attend the Accreditation Course. These teachers need to work with you one on one. Their signatures say that they have personally coached you and feel you are ready for Teacher Accreditation.

The number of times to meet with a coaching teacher will vary for each person depending on where they are at. The average number of sessions needed is around six. My cost for an hour mentoring session with a teacher candidate is \_\_\_. I also offer a sliding fee scale. I do not want financial concerns to stop you from becoming a teacher. I would encourage you to start your coaching sessions as soon as you know you want to prepare for Teacher Training. It is recommended that you start with one of your referring teachers four to six months before you go to the Intensive Course. You will want to start working with your second referring teaching after the Intensive if you have not already started. I can help you find a second teacher to work with it.

Mentoring teacher candidates is a great honor. I feel very blessed and privileged to walk this journey with you. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at your contact info.