A beneficial session between a therapist and orthotist will follow this general procedure:

1) The therapist will identify a need. (The orthotist / prosthetist is not there working with the case load to make this identification.)
2) The therapist will discuss the need with the parent and evaluate their readiness to have an appointment with the orthotist / prosthetist.
3) The therapists will contact the orthotist / prosthetist to arrange a time that they can all meet together for a session to do an orthotic / prosthetic evaluation.
   a. If the therapists already knows the piece of equipment that is needed (such as an AFO) they may go ahead and write the Letter of Medical Necessity (LMN) because he / she already knows that they are going to need the doctor’s order for the orthotist / prosthetist. This speeds up the process in order to make sure that patient can what they need as soon as possible. Also, it is important to write the LMN in a broader fashion to not
There is not a specific training or certification for an orthotist/prosthetist that you can open to suggestions. If you are a therapist that is looking to connect with a good orthotist to help a patient ambulate. The Army has done a lot of research in regards to this. There is exciting new development here. The introduction of microprocessors is allowing for things to become lighter and smaller, and a greater amount of devices available for the pediatric community has drastically increased and is continuing to grow. The field of orthotics has changed quite a bit within the last 10 years. The percentages that insurances pay has dropped. Also, the amount of devices available for the pediatric community has drastically increased and is continuing to grow. The introduction of microprocessors is allowing for things to become lighter and smaller, and new developments in the liners. There is exciting new osseointegration research being done in the field of prosthetics. This allow the prosthetic to be planted directly into the limb so certain patients would not need a socket because the prosthetic can connect directly to the pylon. There have also been some exciting bounds forward in exoskeletal systems for paraplegics that allow them to get up and ambulate. The Army has done a lot of research in regards to this.

If you are a therapist that is looking to connect with a good orthotist in order to collaborate you should find an orthotist that is open to suggestions, and can consider not only the medical needs but the financial needs of the patient/parent as well. Find an orthotist/prosthetist that you can ask questions.

There is not a specific training or certification for orthotists/prosthetists that work with pediatrics.