

LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS for Professional Counselors *A State-by-State Report*

2016 EDITION



AMERICAN COUNSELING
ASSOCIATION

The Center for Counseling
Practice, Policy and Research

ABOUT THE INFORMATION IN THIS REPORT

The information in this report was compiled through a survey of state counselor licensure boards conducted in the fall of 2015. State-by-state analysis of laws and administrative rules was also conducted to add to the survey data, especially for the jurisdictions that did not submit information in response to our request.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information presented here, but, due to the complexity of laws and regulations, and the frequency with which state regulations can and do change, we cannot guarantee that this report is completely without error.

Readers are encouraged to bring any errors, omissions, or changes to our attention. For any questions or corrections regarding this chart, please contact:

American Counseling Association
Ethics and Professional Standards
6101 Stevenson Avenue
Suite 600
Alexandria, VA 22304
Web site: www.counseling.org

U.S. toll-free: 800/347-6647, x314 / DC area: 703/823-9800, x314
Fax: 703/823-3760
E-mail: ethics@counseling.org

For additional information, clarification or interpretation of any of the laws and regulations summarized in this report, please contact the appropriate state licensing board.

Editor: Erin T. Shifflett, MLA, M.Ed.
ACA Director, Ethics and Professional Standards

Special acknowledgement:

Debbie Johnson, Administrative Assistant, Professional Affairs
Eriq Ocampo, Research Specialist

Copyright©2016 by the American Counseling Association.

**American Counseling Association
6101 Stevenson Avenue—Suite 600
Alexandria, VA 22304 (800) 347-6647
www.counseling.org
American Counseling Association**

Table of Contents

Introduction: State Licensing of Professional Counselors.....	3
What’s New for 2016.....	7
Distance Counseling, Technology, and Social Media	9
Licensure Chart.....	11
Abbreviations.....	70
Appendix A.....	72
Clinical Supervisor Requirements	
Appendix B.....	83
Professional Associations	
Regional Accrediting Organizations	
Professional Accrediting Organizations	
National Certification Organizations	
International Counseling Associations	
Appendix C.....	87
Accreditation, Licensure, and Certification Defined	
Confidentiality/Privileged Communication	
Appendix D.....	90
State Licensure Renewal Requirements	
Appendix E	101
Licensure by Endorsement, Licensure by Reciprocity, and Portability	
State Requirements for Out-of-State Applicants	
Appendix F.....	120
Practice Act / Title Act Chart	
Year Original Certification/Licensure Law Passed	
State Counselor Counts	

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

Appendix G.....	125
States That Have Adopted the ACA Code of Ethics	
Appendix H.....	128
Scope of Practice	

STATE LICENSING OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS

In order to protect public safety, states establish licensure or certification standards for health and human services professionals. Professional counselors are required by law in every state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico to be licensed in order to legally practice as a professional counselor. Licensure laws establish minimum standards in the areas of education, examination, and experience. Each state has established a board responsible for issuing licenses, handling consumer and ethical complaints regarding counselors' practice, and issuing and enforcing such regulations as are necessary in overseeing the profession. In some cases, a single board is responsible for overseeing the practice of counseling and one or more similar groups of professionals (e.g., clinical social workers or marriage and family therapists).

Credential Titles and Levels

Within the United States, several different titles are used to identify professional counselors. Though the counseling profession has endorsed LPC as the recommended title, the following are the most common:

Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) Licensed
Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) Licensed
Clinical Professional Counselor (LCPC)
Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor of Mental Health (LPCC)
Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor (LCMHC)
Licensed Mental Health Practitioner (LMHP)

Obtaining an Associate License (titles vary by state) is often required for applicants who have met the education and exam requirements, but have not yet met the supervised experience requirement. Examples of such titles include Licensed Associate Counselor (LAC), Licensed Professional Counselor Associate (LPCA), Licensed Graduate Professional Counselor, counselor-in-training, and Clinical Resident .

Groups Commonly Exempt From Licensure

All statutes establishing licensure or certification requirements for counselors provide exemption from licensure for specific groups. Commonly exempted groups:

1. professionals licensed by other statutes
2. students in graduate programs working under supervision
3. members of the clergy in the performance of their religious duties in connection with a religious denomination
4. employees of federal, state, and local agencies acting in an official capacity
5. attorneys

Also, it is important to note that licensure of LPCs is distinct and separate from licensure or certification of school counselors or substance abuse counselors. For school counseling credential information, contact either your state Department of Education, or call the American

Counseling Association at 1-800-347-6647, X354 and request the publication *A Guide to State Laws & Regulations on Professional School Counseling*. This publication is free for ACA members and costs \$10 for non-members. For certification requirements for substance abuse counselors, please visit the National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information Web site at <http://store.samhsa.gov/home> to order a free copy of SAMHSA's *A National Review of State Alcohol and Drug Treatment Programs and Certification Standards for Substance Abuse Counselors and Prevention Professionals*.

Practice Acts v. Title Acts

Counselor licensure laws can be divided into the categories of *practice acts* and *title acts*. *Title acts* refer to those licensure laws that restrict the use of a specific title to only those individuals meeting education, training, and examination standards. Under title acts, individuals may engage in the practice of counseling without being licensed, but may not use the title of “licensed professional counselor” (or related titles specified in the law). *Practice acts* refer to those licensure laws that prohibit the practice of professional counseling without obtaining licensure. Consequently, practice acts are considered to be more strongly protective of consumers than are title acts. Almost all states have adopted practice acts for licensure of professional counselors. Refer to Appendix H for a list of these states.

Education

States require applicants for licensure to obtain a master's degree in counseling; many require specific coursework. The majority of states require individuals to complete 60 semester hours of graduate study, including at least a 48-semester hour master's degree. All states require that counseling graduate programs be accredited, either by a counseling-specific accrediting organization or by a regional graduate education accrediting body.

The Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) is an independent agency, recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation, which accredits master's degree programs in mental health counseling and other counseling specialties. Many states require that licensure applicants' counseling graduate degrees include a curriculum based on the CACREP model, even if full accreditation by CACREP is not required. CACREP-accredited counseling programs require coursework in eight core areas and a supervised practicum and internship.

For more information, or to view a listing of CACREP-accredited counseling graduate programs, visit CACREP online at www.cacrep.org.

The Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE) is an affiliate of CACREP, recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation, which accredits master's degree programs in rehabilitation counseling. CORE accredits programs meeting criteria in providing graduates who have the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary to provide rehabilitation counseling services to individuals with physical, mental, and/or emotional disabilities. At this time, it is anticipated that CORE and CACREP will merge in 2017.

For more information, visit CORE online at www.core-rehab.org.

Experience

Applicants for licensure are required to obtain a minimum amount of supervised experience prior to being licensed. Typically, states require individuals to accumulate between 2,000 and 3,000 hours of supervised experience within a certain time period, including a specific number of face-to-face supervision hours. Several states have established more than one level of licensure for counselors in order to establish formal criteria both for full independent practice and for counseling graduates in the process of accumulating supervision hours.

Examination

All states require licensure applicants to pass a comprehensive examination on counseling practice. The tests recognized by states include the following:

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| NCE | National Counselor Examination: Administered by the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), this is the most common exam used by states in the credentialing process. |
| NCMHCE | National Clinical Mental Health Counselor Examination: Also administered by NBCC, this examination focuses more specifically on mental health practice, and is used by a number of states for licensure. |
| CRCE | Certified Rehabilitation Counselor Examination: Administered by the Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification (CRCC), passage of this exam is also accepted in some states for meeting testing requirements for licensure. |
| ECCP | Examination of Clinical Counselor Practice: Also administered by NBCC, passage of the ECCP is required in order to obtain the Certified Clinical Mental Health Counselor (CCMHC) credential issued by NBCC (passage of the NCMHCE is also accepted). Some states consider the CCMHC credential to meet all or part of the requirements for licensure, but may not accept passage of the ECCP examination. |

For general information on these examinations, contact the National Board for Certified Counselors at 336-547-0607 or visit them online at www.nbcc.org. The Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification can be reached at 847-944-1325, or online at www.crccertification.com. For state-specific information on examination requirements, please contact the appropriate state board.

Jurisprudence Examination

Several states require licensees to pass a jurisprudence exam testing the applicant's knowledge of licensing board rules and operating procedures, and state laws affecting counselors' practice. Such an exam can be particularly important for counselors licensed in other states who may have considerable professional expertise, but may lack familiarity with practice guidelines and restrictions in their new state. States requiring passage of a jurisprudence exam for new

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

licensees include California, Colorado, Maryland, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, and Wisconsin.

Licensure Renewal

Most states require professional counselors to earn continuing education credits on an annual or biennial basis in order to renew their credentials. Refer to Appendix E for state continuing education requirements.

Code of Ethics

All states require that counselors conduct themselves ethically, in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice. Several states specifically require counselors to abide by the American Counseling Association's *Code of Ethics*, as most recently revised and updated in 2014. Refer to Appendix I for a list of these states. For more information regarding the ACA *Code of Ethics*, visit the ACA Web site at www.counseling.org/resources.

WHAT'S NEW FOR 2016

Following are major licensure changes that have occurred since the 2014 edition of *Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors: A State-by-State Report*.

Educational Requirements

California, as of January 1st 2017, now requires that no applicant shall be deficient (prohibits remediation outside of the applicant's qualifying degree program) in the required core content areas of: 1) Assessment, appraisal, and testing of individuals (3 semester units or 4.5 quarter units). 2) Principles of the diagnostic process and the use of diagnostic tools (3 semester units or 4.5 quarter units). In addition to regional accreditation, national accreditation agencies recognized by the United States Department of Education (USDE) are now acceptable accreditors of qualifying degree programs.

Kentucky requires applicants who enrolled in a graduate program after January 15, 2015 or those who receive a degree after May 31, 2020 to graduate from a CACREP-accredited program.

Louisiana, for degrees conferred after September 1, 2015, requires 60 semester hours.

Louisiana requires a grade of "C" or better in all post-master's courses; a grade of "A," "B," or "P," is required for all field experience.

New Hampshire requires applicants who receive a degree after January 1, 2022, to graduate from a CACREP-accredited program.

North Dakota, for degrees conferred after January 1, 2017, requires 60 semester hours.

Ohio, for in-state applicants submitting after January 1, 2018, requires graduation from a CACREP-accredited program.

Puerto Rico requires 45 semester hours (previously unspecified).

Texas, for degrees started after August 1, 2017, requires 60 semester hours.

Experience Requirements

California requires Professional Clinical Counselor interns to take the California Law and Ethics Examination annually, beginning January 1, 2016.

Pennsylvania requires 3,000 hours of supervised clinical experience (a decrease from 3,600).

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

Virginia requires 3,400 hours of supervised clinical experience (a decrease from 4,000).

Examination Requirements

California will grant time-and-a-half (1.5x) on a Board-administered examination to an applicant for whom English is their second language, if the applicant meets specific criteria demonstrating limited English proficiency.

New York requires the successful completion of the NCMHCE without ESL accommodations.

Licensure Renewal and Continuing Education

Kentucky requires annual continuing education credits in the areas of domestic violence and suicide assessment.

New Hampshire requires 3 units of continuing education in suicide prevention.

Texas requires 4 units of continuing education in ethics and 6 units of supervision for those acting in a supervisory capacity every 2 years.

Scope of Practice Changes

California's scope of practice contains restrictions on assessment and treatment of couples or families. Beginning January 1, 2017, LPCCs must demonstrate compliance with this restriction by obtaining Board confirmation of qualifications to treat couples and families, and must provide a copy of this confirmation to couple or family clients prior to commencement of treatment, and to certain supervisees.

Nevada has expanded its scope of practice for LCPC's to include the assessment or treatment of couples or families with demonstration of competence to work with them through education, training and experience.

A Word About CACREP Accreditation Requirements

State licensure boards receiving the questionnaire for this report had an opportunity to comment on any current, future or emerging plans regarding the implementation of CACREP accreditation requirements within their educational conditions for licensure. All plans that were specified have been included in this report. Some licensure boards indicated that definitive plans for transitioning to CACREP accreditation requirements would be forthcoming, some indicated that no such plans were currently in discussion while others indicated that a final decision had been made not to transition to requiring CACREP accreditation. As more information becomes available, this report will be updated accordingly.

Distance Counseling, Technology, and Social Media Information

In response to the increased use of social media and technology within the counseling profession, state licensure boards continue to develop rules and regulations regarding distance counseling. It should be noted, however, that these guidelines are in their initial stages of development and are therefore changing rapidly; always check with your specific state for comprehensive guidelines before engaging in any distance counseling activities.

Nineteen (19) states (Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, South Carolina, Ohio, Texas, Utah, and West Virginia) do regulate electronic communications for counselors, but only within their particular state. The general rule is that to practice distance counseling in these states, the counselor must be licensed and follow the regulations of that state. Colorado makes the recommendation that the first session should be face-to-face and to meet periodically face-to-face with the client.

Nineteen (19) state counseling boards (Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Kentucky, Maine, Michigan, Missouri, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Vermont, Washington and Wyoming) and the District of Columbia report an absence of any law, rule, or regulation addressing the use of the internet with clients. It is therefore assumed that these states treat electronic messages between counselor and client the same way that they treat face-to-face communication.

One (1) state, Arkansas, has an addendum to its licensure requirements specifically geared towards technology assisted therapy: The Technology Assisted Counseling Specialization license requires additional education and supervision.

Six (6) states (Maryland, New Mexico, South Dakota, Tennessee, Virginia and Indiana) specifically state that they do not support electronic communications under their scope of practice for professional counselors.

One (1) state (Kansas) allows distance supervision provided that the supervision is conducted via confidential electronic communications.

One (1) state (Louisiana) allows for 25 of the required 100 clinical supervision hours to be conducted via videoconferencing.

One (1) state (North Carolina) allows video supervision as long as it is synchronous.

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

One (1) state (Indiana) allows at least half of their continuing education hours to be taken online and/or through distance learning.

One (1) state (Idaho) proposed to change their board duties to include: proposed - To establish by rule the standards and requirements for the use of communication technology in the practice of counseling and marriage and family therapy, including supervision; interactive webinars permitted.

Iowa, Ohio, and South Carolina consider distance learning continuing education hours as live continuing education hours if they are interactive (Iowa requires a certificate/verification that the CE is offered by NBCC, CRCC, AAMT as well).

As of July 20, 2012, Colorado allows electronic supervision. The initial two hour supervision meeting must be face-to-face and supervisor and supervisee must meet face-to-face every 6 months. Electronic supervision must be audio and visual in nature.

LICENSURE CHART

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
ALABAMA AL Board of Examiners in Counseling 950 22nd Street North Suite 765 Birmingham, AL 35203 800/822-3307 205/458-8716 205/458-8718 (fax) Executive Officer Walter H. Cox Walter.Cox@abec.alabama.gov Executive Assistant Florence J. Hemphill Florence.Hemphill@abec.alabama.gov WEBSITE: www.abec.alabama.gov Application packet (if mailed): \$25 Application fee: \$200 LPC License fee: \$300 ALC License fee: \$150	Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) A person licensed to render professional counseling services in private practice for a fee. Associate Licensed Counselor (ALC) A person licensed to render professional counseling services in private practice for a fee while under board approved supervision.	Master's degree or higher in counseling from a CACREP or COPE accredited program, or the content equivalent, with a minimum of 48 graduate semester hours (or 72 graduate quarter hours) from a regionally accredited academic institution.	3,000 hours of supervised experience in professional counseling with board approved supervision. 2,250 of the 3000 must be direct counseling services An applicant may subtract 1,000 hours of the required professional experience for every 15 graduate semester hours (or 22.5 quarter hours) obtained beyond the master's degree from a regionally accredited academic institution, provided that the coursework is clearly related to the field of professional counseling. This formula may be used for up to 2,000 hours. 1500 of the 2000 must be direct counseling services	NCE

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
ALASKA AK Board of Professional Counselors P.O. Box 110806 Juneau, AK 99811-0806 907/465-2694 907/465-2974 (fax) Licensing Examiner: Renee Hoffard renee.hoffard@alaska.gov WEBSITE: www.commerce.state.ak.us/cbpl Application fee: \$200.00 Initial Licensure fee: \$650.00 *NOTICE: AS OF JANUARY 29, 2009 ALL APPLICANTS MUST SUBMIT A REPORT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION.	Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC)	Master's degree or higher in counseling or a related professional field from a regionally or nationally accredited institution of higher education approved by the board, with at least 60 graduate semester hours in counseling. The degree must include coursework in 8 core areas. Related professional field includes psychology, marital and family therapy, social work, and applied behavioral science.	2 years/3,000 hours of post-master's supervised experience in professional counseling, including 1,000 hours of direct client contact and 100 hours of face-to-face supervision. The face-to-face supervision can be by telephone or electronic means because of the remote location of the counselor, if approved by the board. Supervision must be under an LPC or other licensed mental health professional approved by the board. The supervisor must be approved prior to the beginning of the supervision.	NCE OR NCMHCE OR Successful completion of another nationally recognized examination for professional counselors that is equivalent to the NCE and/or NCMHCE.

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
ARIZONA AZ Board of Behavioral Health Examiners 3443 N. Central Avenue Suite 1700 Phoenix, AZ 85012 602/542-1864 602/364-0890 (fax) Executive Director Tobi Zavala CONTACT: information@azbbhe.us WEBSITE: www.azbbhe.us Application fee: \$250 LPC License fee: \$250 LAC License fee: \$100 Temporary License fee: \$50 Fingerprint Background Check: \$29	Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) Licensed Associate Counselor (LAC) LACs shall practice only under direct supervision as prescribed by the board and shall not engage in independent practice.	Master's degree or higher in counseling or a related field from a program that is either CACREP or CORE accredited "or equivalent" or includes a minimum of 60 semester hours and completion of coursework in 14 content areas. As of October 31, 2015: If a program is not accredited by CACREP or CORE, it must require 700 clinical supervision hours and a minimum of 24 semester hours in 8 content areas.	2 years/3,200 hours of full-time post-master's supervised work experience in psychotherapy, including assessment, diagnosis, and treatment. 100 hours of clinical supervision and 1,600 hours of direct client contact are required. No more than 400 of the additional hours can be psychoeducational. Applicant must receive a minimum of 10 hours of clinical supervision obtained during direct observation or a review of audiotapes/videotapes by the clinical supervisor while applicant is providing treatment and evaluation services to a client.	NCE, NCMHCE or CRCE

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
ARKANSAS AR Board of Examiners in Counseling Mailing Address: P.O. Box 989 Little Rock, AR 72201 Physical Address: 101 East Capitol, Suite 104 Little Rock, AR 72201 (501) 683-5800 (501) 683-6349 (fax) Executive Director Michael Loos michael.loos@arkansas.gov CONTACT: arboec@sbcglobal.net WEBSITE: www.state.ar.us/abec Application packet (if mailed): \$20 Application fee: \$200	Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) Licensed Associate Counselor (LAC) An applicant with less than 3 years of post-master's level supervision experience, if all other requirements have been met.	Master's degree or higher in counseling from a program that reflects the CACREP or CORE curriculum and consists of 60 semester hours from a regionally accredited institution.	3 years/3,000 hours of post-master's supervised counseling experience (1 year = 1,000 hours). 50% of the hours have to be Client Contact Hours One year of experience may be gained for each 30 semester hours earned beyond master's degree (up to 2 years) provided the hours are clearly counseling in nature and acceptable to the board. Supervision must be under a LPC approved by the board. Telephone supervision is allowed for less than 25% of the total amount.	NCE and an oral exam

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
CALIFORNIA CA Board of Behavioral Sciences 1625 N. Market Boulevard, Suite S-200 Sacramento, CA 95834 <u>California Association for Licensed Professional Clinical Counselors</u> P.O. Box 280640 Northridge, CA 91328 www.calpcc.org <i>Licensure requirements and additional information can be found on their website.</i> 916/574-7830 916/574-8625 (fax) CONTACT: Kim Madsen kim.madsen@dca.ca.gov WEBSITE: www.bbs.ca.gov/ PCCI Registration Application \$100 PCCI Annual Registration Renewal \$100 LPCC Examination Eligibility Application: \$280 (\$180 application, \$100 California law and	Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC)* Professional Clinical Counselor Intern (PCCI) An unlicensed person, who has completed the education requirements and is registered with the board to complete the supervision requirements to be licensed as an LPCC. (Has to renew annually up to 5 years)	Master's degree or higher that is counseling or psychotherapy in content: Enrolled before 8/1/12 and graduate before 12/31/18: Minimum of 48 graduate semester hours Enrolled after 8/1/12 or graduate after 12/31/18: Minimum of 60 graduate semester hours. Additional Educational Requirements: 1) 15 contact hours in alcoholism and other chemical substance abuse, dependency (2) 10 contact hours in human sexuality (3) A two semester unit or three quarter unit survey course in psychopharmacology (4) 15 contact hours in spousal or partner abuse assessment, detection, and intervention strategies* (5) 7 contact hours in child abuse assessment and reporting. (6) 18 contact hours in California law and professional ethics for	3,000 hours of post-master's supervised counseling experience. 1,750 have to be Direct Client Contact hours Areas with guidance on hours: 500 hours max for group counseling 250 hours max for phone crisis counseling 150 hours minimum of clinical experience in a hospital or community mental health setting; combined total of 1,250 hours combined total max: (A) Direct supervisor contact. (B) Client centered advocacy. (C) 250 hours max in administering tests, (D) 250 hours max in attending conferences	NCMHCE (as of January 1, 2014) – taken after experiential requirements have been fulfilled. AND California Law and Ethics Examination– taken annually while acquiring supervised experience must pass before LPCC will be granted.

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

ethics examination) LPCC Biennial License Renewal \$175 CALIFORNIA, CONTINUED		professional clinical counselors* (possible that graduate course work will suffice) (7) 10 contact hours in aging and long-term care* (8) 15 contact hours in crisis or trauma counseling*		
---	--	--	--	--

***There are stipulations regarding the types of hours that will be accepted; therefore, please consult your state regulations.**

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
COLORADO CO Division of Professions and Occupations 1560 Broadway, Suite 1350 Denver, CO 80202 303/894-7768 303/894-7764 (fax) Executive Director Karin Gleichauf Karin.gleichauf@state.co.us CONTACT: mentalhealth@dora.state.co.us WEBSITE: www.dora.state.co.us/mental-health LPC License: \$160 Provisional License: \$100 LPC Candidate: \$160	Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) Licensed Professional Counselor Candidate (LPCC)* An applicant who has completed the education requirements and is under a licensed supervisor; valid for 4 years. (if not registered as a LPCC, must register as a Registered Psychotherapist in the Registered Psychotherapist Board Database)	Master's degree or higher in professional counseling from a CACREP accredited program, or equivalent program from a regionally accredited college/university consisting of 48 semester hours, completion of coursework in core areas and a practicum and/or internship. *If enrolled after August 31, 2014, the program must consist of 60 graduate semester hours..	2 years/2,000 hours of post-master's practice in applied psychotherapy under board approved supervision. (Doctoral degree can be 1,000 in 12 months) 100 hours of supervision is required, 70 of which must be face to face individual supervision. The teaching of psychotherapy can count up to 600 hours and 30 hours of required supervision *Electronic supervision is allowed – initial 2 hour meeting must be in person and every six (6) months an in person meeting must be had and the electronic supervision must be audio and visual (as of July 20, 2012)	NCE and CO Jurisprudence Exam

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
CONNECTICUT CT Department of Public Health Professional Counselor Licensure 410 Capitol Avenue, MS #12APP P.O. Box 340308 Hartford, CT 06134-0308 860/509-7603 860/509-8457 (fax) CONTACT: oplc.dph@ct.gov WEBSITE: http://www.ct.gov/dph/ Application fee: \$315	Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC)	Master's degree or higher in counseling or a related mental health field from a regionally accredited institution of higher education consisting of at least 60 semester hours and completion of required coursework.	3,000 hours of post-master's supervised experience in professional counseling. A minimum of 100 hours of direct supervision by an appropriately licensed individual is required.	NCE or NCMHCE

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
DELAWARE DE Board of Mental Health and Chemical Dependency Professionals Cannon Building 861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Suite 203 Dover, DE 19904-2467 302/744-4500 302/739-2711 (fax) CONTACT : Customerservice.dpr@state.de.us WEBSITE : http://dpr.delaware.gov LPC License: \$171 LACMH License: \$171 *Applicants must submit a criminal background check	Licensed Professional Counselor of Mental Health (LPCMH) Licensed Associate Counselor of Mental Health (LACMH) An individual licensed for the purpose of gaining experience required for licensure as an LPCMH; must work under direct supervision of an LPCMH or other health professional approved by the board.	Master's degree or higher in Clinical Mental Health, including a minimum of 48 semester hours. Must also be certified by NBCC as a National Certified Counselor (NCC), or certified by another national mental health specialty certifying organization approved by the board.	2 years/3,200 hours of full-time clinical professional counseling experience to be completed within a 4 year period. 1,600 hours must be under professional direct supervision acceptable to the board (100 hours must be face-to-face supervision (live video-conferencing is considered face to face but cannot exceed 50% of the supervision).1,500 hours must be direct client contact hours (750 have to be individual) 30 graduate semester hours or more beyond master's degree may be substituted for 1 year/1,600 hours of required experience, provided that hours are clearly related to the field of counseling and acceptable to the board. <i>*If your degree was conferred after June 30, 2012, you will receive credit <u>only</u> for experience that you gain as a Delaware-licensed Associate Counselor of Mental Health.</i>	NCE or NCMHCE

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA DC Board of Professional Counseling 717 14 th Street, NW, Suite 600 Washington, DC 20005 202/724-4900 877/672-2174 202/727-8471 (fax) WEBSITE: http://hpla.doh.dc.gov/hpla Application fee: \$85 License fee: \$145	Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC)	60 graduate semester hours, including a master's degree in counseling or a related field from an accredited institution. Master's degree to include coursework in 10 core areas, including a counseling practicum or internship.	2 years/3,500 hours of post-master's supervised professional counseling experience. 200 hours of supervision (100 hours must be immediate supervision under an LPC).	NCE *Will accept NCMHCE or CRCE if already taken in another jurisdiction

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
FLORIDA FL Board of Clinical Social Work, Marriage & Family Therapy, and Mental Health Counseling 4052 Bald Cypress Way, BIN C-08 Tallahassee, FL 32399-3258 850/245-4474 850/921-5389 (fax) CONTACT: mqa_491@doh.state.fl.us WEBSITE: www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/491 Application fee: \$100 Initial License fee: \$105 Registered Mental Health Counselor Intern Application fee: \$150	Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) Provisional Mental Health Counselor A person provisionally licensed to provide mental health counseling under supervision; valid for 24 months. Issued to licensure applicants who have completed their clinical experience requirement intending to provide services in Florida while satisfying coursework and/or exam requirements.	Master's degree or higher from a CACREP accredited mental health counseling program that includes 60 semester hours, a course in human sexuality, and a course in substance abuse. OR Master's degree or higher from a program related to the practice of mental health counseling from an accredited institution that includes 60 semester hours, 12 specific course content areas, and 1,000 hours of a supervised practicum, internship, or field experience. <u>AND for both options:</u> Completion of an 8 hour laws and rules course, a 2 hour prevention of medical errors course from a board approved provider; And within 6 months of licensure have to complete from a board approved provider: 3 hour course on human immunodeficiency virus and acquired immune deficiency syndrome 2 hour domestic violence course from a board approved provider.	2 years of supervised post-master's clinical experience in mental health counseling that consists of at least 1,500 hours providing psychotherapy face-to-face with clients and at least 100 face-to-face hours of supervision (50 of which can be group supervision). Supervision must be under an LMHC or equivalent.	NCMHCE

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
GEORGIA GA Composite Board of Professional Counselors, Social Workers, and Marriage & Family Therapists 237 Coliseum Drive Macon, GA 31217-3858 478/207-2440 866/888-7127 (fax) Executive Director Brig Zimmerman WEBSITE: www.sos.state.ga.us/plb/counselors LPC Application fee: \$100 ALPC Application fee: \$100	Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) Associate Professional Counselor (ALPC) Applicant who has met the educational requirements and has registered with the board an acceptable contract for obtaining post-master's experience under direct supervision; valid for 5 years.	Master's degree or higher in a program that is primarily counseling in content, or in applied psychology, from an institution accredited by a regional body recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). Completion of specific coursework and a supervised practicum or internship consisting of at least 300 hours is required.	4 years/2,400 hours of supervised post-master's directed experience in professional counseling in a work setting acceptable to the board, with a minimum of 120 hours of supervision. (can count up to one year of experience from practicum/internship) *On December 6, 2013, there was a proposal to increase the number of required hours to 3,000. A minimum of 2 years of supervision must be provided by an LPC. *Proposed change on December 6, 2013 - for supervision entered into after September 30, 2014, a supervisor who is a Licensed Professional Counselor must hold either a National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC) Approved Clinical Supervisor credential or a Licensed Professional Counselors Association of Georgia (LPCAGA) Certified Professional Counselor Supervisor credential.	NCE

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
HAWAII HI Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs - PVL Mental Health Counselor Program P.O. Box 3469 Honolulu, HI 96801 (808) 586-2697 CONTACT: counselor@dcca.hawaii.gov WEBSITE: www.hawaii.gov/dcca/areas/pvl/programs/mental/ Application fee: \$60 License fee: \$439 7/01/2014- 6/30/2015 \$362 7/01/2015 - 6/30/2016 \$285 7/01/2013 - 6/30/2014	Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC)	Master's degree or higher in counseling or an allied field related to the practice of mental health counseling, with a minimum of 48 semester hours (or 72 quarter hours) of coursework in core areas, from an accredited institution. Also, two academic terms of supervised mental health practicum intern experience for graduate credit of at least three semester hours (or five quarter hours) per academic term in a mental health counseling setting, with at least 300 hours of supervised client contact under a licensed supervisor. 7/05/07: Changes in Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 453D-7(c)(1) and (2) allows individuals who obtained a graduate degree before July 1, 2007 an alternate method to verify the practicum and post-graduate experience.	2 years/3,000 hours of supervised experience in the practice of mental health counseling, with 100 hours of face-to-face clinical supervision under a licensed supervisor. Experience shall be completed in no less than two years and in no more than four years.	NCE *Will accept the NCMHCE or the CRCC (if taken after 1/1/2000 and before 7/1/2005)

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

[illegible]

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

			with the supervisor for every twenty hours of job/internship experience. Face-to-face may include a face-to-face setting provided by a live video connection between the supervisor and supervisee. As stated under Subsection 150.01.a.iv. Counseling practicum experience as opposed to job or internship experience shall be supervised at a ratio of 1 hour of supervision for every ten hours in the settings. Supervised practicum and/or internship taken at a graduate level may be utilized.	
--	--	--	--	--

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
ILLINOIS IL Professional Counselor Licensing and Disciplinary Board 320 W. Washington Street, 3 rd Floor Springfield, IL 62786 217/785-0800 217/524-6735 TDD 217/782-7645 (fax) WEBSITE: http://www.idfpr.com/DPRdefault.asp or http://www.idfpr.com/PROFS/Info/ProfCounselor.asp LCPC License: \$150 LPC License: \$150	Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor (LCPC) Holds license authorizing independent practice of clinical professional counseling in private practice. Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) Holds license authorizing the practice of professional counseling.	LCPC Master's degree or higher in professional counseling or a related field from a regionally accredited college/university. OR Hold a current Certified Clinical Mental Health Counselor (CCMHC) credential issued by NBCC (meets all requirements for licensure as an LCPC). Note: Certain other certifications meet all or part of LPC or LCPC licensure requirements; please contact board for more information. LPC Master's degree or higher in professional counseling or related field of at least 48 semester hours from a regionally accredited college/ university in a program approved by the IL Dept. of Professional	LCPC 2 years/3,360 hours of full-time, satisfactory, supervised employment or experience working as a clinical professional counselor in a professional capacity under the direction of a qualified supervisor, subsequent to degree. 1,920 hours must be direct face-to-face service to clients. One year = maximum of 1,680 hours, including 960 hours of direct face-to-face service to clients. If applicant holds a doctoral degree, one year must be subsequent to the degree and internships may count towards professional experience.	LCPC NCE and NCMHCE or ECCP or CRCE LPC NCE or CRCE

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

ILLINOIS, CONTINUED		Regulation. CACREP and CORE accredited programs in professional counseling are approved programs for both LPC and LCPC licensure.		
----------------------------	--	--	--	--

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
INDIANA IN Behavioral Health and Human Services Licensing Board 402 W. Washington Street, Room W072 Indianapolis, IN 46204 317/234-2064 317/233-4236 (fax) CONTACT: pla5@pla.in.gov WEBSITE: www.in.gov/pla/social.htm Application fee: \$50 Temporary permit: \$25 (issued upon completion of the education and experience requirements and approval by the board to take the exam; valid for 180 days).	Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) Licensed Mental Health Counselor Associate (LMHCA) A counselor performing under supervision as a part of the supervised experience requirement (required after July 1, 2014) – cannot apply for until AFTER degree is conferred	Master's degree or higher in an area related to mental health counseling from a CACREP or CORE accredited program, or “equivalent program,” from a regionally accredited institution which includes a minimum of 60 semester hours of graduate coursework in counseling in 12 specified content areas. Completion of a practicum (100 hours), internship (600 hours), and advanced internship (300 hours) with at least 100 hours of face-to-face supervision. An area related to mental health counseling includes counseling, clinical social work, psychology, human services, human development, family relations, or programs accredited by CACREP or CORE.	3,000 hours of postgraduate supervised clinical experience over a 21-48 month period. Does not start to count until approved as an LMHCA 100 hours of face-to-face supervision under an LMHC or equivalent supervisor is required.	LMHC NCMHCE LMHCA NCE *If passing score is achieved on the initial try, applicant can apply up to 1500 hours accrued. If passing score is not achieved, applicant can no longer accrue hours until passing score is achieved.

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
IOWA IA Board of Behavioral Science Lucas State Office Building 5th Floor 321 E. 12th Street Des Moines, IA 50319 515/281-0254 515/281-3121 (fax) Executive Director Judy Manning Judith.Manning@idph.iowa.gov WEBSITE: https://www.idph.state.ia.us/licensure/BehavioralScience.aspx?pg=Home Licensure fee: \$120	Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) Temporary Licensed Mental Health Counselor (T-LMHC)	Master's degree or higher in mental health counseling from a CACREP equivalent program, or the content equivalent, with at least 60 semester hours (or equivalent quarter hours). For applicants who entered program of study prior to July 1, 2010: 45 semester hours (or 60 quarter hours) are required. Degree must be from a nationally accredited college or university. OR Hold a current Certified Clinical Mental Health Counselor (CCMHC) credential issued by NBCC (meets educational and experience requirements). For applicants who did not graduate from CACREP-accredited mental health counseling program as of July 1, 2012, they will need to submit to an education review	2 years/3,000 hours of full-time supervised postgraduate work experience in mental health counseling, including 1,500 hours of direct client contact and 200 hours of clinical supervision concurrent with the work experience. At least 100 of the 200 hours of clinical supervision must be individual supervision. For applicants who entered program of study prior to July 1, 2010: 2 years of full-time supervised postgraduate work experience in mental health counseling, including 200 hours of clinical supervision concurrent with 1,000 hours of mental health counseling conducted in person with individuals, couples, and families. At least 100 of the 200 hours of clinical supervision must be individual supervision or hold a current Certified Clinical Mental Health Counselor (CCMHC) credential issued by NBCC (meets experience requirements)	NCE, NCMHCE, or CRCE

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

[illegible]

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
KENTUCKY KY Board of Licensed Professional Counselors P.O. Box 1360 Frankfort, KY 40602 502/782-8803 502/696-5836 (fax) Board Chairman Christopher Griffith CONTACT: Diana Jarboe Diana.Jarboe@ky.gov WEBSITE: http://lpc.ky.gov LPCC Application fee: \$150 LPCA Application fee: \$50	Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC) Licensed Professional Counselor Associate (LPCA) Credential holder who has met all qualifications to engage in the practice of professional counseling under an approved clinical supervisor authorized by the board.	Master's degree or higher in professional counseling or a related field from a regionally accredited institution, with a minimum of 60 semester hours in 9 specified content areas and a 400 hour organized practicum/internship. Any applicants who have enrolled in a program after 1/15/15 or who receive a degree after 5/31/2020 must graduate from a CACREP accredited program.	LPCC 4,000 hours of post-master's experience in the practice of counseling under approved supervision, which includes 1,600 hours of direct counseling and 100 hours of individual, face-to-face clinical supervision. Applicants are encouraged to include 10 hours of direct counseling with individuals in a jail or correctional setting as part of the 4,000 hours.	NCE or NCMHCE

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
LOUISIANA LA Licensed Professional Counselors Board of Examiners 8631 Summa Avenue Baton Rouge, LA 70809 225/765-2515 225/765-2514 (fax) Executive Director Mary Alice Olsan lpcboard@eatel.net WEBSITE: www.lpcboard.org LPC Application fee: \$200 LPC Renewal Fee: \$150 Counselor Intern Application fee: \$100	Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) Provisional Licensed Professional Counselor (P-LPC) Those with a master's degree in counseling while practicing counseling under the board approved supervision of an LPC. (There are 3 parts to registration and you cannot start to accrue hours until all 3 are complete) P-LPC's have up to 6 years to complete supervision from the date of registration.	Master's degree or higher, the substance of which is professional mental health counseling in content, from a regionally accredited institution, with 60 semester hours and coursework in 8 content areas. Applicants must receive at least a grade of "C" on all post-master's counselling courses. All field experience courses must be completed with a grade of A, B, or P. Completion of a supervised practicum (100 hours) and a supervised internship (300 hours) in mental health counseling.	2 years/3,000 hours of post-master's supervised experience in professional mental health counseling under the clinical supervision of a board approved supervisor, to be completed in no more than 7 years. Hours to include: 1,900 - 2,900 hours of direct client contact in individual or group counseling; A maximum of 1,000 hours additional client contact, counseling related activities or education at the graduate level in the field of mental health; and A minimum of 100 hours of face-to-face supervision. Only 50 hours may be group supervision. Up to 25 of the hours can be synchronous videoconferencing 500 hours of supervised experience may be gained for each 30-graduate semester hours beyond master's degree, but must have no less than 2,000 hours of supervised post-master's experience.	NCE or NCMHCE

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
MAINE ME Board of Counseling Professionals Licensure #35 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333 207/624-8674 888/577-6690 TTY 207/624-8637 (fax) Associate Executive Director Patricia Breslin CONTACT: Leija.t.meadows@state.ma.us WEBSITE: www.maine.gov/pfr/olr Application fee for all licenses: \$25 LCPC License: \$250 LPC License: \$250 Conditional LCPC License: \$150 Conditional LPC License: \$200 Registered Counselor biennial renewal fee: \$75 Criminal Background Check: \$21	Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor (LCPC) Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) Conditional LCPC A license granted to an applicant for licensure as an LCPC who has met all the requirements except for the supervised clinical experience; valid for 2 years. Conditional LPC A license granted to an applicant for licensure as an LPC who has met all the requirements except for the supervised clinical experience; valid for 2 years.	LCPC / Conditional LCPC Master's degree or higher from a regionally accredited institution that consists of 60 semester hours and is CACREP accredited, or consists of coursework in 10 core areas, 3 additional areas, and a practicum and internship of 900 clock hours. LPC / Conditional LPC Master's degree or higher from a regionally accredited institution that consists of 48 semester hours and is CACREP or CORE accredited, or consists of coursework in 10 core areas and a practicum and internship of 600 clock hours.	LCPC 2 years/3,000 hours of post-master's supervised clinical counseling experience. (4,000 if qualifying degree did not have practicum/internship) To include 1,500 hours of direct client contact and 1 hour of clinical supervision per 30 hours of client contact with an approved supervisor. LPC 2 years/2,000 hours of post-master's supervised counseling experience. To include 1,000 hours of direct counseling and 67 hours of supervision with an approved supervisor.	LCPC NCMHCE LPC, Conditional LCPC, Conditional LPC NCE

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

Marriage and Family License: \$250 Pastoral License: \$250				
---	--	--	--	--

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
MARYLAND MD Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors and Therapists 4201 Patterson Avenue Baltimore, MD 21215 410/764-4732 410/358-1610 (fax) Executive Director Tracey DeShields WEBSITE: www.dhmf.maryland.gov/bope Application Processing: \$75 Credentials Evaluation fee: \$25 Certification and Licensure fee: \$100	Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor (LCPC) Licensed Graduate Professional Counselor Title used while fulfilling the supervised clinical experience requirement.	Master's degree or higher in professional counseling or related field from an accredited educational institution, with a minimum of 60 graduate semester hours in specific coursework, including completion of an alcohol and drug counseling course and supervised field experience. OR Doctoral degree with a minimum of 90 graduate semester hours in counseling training approved by the board.	3 years/3,000 hours of supervised clinical experience in professional counseling (2 years/2,000 hours must be post-masters). 1,500 hours must be face-to-face client contact and 100 hours minimum of face-to-face clinical supervision. Supervision must be under a board approved supervisor. At least half of hours need to be accumulated under the supervision of an LCPC approved by the board. If obtained a doctoral degree: 2 years/2,000 hours of supervised clinical experience in professional counseling (1 year/1,000 hours must be post-doctorate). 1,000 hours must be face-to-face client contact and 50 hours minimum of face-to-face clinical supervision. Supervision must be under a board approved supervisor.	NCE and Maryland Professional Counselors and Therapists Act Exam

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
MASSACHUSETTS MA Board of Registration of Allied Mental Health and Human Services Professionals 100 Washington St. Suite 710 Boston, MA 02118-6100 617/727-3080 617/727-1627 (fax) Board Administrator Leija Meadows leija.t.meadows@state.ma.us WEBSITE : www.mass.gov/dpl/boards/mh Application fee: \$117	Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC)	Minimum of 60 graduate semester hours in counseling or a related field from a regionally accredited institution of higher education. This includes a minimum 48 semester credit master's degree in mental health counseling or a related field, including a practicum (100 hours), an internship (600 hours), and coursework in each of the 10 content areas as defined by the board. OR Hold a current Certified Clinical Mental Health Counselor (CCMHC) credential issued by NBCC.	2 years/3,360 hours of full-time post-master's supervised clinical experience in mental health counseling after obtaining 60 graduate semester hours. To include 960 hours of direct client contact (250 hours may be group client contact) and 130 hours of supervision (75 hours must be individual supervision and 25 hours must be under a LMHC). These hours do not include the pre-master's practicum and internship supervision requirements.	NCMHCE

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
MICHIGAN MI Board of Counseling P.O. Box 30670 Lansing, MI 48909 517/335-0918 517/373-2179 (fax) CONTACT: bhphelp@michigan.gov WEBSITE: www.michigan.gov/healthlicense LPC License: \$115 LLPC License: \$80	Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) Limited Licensed Professional Counselor (LLPC) A limited license is issued to those who have not yet completed the 3,000 hour supervised counseling experience; valid for one year and may be renewed.	Master's degree or higher in professional counseling from a program that reflects the CACREP curriculum, including a minimum of 48 semester hours and a 600 clock hour internship.	2 years/3,000 hours of post-degree supervised counseling experience. To include a minimum 100 hours under the immediate physical presence of the supervisor. Supervision must be under an LPC. For persons with 30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours beyond the master's degree: 1 year/1,500 hours post-degree supervised experience. To include a minimum of 50 hours under the immediate physical presence of the supervisor. Supervision must be under an LPC. *Supervisors of LLPCs are required to have training in supervision.	NCE or CRCE

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
MINNESOTA MN Board of Behavioral Health and Therapy 2829 University Avenue SE Suite 210 Minneapolis, MN 55414 612/617-2178 800/627-3529 TTY 612/617-2187 (fax) CONTACT: bbht.board@state.mn.us WEBSITE: www.bbht.state.mn.us Initial License Application fee LPC/LPCC: \$150 Initial License fee LPC/LPCC: \$250	Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC) * Licensed Professional Counselor – Independent designation*Has completed supervision experience for LPC licensure Licensed Professional Counselor – Supervision designation (LPC) Working on Supervision hours towards LPC	LPCC Meet all LPC educational requirements; and In addition to, or as part of the graduate degree in counseling or a related field – completion of 24 graduate-level semester credits in 6 clinical content areas. LPC Master's degree or higher in counseling or a related field from a CACREP accredited program or regionally accredited institution recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), that includes a minimum of 48 semester hours and supervised field experience not fewer than 700 hours that is counseling in nature. The degree must include specific coursework in 10 core content areas.	LPCC Already has LPC credential 4,000 hours of post-master's supervised professional practice in the delivery of clinical services in the diagnosis and treatment of mental illnesses and disorders in both children in adults. Supervision must comply with the board's Supervision Contract for LPCC Applicants. Practice must include 1,800 hours of clinical client contact. At least 50% of supervision must be individual supervision. Supervisor must have independent CLINICAL license. LPC 2,000 hours of post-master's supervised professional practice that is acceptable to the board <i>OR</i> submission of a Supervision Plan for the first 2,000 hours of professional practice. Supervision must be completed in not less than 1 year and not more than 3 yrs. Practice must include 100 hours of supervision under a board approved supervisor.	LPCC NCMHCE Note: ECCP is no longer offered by the NBCC LPC NCE or other national exam that is determined by the board to be substantially similar to the NCE.

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
MISSISSIPPI MS State Board of Examiners for Licensed Professional Counselors 239 North Lamar St Suite 402 Jackson, MS 39201 601/3591010 888/860-7001 662/716-3021 (fax) Executive Director LeeAnn Mordecai LMordecai@lpc.ms.gov CONTACT: Info@lpc.ms.gov WEBSITE: https://www.lpc.ms.gov/secure/index.asp Application packet: \$10 Application fee: \$100	Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) Licensed Professional Counselor – Candidate Applicant who has satisfied experience and educational requirements but still needs to pass the exam. A background check is required of all candidates.	Master's degree or educational specialist's degree in counselor education or a related program from a regionally or nationally accredited college/university program, subject to board approval, with 60 semester hours (or 90 quarter hours) and completion of coursework in 10 content areas. OR Doctoral degree primarily in counseling, guidance, or related counseling field from a regionally or nationally accredited college/university program, subject to board approval, with 60 semester hours (or 90 quarter hours) and completion of coursework in 10 content areas.	2 years/3,500 hours of supervised counseling experience in a clinical setting (1,750 hours must be post-master's experience). 1,167 hours must be direct counseling service to clients to include counseling related activities. Minimum of 100 hours of supervision required (50 hours may be group supervision). Supervision must be under an LPC that has met the requirements to be a MS Board Qualified Supervisor.	NCE Will accept the NCMHCE but not required

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
MISSOURI MO Committee for Professional Counselors 3605 Missouri Boulevard P.O. Box 1335 Jefferson City, MO 65102 573/751-0018 800/735-2966 TTY 573/751-0735 (fax) CONTACT: Loree Kessler Loree.Kessler@pr.mo.gov or profcounselor@pr.mo.gov WEBSITE: http://pr.mo.gov/counselors.asp Application fee: \$150 Registration of Supervision fee: \$100 Background Fingerprint Check (if done electronically through L-1 Enrollment Services): \$52.20 www.l1id.com	Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) Counselor-in-Training Issued automatically when supervision is registered and approved and all other requirements are met.	Master's degree or higher in counseling, counseling psychology, clinical psychology, or school psychology from a regionally accredited college/university, with at least 48 semester hours reflecting the CACREP or CORE curriculum and a practicum, internship, or field experience consisting of 6 semester hours in the practice of counseling.	2 years/3,000 hours of post-master's continuous counseling experience (full or part-time), to be completed within 60 months. 1,200 hours must be direct client contact. 30 hours of post-master's study may be substituted for 1,500 of the 3,000 hours. If obtained a doctorate or specialist's degree: 1 year/1,500 hours of counseling experience (full or part-time), to be completed within 36 months. 600 hours must be direct client contact. For both degree paths: 15 hours of supervised counseling experience per week is required, with 1 hour a week of face-to-face supervision. If electronic supervision is continuously interactive, it can count towards required hours. Supervision must be under an LPC or licensed psychologist or psychiatrist approved and registered with the board.	NCE

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
MONTANA MT Board of Social Work Examiners and Professional Counselors 301 South Park, 4th Floor P.O. Box 200513 Helena, MT 59620 406/841-2392 406/841-2305 (fax) CONTACT: dlibsdsdp@state.mt.us WEBSITE: www.swpc.mt.gov Application fee: \$50 Initial License fee: \$50 MT requires fingerprint and background checks of all applicants.	Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor (LCPC)	A 60 semester hour (or 90 quarter hour) counseling-in-nature graduate degree from an accredited institution which includes specific coursework and a 6 semester hour advanced counseling practicum. OR Applicants may apply for licensure with a minimum of 45 semester hours (67.5 quarter hours) master's degree in counseling which includes specific coursework and a 6 semester hour advanced counseling practicum. Applicants must complete the remaining hours within 5 years of the original application approval date. Applicants are not eligible for full licensure nor are they eligible to test until the hours are completed.	3,000 hours of supervised counseling experience, 1,500 hours of which must be post-degree. 1,000 of the 1,500 hours must be direct client contact (250 can be group). Must have 1 hour of supervision for every 20 hours. Supervision must be under a licensed professional counselor or licensed allied mental health professional who has had 20 clock hours of supervision training and the agreement has been approved by the board.	NCE

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
NEBRASKA NE Board of Mental Health Practice P.O. Box 94986 Lincoln, NE 68509 402/471-0185 402/471-3577 (fax) Program Manager Kris Chiles kris.chiles@nebraska.gov WEBSITE: www.dhhs.ne.gov/crl/mhcs/mental/mentalindex.htm Independent Mental Health Practitioner License: \$50 (if applicant holds an LMHP) \$155 if no LMHP Mental Health Practitioner License: \$50 Professional Counselor Certificate: \$25 Provisional Fees: Mental Health Practitioner License: \$25 Master Social Work Certificate: \$25 Marriage and Family Therapy Certificate: \$25	Licensed Mental Health Practitioner-Certified Professional Counselor or Licensed Professional Counselor (LMHP-CPC / LPC) This additional appellation is available for LMHPs who have a graduate degree from a CACREP accredited program or a program with equivalent coursework. Licensed Mental Health Practitioner (LMHP) An individual who is qualified to engage in mental health practice or offers or renders mental health practice services. Provisional Licensed Mental Health Practitioner (PLMHP) An individual beginning the 3,000 hour experience requirement; valid for 5 years.	Master's degree or higher from an approved educational program that is primarily therapeutic mental health in content, in a CACREP accredited program "or complete equivalent coursework," from a regionally accredited institution. Completion of a practicum or internship with a minimum of 300 clock hours of direct client contact under the supervision of a qualified supervisor.	LMHP-CPC / LPC, LMHP 3,000 hours of post-master's supervised experience in mental health practice accumulated during the 5 years immediately preceding application for licensure. To include 1,500 hours of direct client contact (not more than 1,500 hours of non-direct service). Supervision must be under an LMHP, LIMHP, licensed psychologist, or licensed physician with mental health treatment training.	LIMHP and LMHP with CPC credential NCE or NCMHCE

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
NEVADA NV Board of Examiners for Marriage & Family Therapists and Clinical Professional Counselors P.O. Box 370130 Las Vegas NV 89137-0130 702/486-7388 702/486-7258 (fax) Executive Director Raymond Smith, Jr. nvmftbd@mftbd.nv.gov WEBSITE: http://marriage.nv.gov/ Initial Application fee: \$75 Issuance of Initial License: \$50	Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor (LCPC) Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor Intern Required before beginning supervised experience after obtaining valid master's degree; valid for 3 years.	Master's degree or higher in mental health counseling or community counseling from a program approved by CACREP, "or equivalent program" of at least 48 semester hours and completion of the minimum required coursework, including three semester hour courses or four quarter hour courses in Supervised Clinical Practice by way of either practicum or internship in mental health counseling; accomplished over a period of one academic year.	2 years/3,000 hours of post-master's supervised counseling experience. To include 1,500 hours of direct client contact, 1,200 hours in the practice of clinical professional counseling and 100 hours of direct supervision under an approved supervisor of which at least 1 hour per week was completed for each work setting at which the applicant provided counseling.	NCMHCE

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
NEW HAMPSHIRE NH Board of Mental Health Practice 121 South Fruit St. Concord, New Hampshire 03301 603/271-6762 603/271-3950 (fax) Executive Director Peggy Lynch CONTACT: bdmhp@nh.gov WEBSITE: http://www.nh.gov/mhpb/licenseees.html License Application Review fee: \$150	Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor (LCMHC)	All applicants shall have a master's degree or doctoral degree in clinical mental health counseling from a CACREP accredited institution OR have a 60-credit degree in clinical mental health counseling or its equivalent from a program which has received regional accreditation from the Association Secondary Schools and Colleges. A minimum of one academic year of full-time graduate study in mental health counseling must be completed in residence at the institution granting the degree. There are 11 content areas. *A degree from a CACREP accredited program will be required beginning in 2022.	2 years/3,000 hours of paid post-master's supervised clinical work experience in a mental health setting, to be completed in no more than 5 years. Each year shall not be less than 1,500 clock hours. 100 hours of face-to-face supervision provided by a state-licensed, board approved, mental health professional is required.	NCMHCE and an essay exam provided by the board

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
NEW JERSEY NJ Board of Marriage & Family Therapy Examiners Professional Counselor Examiners Committee P.O. Box 45007 Newark, NJ 07101 973/504-6415 973/648-3536 (fax) Executive Director Milagros B. Collazo WEBSITE: http://www.niconsumeraffairs.gov/mft/Pages/default.aspx Application fee: \$75 LPC Initial License fee: \$250 if applying during 1st year of biennial renewal \$125 if applying during 2nd year of biennial renewal LAC Initial License fee: \$180 if applying during 1st year of biennial renewal \$90 if applying during 2nd year of biennial renewal	Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor (LCMHC) Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) Licensed Associate Counselor (LAC) After acceptable documentation of the satisfaction of the LPC educational and examination requirements, an individual may be granted licensure as an Associate Counselor to practice counseling under the direct supervision of an LPC or a supervisor acceptable to the committee.	Minimum of 60 graduate semester hours which includes a master's degree in counseling from a regionally accredited institution of higher education (45 of the 60 graduate semester hours must be distributed in 8 of the 9 defined course content areas). As of April 20, 2006, an acceptable graduate degree means that the word "counseling" or the word "counselor" appears in the title of the graduate degree awarded and that the institution offering the degree states in	LCMHC Already holds an LPC Certification by the Academy of Certified Clinical Mental Health Counselors, or any successor thereto; passage of a comprehensive qualifying examination prepared by the Academy; evidence satisfactory to the committee that the clinical mental health counselor has satisfied the continuing education requirements of the committee; and, evidence satisfactory to the committee that certification of the clinical mental health counselor has been renewed by the Academy 2 years/3,000 of post-master's	NCE

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

NEW JERSEY, CONTINUED		the catalog or in another format acceptable to the committee that the purpose of the graduate degree is to prepare students for the professional practice of counseling.	degree supervised field experience, 100 hours of face-to-face supervision. LPC 3 years of full-time supervised counseling experience in a professional counseling setting, 1 year of which may be obtained prior to the granting of the master's degree. 1 year/1,500 hours of experience may be eliminated by substituting 30 graduate semester hours beyond the master's degree. In no case may an applicant have less than 1 year of post-master's supervised work experience.	
-------------------------------------	--	---	---	--

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
NEW MEXICO NM Counseling and Therapy Practice Board 2550 Cerrillos Road Santa Fe, NM 87504-5101 505/476-4610 505/476-4633 (fax) Board Administrator Evelyn Tapia-Barnhart CONTACT: counselingboard@state.nm.us WEBSITE: http://www.rld.state.nm.us/boards/Counseling_and_Therapy_Practice.aspx Application fee: \$75 Board Administrative fee: \$25 LPCC License: \$220 LPC Renewal fee: \$150 LMHC License: \$75	Licensed Professional Clinical Mental Health Counselor (LPCC) Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) Individuals who are pursuing the LPCC license but still need to complete the supervised experience requirements.	Master's degree or higher in counseling or a counseling related field with no less than 48 graduate hours from an accredited institution. Related field degree must meet the clinical core curriculum. Counseling related field is mental health, community counseling, agency counseling, psychology, clinical psychology, family studies, art therapy, or education.	2 years of postgraduate professional clinical counseling experience, with 3,000 hours of clinical client contact and a minimum of 100 hours of face-to-face supervision. 1,000 hours of clinical client contact may come from the applicant's internship/practicum. Supervision must come from an LPCC or licensed MFT, professional art therapist, psychiatrist, clinical psychologist, or independent social worker.	LPCC NCE and NCMHCE LMHC NCE

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
NEW YORK State Board for Mental Health Practitioners Office of the Professions State Education Building 2nd Floor 89 Washington Avenue Albany, NY 12234-1000 518/474-3817 518/402-2323 (fax) Executive Secretary David Hamilton, Ph.D. CONTACT: MHPBD@mail.nysed.gov WEBSITE: http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/mhpl FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/NYSProfessions Application fee: \$175 Registration fee: \$196 Limited Permit fee: \$70	Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) Limited Permit Applicants who have met all requirements except experience and/or exam must apply for a 2 year permit to practice under supervision; may be renewed for two years, upon new application and permit fee.	Master's degree or higher in counseling that includes 60* semester hours and completion of specific coursework. *If counseling degree was completed prior to Jan. 1, 2010, 48 semester hours are required. Completion of a one year supervised internship or practicum in mental health counseling (600 clock hours). Completion of coursework or training, approved by the Education Department, in the identification and reporting of child abuse.	3,000 hours of post-master's supervised experience providing mental health counseling in a setting acceptable to the department. 1,500 of the hours must be direct client contact.	NCMHCE without ESL arrangements

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
NORTH CAROLINA NC Board of Licensed Professional Counselors P.O. Box 77819 Greensboro, NC 27417 336/217-6007 336/217-9450 Board Administrator Katrina Brent CONTACT: LPCinfo@ncblpc.org WEBSITE: www.ncblpc.org Application fee: \$200.00 Criminal Background Check fee: \$38.00	Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) Licensed Professional Counselor Associate (LPCA) Individuals who are pursuing the LPC license but still need to complete the supervised professional practice experience requirements. Licensed Professional Counselor Supervisor (LPCS)	For applicants after 03/01/16, a master's degree in counseling or related field from an institution of higher education that is either regionally accredited or accredited by an organization both recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation and accredited by CACREP. Applicant must meet one of the following criteria: a. If the applicant enrolled in the master's program before July 1, 2009, a minimum of 48 semester hours or a minimum of 72 quarter credit hours. b. If the applicant enrolled in the master's program before July 1, 2013, but after June 30, 2009, a minimum of 54 semester hours or 81 quarter credit hours. c. If the applicant enrolled in the master's program after June 30, 2013, a minimum of 60 semester hours or 90 quarter credit hours. *Applicants after 7/1/2022 must hold a master's degree from a CACREP-accredited program.	3,000 hours of supervised professional practice; 2,000 hours must be direct counseling. No hours can be applied from the practicum/internship. Experience shall be gained at a rate of no more than 40 hours per week. 100 hours of clinical supervision required. 75 hours must be individual supervision. Must have a minimum of 1 hour of individual or 2 hours of group clinical supervision for every 40 hours of professional practice. Supervision shall be based on live observation, co-therapy, audio and video recordings, and live supervision. Supervisor must be approved by the board.	LPC/LPCA NCE, NCMHCE, or CRCE and NC jurisprudence exam LPCA NCE, NCMHCE, or CRCE

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
NORTH DAKOTA ND Board of Counselor Examiners 2112 10th Avenue SE Mandan, ND 58554 701/667-5969 701/667-5969 (fax) Executive Secretary Marge Ellefson CONTACT: ndbce@btinet.net WEBSITE: www.ndbce.org LPCC License: \$150 LPC License: \$100 LAPC License: \$150	Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC) Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) Full professional license after LAPC criteria are met and supervised experience has been completed. Licensed Associate Professional Counselor (LAPC) A two year license which allows for completion of the supervised experience. A two year plan of supervision and passage of the NCE required.	LPCC Master's degree in counseling from an accredited college or university, including 60 semester hours, core clinical coursework (a minimum of 15 contact hours in each of 3 categories determined by the board), and 800 hours of clinical training in a supervised practicum and internship. LPC/LAPC Master's degree in counseling or closely related field from an accredited college or university, including 48 semester hours and specific core counseling coursework within the master's degree. *60 semester hours will be required beginning in 2017.	LPCC Must already possess the 1st-level LPC credential; and 2 years/3,000 hours of post-master's supervised clinical counseling experience in a clinical setting. Experience to include 100 hours of direct supervision (60 hours must be individual, face-to-face supervision) by a board approved supervisor. LPC 400 hours of direct client counseling contact during the 2-year LAPC supervisory period. Experience to include 100 hours of direct supervision (60 hours must be individual, face-to-face supervision) by a board approved supervisor.	LPCC NCMHCE and a videotaped clinical counseling session of at least 30 minutes LPC/LAPC NCE

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
OHIO OH Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage & Family Therapist Board 77 South High St. 24th Floor Room 2468 Columbus, OH 43215-6171 614/466-0912 614/728-7790 (fax) CONTACT : cswmft.info@cswb.state.oh.us WEBSITE: cswmft.ohio.gov LPCC License: \$75 LPC License: \$60 Registered Counselor Trainee: no fee	Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC) Professional Counselor/ Clinical Resident (CR) Title used while completing the 3,000 hours of supervised experience required for the LPCC license. Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) Title used after completing coursework including practicum and internship. Registered Counselor Trainee (RCT) Title used while enrolled in a practicum or internship in a counselor education program.	Master's degree or higher in counseling from a CACREP-accredited program, Graduates of a Non-CACREP program must submit their transcripts for evaluation and approval by the Counselor Professional Standards Committee. Beginning 1/1/18, all in-state applicants must hold a degree from a CACREP-accredited program; out-of-state applicants with Non-CACREP degrees may continue to submit transcripts for evaluation and approval. 100 hour practicum and 600 hour internship required.	LPCC Must already possess the 1st-level LPC credential; and 2 years/3,000 hours of post-master's clinical counseling experience under the supervision of an LPCC holding the supervision credential. 50% must be clinical experience The supervision must include the diagnosis and treatment of mental and emotional disorders; 50% of the time must be face-to-face contact delivering clinical counseling services. Supervisor will fill out an evaluation to evaluate competence to diagnose and treat mental and emotional disorders	LPCC NCMHCE LPC NCE And OH jurisprudence exam

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
OKLAHOMA OK State Board of Behavioral Health Licensure 1000 N.E. 10th Street Oklahoma City, OK 73117 405/522-3696 405/522-3691 (fax) Executive Director Eric Ashmore Eric.Ashmore@bbhl.ok.gov WEBSITE: www.ok.gov/behavioralhealth/ Application fee: \$145 Initial License fee: \$90	Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) Licensed Professional Counselor Candidate (LPC-candidate) an individual may be granted licensure as Licensed Professional Counselor Candidate to practice counseling under the direct supervision of an approved LPC supervisor	Master's degree or higher in counseling or a related mental health field, with 60 graduate semester hours (or 90 quarter hours) from a regionally accredited college/university. Completion of coursework in 10 areas and a counseling practicum/internship of 300 clock hours. The board will define what qualifies as counseling related.	3 years/3,000 hours of full-time post-application professional counseling experience supervised by an approved LPC Supervisor. For each 1,000 hours, 350 hours must be direct face-to-face contact. Face-to-face supervision must be 45 minutes for every 20 hours of experience. Up to 2 years of required experience may be gained at a rate of 1 year for each 30-graduate semester hours beyond the master's degree, provided that such hours are clearly related to the field of counseling and acceptable to the board. The applicant shall have no less than 1 year of supervised full-time experience in counseling.	NCE and Oklahoma Legal & Ethical Responsibilities Exam (as pertains to LPCs)

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
OREGON OR Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists 3218 Pringle Road SE Suite 250 Salem, OR 97302-6312 503/378-5499 503/373-1427 (fax) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Becky Eklund Becky.eklund@state.or.us CONTACT: lpc.lmft@state.or.us WEBSITE: www.oregon.gov/oblpc Application fee: \$125	Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) Registered Intern An applicant registered to obtain post-degree supervised work experience toward licensure.	Master's degree or higher in counseling, with 48 semester hours (or 72 quarter hours) in a CACREP or CORE accredited program, or the content equivalent," from a regionally accredited institution. Completion of an internship/practicum consisting of 600 clock hours. If Graduating after October 1, 2014: Master's degree or higher in counseling, with 60 semester hours (or 90 quarter hours) in a CACREP or CORE accredited program, or the content equivalent, from a regionally accredited institution.	3 years of full-time supervised experience in counseling, to include 2,400 hours of direct client contact. The supervision must take place concurrently with the direct client contact hours and must total no less than 2 hours of supervision for months where 45 or less direct client contact hours are completed; or total no less than 3 hours of supervision for months where 46 or more direct client contact hours are completed. Up to 75% of the individual supervision can be electronic and 50% of total supervision can be group. An approved supervisor must provide supervision. 600 (from 48 credit hours) or 700 (from 60 credit hours) client contact hours may be obtained during the clinical portion of the qualifying degree program.	NCE, NCMHCE, CRCE, or other exam, as approved by the board and Oregon Law and Rules Exam

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
PENNSYLVANIA PA State Board of Social Workers, Marriage & Family Therapists and Professional Counselors P.O Box 2649 Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649 717/783-1389 717/787-7769 (fax) Board Administrator Sandra Matter CONTACT: St-socialwork@state.pa.us WEBSITE: www.dos.pa.gov/ Application and Initial License fee: \$45	Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC)	Successful completion of a planned program of 60 semester hours (or 90 quarter hours) of graduate coursework in counseling or a field closely related to the practice of professional counseling, including a 48 semester hour (or 72 quarter hour) master's degree in professional counseling or in a field closely related to the practice of professional counseling. OR Doctoral degree in counseling or in a field closely related to the practice of professional counseling. <u>AND for both:</u> Completion of coursework in 9 core areas including a supervised practicum (100 hours) and internship (600 hours). The supervised internship experience shall begin after completion of the supervised practicum experience.	3 years/3,600 hours of supervised clinical experience after completing 48 graduate-level credits (or 72 quarter hours). (Have to complete at least 600 hours a year and no more than 1,800 a year) If obtained a doctoral degree in counseling: 2 years/2,400 hours of supervised clinical experience. 1 year/ 1,200 hours must be obtained post-degree. Supervision must be provided by a qualified supervisor. At least 1,800 hours must be completed under an LPC that has 5 years of experience within the last 10 years as a professional counselor. There should be 2 hours of supervision for every 40 hours of client hours. The remaining hours may be completed under an individual that holds a license and has at least a master's degree in a related field and 5 years of experience within the last 10 years in that field.	Any ONE of the following: NCE CRCE ATCB CBMT PEPK AAODA EMAC

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
PUERTO RICO PR Office of Regulation and Certification of Health Professionals Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors P.O. Box 10200 Santurce, PR 00908-0200 787/782-8980 ext. 6602 787/724-2971 (fax) Executive Director Norma I. Garcia-Martinez CONTACT: contactus@salud.pr.gov WEBSITE: www.salud.gov.pr LPC License: \$30 PCPL License: \$30	Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) Professional Counselor with Provisional License (PCPL) Person who is granted a temporary/provisional authorization by the board to offer counseling services under supervision to meet the experience requirement; valid for 3 years.	Master's degree or higher in counseling from an institution accredited by the Council of Higher Education of Puerto Rico—45 credit hours required. Specific coursework required in 8 out of 10 areas.	Completion of a minimum of 500 hours post-master's practice supervised by a Certified Mentor. Upon approval of the exam required, the board shall issue a provisional license.	NCE

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
RHODE ISLAND RI Board of Mental Health Counselors and Marriage & Family Therapists 3 Capitol Hill Room 104 Providence, RI 02908-5097 401/222-2828 401/222-1272 (fax) CONTACT: Arlene Hartwell Arlene.Hartwell@health.ri.gov WEBSITE: http://health.ri.gov/licensing/healthcare/#mental Application fee: \$460	Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor (LCMHC)	Master's degree or higher specializing in counseling/therapy from a college/university accredited by the New England Association of Schools & Colleges or an equivalent regional accrediting agency. OR Master's degree, certificate in advanced graduate studies, or doctoral degree in mental health counseling or allied field from a recognized educational institution. <u>AND for both:</u> Completion of 60 semester hours (or 90 quarter hours) (Master's must be 48 semester hours or 72 quarter hours) within the graduate counseling/therapy program, coursework in 8 core areas, a supervised practicum (12 semester hours), and one calendar year of a supervised internship consisting of 20 hours per week in counseling.	2 years/2,000 hours of post-master's direct client contact offering clinical or counseling or therapy services with emphasis in mental health counseling. To include 100 hours of post-master's supervised case work spread over a 2 year period. Supervision must be under a board approved supervisor.	NCMHCE

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
SOUTH CAROLINA SC Board of Examiners for Licensure of Professional Counselors, Marriage & Family Therapists, and Psycho-Educational Specialists P.O. Box 11329 Columbia, SC 29211-1329 803/896-4662 803/896-4719 (fax) WEBSITE: www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/counselors To obtain an application for licensure please contact the Center for Credentialing and Education (CCE), an affiliate of NBCC, at: 888/817-8283 cce@cce-global.org www.cce-global.org Application fee: \$170	Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) Professional Counselor Intern (LPC/I) An applicant who has met the education and exam requirements, but not the 2 years supervised experience requirement.	Master's degree or higher in professional counseling or related discipline from a regionally accredited institution that includes at least 48 graduate hours, coursework in 10 content areas, and a 150 hour supervised counseling practicum.	Must already possess the 1st-level LPC/I credential; and 2 years/1,500 hours of full-time post-master's supervised clinical experience in the practice of professional counseling. The 1,500 hours must be direct counseling with individuals, couples, families, or groups. A minimum of 150 hours of the 1,500 hours must be clinical supervision provided by a board approved LPC supervisor (100 hours must be individual supervision).	NCE or NCMHCE

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
SOUTH DAKOTA SD Board of Examiners for Counselors and Marriage & Family Therapists P.O. Box 2164 Sioux Falls, SD 57101-2164 605/331-2927 Executive Director Joyce M. Vos CONTACT: sdbce.msp@midconetwork.com WEBSITE: http://dss.sd.gov/licensing/boards/examiners.aspx LPC-MH Application fee: \$100 LCP-MH Initial Licensure fee: \$75 LPC Application fee: \$100 LPC Initial Licensure fee: \$100	Licensed Professional Counselor – Mental Health (LPC-MH) Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC)	Master’s degree or higher with an emphasis in mental health counseling from a CACREP accredited program, “or equivalent program” from an accredited institution that includes specific coursework and a supervised practicum (100 hours) and internship (600 hours). 48 semester hours required for LPC licensure; 60 semester hours or completion of all required coursework for LPC-MH licensure.	LPC-MH Must already possess the 1st-level LPC credential; and 2 years/2,000 hours of post-master’s direct client contact in a clinical setting and 100 hours of direct supervision, at least 50 hours of which shall be face-to-face. 1,000 hours of post-master’s direct client contact hours and 50 hours of face-to-face supervision earned under the LPC credential may be counted toward these requirements if LPC-MH supervision conditions were met. LPC 2,000 hours of post-master’s counseling experience, with 800 hours of direct client contact and 100 hours of direct supervision, at least 50 hours of which shall be face-to-face.	LPC-MH NCMHCE LPC NCE

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
TENNESSEE State of Tennessee Dept. of Health Bureau of Related Boards 665 Mainstream Dr. Nashville, TN 37243 615/532-5088 615/532-5369 (fax) Executive Director Teddy Wilkins CONTACT: James.a.hill@tn.gov WEBSITE: http://tennessee.gov/health/topic/pcmft-board LPC with/without MHSP designation: \$200 MHSP Upgrade fee: \$85 Temporary License: \$150 State Registration fee: \$10 Background Fingerprint Check: \$56	Licensed Professional Counselor-Mental Health Service Provider (LPC/MHSP) Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC)	LPC/MHSP In addition to, or as part of the graduate degree – completion of 9 graduate semester hours of coursework related to diagnosis, treatment, appraisal, and assessment of mental disorders. LPC 60 graduate semester hours in professional counseling or a related field from an institution accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges & Schools, CACREP, or a comparable accrediting body, which includes a master's degree in professional counseling and a supervised 500 hour practicum or internship (300 hours of which must be completed in a clinical setting).	LPC/MHSP 2 years of post-master's professional experience consisting of 3,000 hours of direct clinical experience (not less than 10 hours per week) 1,500 hours have to be direct client contact and 1,500 hours need to be clinically based. Must have 150 hours of supervision LPC 2 years of post-master's professional experience consisting of 3,000 hours of direct clinical experience (not less than 10 hours per week) *As of January 31, 2013, Supervisors had to be licensed for 5 years, conform to section F of the <i>ACA Code of Ethics</i> , and have at least 12 clock hours of supervision training	LPC/MHSP NCE, NCMHCE, and TN Jurisprudence Exam LPC NCE and the TN Jurisprudence Exam

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
TEXAS TX State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors P.O. Box 149347 MC 1982 Austin, TX 78714 512/834-6658 512/834-6677 (fax) Executive Director Bobbe Alexander CONTACT: lpc@dshs.state.tx.us WEBSITE: www.dshs.state.tx.us/counselor Application fee: \$200	Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) Licensed Professional Counselor Intern (LPC-Intern) An applicant practicing under supervision; valid for 5 years.	Master's degree or higher in professional counseling or related field from an accredited college/university consisting of 48 graduate semester hours. Completion of specific coursework and a 300 clock hour supervised practicum with at least 100 hours of direct client contact. Counseling related field: a mental health discipline utilizing human development, psychotherapeutic, and mental health principles including, but not limited to, psychology, psychiatry, social work, marriage and family therapy, and guidance and counseling. Non-counseling related fields include, but are not limited to, sociology, education, administration, dance therapy and theology. *60 semester hours will be required beginning in 2017.	3,000 hours of post-master's supervised experience, including 1,500 hours of direct client contact. Supervision must be under a board approved LPC.	NCE and Texas Jurisprudence Exam

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
UTAH UT Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing P.O. Box 146741 Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6741 801/530-7632 801/530-6511 (fax) Bureau Manager Dane Ishihara CONTACT: roborn@utah.gov WEBSITE: http://dopl.utah.gov/index.html LPC Application fee: \$120 CPC Intern Application fee: \$85	Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor (LCMHC) Licensed Associate Clinical Mental Health Counselor (LACMHC Credential required before starting the supervised experience requirement; valid for 3 years.	Master's degree or higher in mental health counseling from a CACREP accredited program, including a minimum of 60 graduate semester hours (or 90 quarter hours) in specific coursework. A minimum of 3 semester hours or 4 ½ quarter hours of a practicum. A minimum of 6 semester hours or 9 quarter hours of an internship.	Must already possess the LACMHC 4,000 hours of post-master's supervised professional counseling experience. 1,000 hours must be supervised experience in mental health therapy. 100 hours of face-to-face supervision required. Supervision must be under a licensed mental health therapist on site on with a contract.	NCE, NCMHCE, and the Utah Professional Counselor Law, Rules and Ethics Exam

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
VERMONT VT Board of Allied Mental Health Practitioners 89 Main Street 3rd Floor Montpellier, VT 05620-3402 802/828-1505 802/828-2465 (fax) Executive Director Colin Benjamin CONTACT: Diane.lafaille@sec.state.vt.us WEBSITE: http://vtprofessionals.org Application fee: \$125	Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor (LCMHC)	Master's degree or higher in counseling from an accredited institution, with a minimum of 60 semester hours and 700 hours of a supervised practicum, internship, or field experience in a clinical mental health setting. (Master's degree must be 48 semester hours and "CACREP equivalent".)	2 years/3,000 hours of post-master's experience in clinical mental health counseling, including 2,000 hours of direct client contact. 100 hours of face-to-face supervision required. Supervision should be 1 hour per 30 client hours and 50 must be individual supervision Supervision must be under a board approved licensed mental health professional.	NCE and NCMHCE And VT Jurisprudence exam

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
VIRGINIA VA Board of Counseling Perimeter Center 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300 Henrico, VA 23233 804/367-4610 804/527-4435 (fax) Acting Executive Director Jaime Hoyle CONTACT: coun@dhp.virginia.gov WEBSITE: www.dhp.virginia.gov/counseling/ Initial Registration of Supervision: \$50 Application and Initial Licensure fee: \$140	Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) Licensed Professional Counselor – resident (LPC-resident) An applicant practicing under supervision	Master’s degree or higher in counseling that includes 60 semester hours (or 90 quarter hours) of graduate study in counseling. Completion of a supervised internship consisting of at least 600 hours. Must include 240 hours of direct client contact. Programs that are approved by CACREP or CORE are recognized as meeting the definition of graduate degree programs that prepare individuals to practice counseling and counseling treatment intervention	3400 hours of postgraduate supervised counseling experience, including 2,000 hours of direct client contact.* 200 hours of supervision required (100 hours must be under the supervision of an LPC approved by the board). Graduate level internship hours in excess of 600 hours may count towards the 3400 hours, up to 300 hours.	NCMHCE

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
WASHINGTON WA Licensed Mental Health Counselors, Marriage & Family Therapists and Social Workers Advisory Committee P.O. Box 47852 Olympia, WA 98504 360/236-4700 360/236-4818 (fax) Executive Director Nancy Tyson Nancy.tyson@doh.wa.gov WEBSITE: http://www.doh.wa.gov/LicensesPermitsandCertificates/ProfessionsNewReneworUpdate LMHC Application fee: \$150 LMHC Initial License fee: \$125 LMHCA Application fee: \$50 Certified Counselor application and certification fee: \$110 Examination or re-examination fee: \$85 Certified Adviser application	Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) Licensed Mental Health Counselor Associate (LMHCA)* A pre-licensure candidate who has a graduate degree in mental health counseling or related field and is working toward meeting the supervised experience requirements (may renew annually up to 6 times)	LMHC/LMHCA Master's degree or higher in mental health counseling or related field from a regionally accredited college or university that includes a supervised counseling practicum or internship. Individuals who are certified as NCC or CCMHC are considered to meet educational requirements. ALL professionals must complete 4 hours of HIV/AIDS education and training.	LMHC 3 years of full-time counseling or 3,000 hours of postgraduate supervised mental health counseling in an approved setting. To include 1,200 hours of direct counseling with individuals, couples, groups, or families and 100 hours of immediate supervision by a board approved supervisor. Graduates from CACREP-accredited programs can count up to 50 hours of supervision and 500 hours of experience from their practicum/internship.	LMHC NCE or NCMHCE LMHCA None

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

and certification fee: \$80 Examination or re-examination fee: \$85 Agency Affiliated Counselor application and registration fee: \$50				
---	--	--	--	--

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
WEST VIRGINIA WV Board of Examiners in Counseling 812 Quarrier Street, Suite 212 Charleston, WV 25301 304/558-5494 304/558-5496 (fax) Executive Director Jean Ann Johnson CONTACT: Roxanne Clay Rclay27@msn.com WEBSITE: www.wvbec.org Application fee: \$200 Initial License fee: depends on date applicant is licensed	Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) Provisional Licensed Professional Counselor An applicant who has met the education and exam requirements, but not the 2 years supervised experience requirement	Master's degree or higher from a program accredited by CACREP or CORE, or a comparable accrediting body, that includes 60 graduate semester hours (or 90 quarter hours) and a practicum and internship. Acceptable graduate degrees include a specialization in community agency counseling, mental health counseling, pastoral counseling, rehabilitation counseling, school counseling, and substance abuse or addictions counseling. Similar degrees that include the word "counseling" and include specific coursework, and are determined by the board to be a closely related field, are also acceptable.	Must already possess provisional license 2 years/3,000 hours of post-master's supervised professional counseling experience. If obtained a doctoral degree: 1 year/1,500 hours of post-degree supervised professional counseling experience. At least 50% of the supervised counseling experience must be in the direct provision of counseling services to clients. A minimum of 1 hour of direct individual supervision is required for every 20 hours of practice. Supervision must be under a board approved professional.	NCE, CRCE, or NCMHCE

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
WISCONSIN WI Examining Board of Marriage & Family Therapists, Professional Counselors, and Social Workers P.O. Box 8935 Madison, WI 53708 608/266-2112 608/261-7083 (fax) Executive Director Dan Williams Dan1.Williams@wisconsin.gov WEBSITE: http://drl.wi.gov/prof/coun/de f.htm Application and Initial Licensure fee: \$147 (includes \$57 state law exam fee) Professional Counselor Training License: \$75	Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) Licensed Professional Counselor Trainee An applicant who has completed the degree requirements but not the supervised experience; valid for 48 months.	Master's degree or higher in professional counseling, or equivalent program approved by the board, from a regionally accredited institution that includes a minimum of 42 semester hours (or 63 quarter hours). 3 semester hours of Counseling Theories and 3 semester hours of a supervised counseling practicum are required.	2 years/3,000 hours of post-master's supervised professional counseling practice, including 1,000 hours of face-to-face client contact. Supervision must include one hour per week of face-to-face supervision and must be provided by a board approved mental health professional.	NCE, CRCE, or equivalent exam approved by the board and Wisconsin Jurisprudence Exam

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title(s)	Educational Requirements	Experiential Requirements	Exam Required
WYOMING WY Mental Health Professions Licensing Board 2001 Capitol Ave. Room 104 Cheyenne, WY 82002 307/777-3628 307/777-3508 (fax) Executive Director Michelle M. Lamorie Michelle.lamorie@wyo.gov wvomhplb@wyo.gov WEBSITE: http://mentalhealth.wyo.gov/ LPC Reciprocal Application fee: \$350 LPC by Completing Provisional: \$200 PPC Application fee: \$150	Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) Provisional Professional Counselor (PPC) An applicant who has received a master's degree, but has not passed the NCE exam or completed the supervised experience requirement; valid for 36 months.	Master's degree or higher in counseling, with a minimum of 60 semester hours (or 90 quarter hours) from a CACREP or CORE accredited program, or a regionally accredited college or university which meets the "CACREP criteria" for coursework, instructor qualification and supervision.	3,000 hours of supervised experience. (1,200 must be direct client contact and 100 hours must be face-to-face supervision. Supervision must be provided by a licensed mental health professional.	NCE, NCMHCE, or CRCE,

ABBREVIATIONS

AAODA:	The Advanced Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Counselor Examination (administered by the International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium/Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse, Inc.)
ATCB:	The Art Therapy Credentials Board Certification Examination
CACREP	Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (an organizational affiliate of ACA that provides professional counselor-training accreditation)
CBMT:	The Certification Board for Music Therapists Examination
CCMHC	Certified Clinical Mental Health Counselor (an NBCC professional counseling specialty title; not a required credential)
CORE	Council on Rehabilitation Education (an independent rehabilitation counselor-training accreditation board)
CRC	Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (a CRCC professional counseling specialty title; not a required credential)
CRCC	Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification (an independent, non-governmental rehabilitation counselor-credentialing board)
CRCE	Certified Rehabilitation Counselor Examination (administered by CRCC for the certification of rehabilitation counselors; also administered by some states for their own credentialing process as an alternative to their clinically oriented exam)
EMAC:	The Examination for Master Addictions Counselors (administered by NBCC)
NBCC	National Board for Certified Counselors (an independent, non-governmental professional counselor-credentialing board and an organizational affiliate of ACA)

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

NCE	National Counselor Examination (administered by NBCC for national certification of professional counselors; also used by most states for their own credentialing process)
NCMHCE	National Clinical Mental Health Counselor Examination (administered by NBCC for national certification of clinical mental health counselors; also used by some states for their own credentialing process)
PEPK:	The Practice Examination of Psychological Knowledge (administered by the North American Association of Masters in Psychology)

APPENDIX A:

Clinical Supervisor Requirements

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title	Requirements for Clinical Supervisors
Alabama	Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC)	Licensed as a professional counselor with 5 years of full-time (20+ hours/week) clinical experience and successful completion of academic courses specific to supervision of counselors: 30 hours of board approved supervision-of-supervision OR 24 hours of board approved supervisory workshop training OR hold supervision certification issued by certain clinical associations. Supervisor must be approved by the board before hours accrued can be counted.
Alaska	LPC	Five years of counseling experience as a licensed professional counselor, marriage and family therapist, clinical social worker, psychologist or psychological associate, physician, or advanced nurse practitioner who is certified to provide psychiatric or mental health services, and completion of at least six contact hours of continuing education related to supervision of mental health professionals within the two years preceding the date of application. Supervisor must be approved by the board.
Arizona	LPC	Licensed as a professional counselor, marriage and family therapist, clinical social worker, psychologist, or an allopathic or osteopathic medical doctor with a specialty in psychiatry, and 12 clock hours of continuing education in four defined categories. Clinical supervision training requirements can be waived if the clinical supervisor holds the NBCC recognized Approved Clinical Supervision (ACS) credential issued through the Center for Credentialing & Education, Inc. (CCE). 6 CEUs in supervision required every licensure renewal period.
Arkansas	LPC	Licensed as a professional counselor for 3 years. Hold a doctorate in counseling that included coursework and experience in supervision OR completed an advanced 3 hour graduate course in clinical supervision specific to counseling which included 18 hours of supervised experience in supervision. Must hold the Supervision Specialization License. 1 CEU in supervision required each year (2 CEUs every licensure renewal period).
California	Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC)	Licensed as a professional clinical counselor, marriage and family therapist, clinical psychologist, clinical social worker, or physician and surgeon who is certified in psychiatry by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, with two years of clinical experience and has received professional training in supervision, has not provided therapeutic services to the clinical counselor trainee or intern and has a current and valid license that is not under suspension or probation.

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title	Requirements for Clinical Supervisors
Colorado	LPC	Licensed as a professional counselor, marriage and family therapist, clinical social worker, psychologist, medical doctor or doctor of osteopathy that completed a residency in psychiatry, all licensed in jurisdiction at time of supervision OR person who at time of supervision possesses the same education, experience and training as that necessary to adequately supervise an LPC.*As of July 20, 2012 electronic supervision is permitted: The initial two hour supervision meeting must be face-to-face and supervisor and supervisee must meet face-to-face every 6 months. Electronic supervision must be audio and visual in nature.
Connecticut	LPC	Licensed as a professional counselor, marriage and family therapist, clinical social worker, psychologist, advanced practice registered nurse with a specialty in mental health, or physician with a specialty in psychiatry.
Delaware	Licensed Professional Counselor of Mental Health (LPCMH)	Licensed as a professional counselor of mental health. (If a DE LPCMH is not available, other licensed mental health practitioners can be supervisors, but it must be approved by the board)
District of Columbia	LPC	Licensed as a professional counselor, psychologist, psychiatrist, or independent clinical social worker, licensed in a jurisdiction of the United States during the supervised period.
Florida	Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC)	Licensed as a mental health counselor with at least 5 years post-master's clinical experience and completion of a supervisory training course. "As of October 17, 2010 Rule 64B4 3.0085 was adopted regarding qualified supervisors. Prior to changing or adding another qualified supervisor, the registered intern must. (A) Request that the new supervisor must submit a letter to the Board with the registered interns name, the interns license number, the supervisors name, the supervisors license number, and a statement that he or she has agreed to provide supervision to the registered intern, and (B) Receive a communication from the Board indicating its approval of the new supervisor. Experience obtained under the new qualified supervisor will not count toward the completion of the experience requirement until the registered intern has received board approval of their new qualified supervisor."
Georgia	LPC	Licensed as a professional counselor, marriage and family therapist, clinical social worker, psychologist, or psychiatrist, and if holds a master's degree must have at least 3 years post-licensure experience; if holds a specialist degree must have at least 2 years post-licensure experience; or if holds a doctoral degree must have at least 1 year post-licensure experience. *proposed change for Dec 6, 2013 that supervisors must have the Approved Clinical Supervisor (ACS) or LPCAGA credential

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title	Requirements for Clinical Supervisors
Hawaii	LMHC	Licensed as a mental health counselor, marriage and family therapist, psychologist, clinical social worker, advanced practice registered nurse with a specialty in mental health, or physician with a specialty in psychiatry.
Idaho	Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor (LCPC)	Effective July 1, 2004 licensed counselors shall be registered with the Board in order to provide postgraduate supervision for those individuals pursuing licensure in Idaho as a counselor.
Illinois	LCPC	Licensed as a clinical professional counselor, clinical social worker, clinical psychologist, or psychiatrist.
Indiana	LMHC	Counselor educator or licensed as a mental health counselor, marriage and family therapist, clinical social worker, psychologist, psychiatrist, or a clinical nurse specialist in psychiatric or mental health nursing.
Iowa	LMHC	Licensed as a mental health counselor with at least 3 years of post-licensure clinical experience OR be approved by NBCC as a supervisor OR may be an alternate supervisor who possesses qualifications equivalent to an LMHC with at least 3 years of post-licensure clinical experience, including mental health professionals licensed. and practice independently. Up to 75% of supervision hours can be distance, but no more than 50% can be by telephone.
Kansas	LCPC	Licensed as a clinical professional counselor for at least 2 years, 4,000 hours in a clinical setting, 1,500 hours of direct client supervision, and 150 hours of supervision.

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title	Requirements for Clinical Supervisors
Kentucky	LPCC	Licensed as a professional clinical counselor, marriage and family therapist, psychologist, clinical social worker, psychiatrist, or a nurse with a master's degree and psychiatric certification, for at least 2 years. Supervisor must be approved by the board.
Louisiana	LPC	Licensed as a professional counselor with at least 5 years' experience (2 years must be post-licensure experience) and completion of a 25 hour workshop that meets the standards set by the Board or a graduate level course (45 hours) in supervision. Beginning November 8, 2013, A licensed mental health professional (e.g. LPC, LMFT, LCSW), not necessarily the board approved supervisor, must be employed in the professional setting in which the counselor intern is rendering counseling services and be available for case consultation and processing. Also, 25 hours of the required 100 supervision hours can be synchronous videoconferencing. Supervisor must accrue 3 clock hours (of the required 40 clock hours of continuing education) in supervision.
Maine	LCPC	Licensed as a clinical professional counselor, marriage and family therapist, pastoral counselor, master social worker conditional (clinical), clinical social worker, certified social-worker-independent practice, psychologist, or psychiatrist, not under suspension or probation, who is approved to provide supervision to the conditional licensee through meeting one of the following additional criteria: licensed practice for a minimum period of 5 years (not more than 2 years of practice as an entry-level conditional licensee), certification by a national professional organization in training and/or supervision, or 30 contact hours of training in supervision.
Maryland	LCPC	Licensed as a clinical professional counselor or licensed as another health care provider under the Health Occupations Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, such as a psychologist, psychiatrist, clinical social worker, or psychiatrist nurse. As of August 2012, at least half of required supervised clinical hours must be obtained under an LCPC approved by the board.
Massachusetts	LMHC	Licensed as a mental health counselor, marriage and family therapist, independent clinical social worker, psychologist, psychiatrist, or a licensed mental health practitioner that has a doctoral degree in clinical counseling or developmental psychology, with at least 5 years of post-master's clinical experience, successful completion of supervised clinical experience and has passed the NCMHCE. Massachusetts does require the supervisor to be onsite or to have a contract with the practice location.

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title	Requirements for Clinical Supervisors
Michigan	LPC	Licensed as a professional counselor with training in the function of supervision. Effective January 1, 2013: minimum 3 years of practice; completed supervision training - shall include both (a) Include 1 of the following as specialized training: (i) 2 semester hours of graduate credit in training in counseling supervision. (ii) 30 contact hours of workshop training in counseling supervision.
Minnesota	LPCC	Licensed as a professional clinical counselor, psychologist, or other qualified supervisor as determined by the board, with at least 4 years of post-master's counseling experience (2 years must be post-licensure experience in the delivery of clinical services in the diagnosis and treatment of mental illnesses and disorders) and completion of 45 clock hours (may be obtained from graduate courses, seminars, workshops, online training, etc. The supervisor must complete and submit the appropriate form(s). Please note that supervisor requirements can vary based on a number of factors, including when the supervision occurred. Supervisors should visit the board's supervision webpage to determine their requirements: http://www.bbht.state.mn.us/Supervisors/LPCandLPCCSupervisors/tabid/1158/Default.aspx <u>LPCC applicants must have a supervisor who has an independent CLINICAL license</u>
Mississippi	LPC	Licensed as a professional counselor approved by the board with at least 5 years of counseling experience (2 years must be post-licensure experience) and successful completion of a 3 semester hour (37.5 clock hours) graduate course in counselor supervision or a CE course consisting of 30 clock hours of training.
Missouri	LPC	Licensed as a professional counselor, psychologist, or psychiatrist for at least 2 years and training and experience in counseling and in supervisory activities involving counseling with a resume or vitae detailing coursework, supervision training, and experience as a supervisor. Supervisor must be approved and registered with the board and the supervision agreement must be approved by the board.
Montana	LCPC	Licensed as a professional counselor, social worker, psychologist, or psychiatrist. Supervisor must have board approved supervision training, either 1 semester hour or 20 clock hours.
Nebraska	Licensed Independent Mental Health Practitioner (LIMHP)	Licensed as an independent mental health practitioner, psychologist, or physician with mental health treatment training.

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title	Requirements for Clinical Supervisors
Nevada	LCPC	The composition of these required hours must meet Board approval. The registered Intern must perform the following activities in order to fulfill the requirements: -A minimum of 1500 direct client contact hours, performed after applicant has become a Registered Intern. -300 hours of supervision, including a minimum of 160 provided by an Approved supervisor, and a minimum of 40 hours provided by a secondary supervisor(s). The remaining required hours may be met in the same way, up to the required minimum total hours; or the following activities may be submitted for consideration by the Board as fulfillment of the requirements: -A maximum of 300 hours as a group facilitator. -A maximum of 150 hours of personal therapy, documented by a licensed mental health therapist. -A maximum of 200 hours of documented teaching by the intern in such formats as parent education, family education, workshops, or similar teaching activities, to be agreed upon by the Primary Supervisor. -A maximum of 50 hours, documented, in additional training, such as university graduate work, a pre-approved workshop, or other training/education activities agreed upon by the Primary Supervisor. -A maximum of 500 hours of direct client contact, performed in a graduate program of study, documented, with supervision of at least 100 hours provided by a University Supervisor."
New Hampshire	Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor (LCMHC)	The 2 years of post-master's individual face to face supervision must be completed by a licensed clinical mental health counselor (psychologist, social worker, pastoral psychotherapist and marriage and family counselor no longer allowed).
New Jersey	LPC	Licensed as a professional counselor, marriage and family therapist, psychologist, clinical social worker, physician practicing in the field of psychiatry, or any other supervisor acceptable to the Committee who has qualifications similar to these licensed professionals.
New Hampshire	Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor (LCMHC)	The 2 years of post-master's individual face to face supervision must be completed by a licensed clinical mental health counselor (psychologist, social worker, pastoral psychotherapist and marriage and family counselor no longer allowed).

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

State	Credential Title	Requirements for Clinical Supervisors
New Jersey	LPC	Licensed as a professional counselor, marriage and family therapist, psychologist, clinical social worker, physician practicing in the field of psychiatry, or any other supervisor acceptable to the Committee who has qualifications similar to these licensed professionals.
New Mexico	Licensed Professional Clinical Mental Health Counselor (LPCC)	Licensed as a professional clinical counselor, marriage and family therapist, art therapist, psychologist, psychiatrist, or independent social worker and must have education and experience in a clinical mental health setting. 3 CEUs in supervision required each licensure renewal period.
New York	LMHC	Licensed and register in New York State to practice mental health counseling, medicine, as a physician assistant, psychology, licensed clinical social work, or as a registered professional nurse or nurse practitioner, pursuant to Articles 163, 131, 131-b, 139, 153, or 154 of Education Law, respectively. 3,000 post graduate supervised experience with no less than 1,500 clock hours of such required experience must consist of direct contact with clients. The remaining experience may consist of other activities that do not involve direct client contact, including but not limited to, recordkeeping, case management, research, supervision and professional development.
North Carolina	LPC	A "qualified clinical supervisor" is a licensed professional counselor with the following: a. an independent license that is not under supervision; b. the equivalent of 3 semester graduate credits in clinical supervision from a regionally accredited institution of higher education as documented by an official transcript or 45 contact hours of continuing education in clinical supervision c. and a minimum of five years of post-graduate counseling experience with a minimum of two years of post-licensure experience; or An equivalently and actively licensed mental health professional of this Rule. As of July 1, 2017, all qualified clinical supervisors shall hold the credential of licensed professional counselor supervisor or be a licensed professional counselor or an equivalently and actively licensed mental health professional.

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

North Dakota	LPCC	Licensed as a professional clinical counselor, psychiatrist, clinical or counseling psychologist, or other master's level clinical counseling professional with credentials equal to or greater than the LPCC. <i>*The board is currently establishing additional criteria for supervisors; please check their website for updated information.</i>
Oklahoma	LPC	Licensed as a professional counselor with at least 2 years of post-licensure experience, completion of a graduate course in counselor supervision consisting of 45 contact hours, and has passed the OK Legal and Ethical Responsibilities Examination. 3 CEUs in supervision required each licensure renewal period.
State	Credential Title	Requirements for Clinical Supervisors
Oregon	LPC	Licensed as a professional counselor, marriage and family therapist, clinical psychologist, or clinical social worker, with at least 3 years of clinically supervised experience and completion of 30 clock hours of post-master's training on how to be a clinical mental health supervisor OR hold the NBCC recognized Approved Clinical Supervisor (ACS) credential issued through the Center for Credentialing & Education, Inc. (CCE). LPC Supervisors must be licensed in Oregon for 3 years. LMFT Supervisors must have 5 years of clinical experience. Up to 75% of individual supervision can be electronic and 50% of the supervision can be group supervision.
Pennsylvania	LPC	Licensed as a professional counselor with 5 years of experience within the last 10 years as a professional counselor OR hold a license and have at least a master's degree in a related field and 5 years of experience within the last 10 years in that field.
Puerto Rico	LPC	Licensed as a professional counselor and certified by the board as a Certified Mentor to supervise those who wish to obtain licensure.
Rhode Island	Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor (LCMHC)	Licensed as a clinical mental health counselor, marriage and family therapist, psychiatrist, psychologist, or independent clinical social worker, with 5 years of clinical experience and successful completion of a graduate course in supervision in counseling OR is certified as a supervisor within their discipline OR has two years' experience supervising staff in a clinical mental health setting.

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

South Carolina	LPC	Licensed as a professional counselor with 5 years of continuous clinical experience, at least 2 years of which must be supervising clinical casework of certified or licensed counselors, 3 semester hours of graduate study in supervision, and 36 hours of individual supervision of applicant's supervision of at least 2 LPC interns. 10 CEUs in supervision required each licensure renewal period.
South Dakota	Licensed Professional Counselor-Mental Health (LPC-MH)	Licensed as a professional counselor of mental health, marriage and family therapist, certified social worker-private independent practice, psychologist, or psychiatrist, that has been actively licensed for 3 years prior to beginning of supervision or actively licensed as one of the above for 1 year and completion of 15 hours of supervision training prior to beginning of supervision OR hold the NBCC recognized Approved Clinical Supervisor (ACS) credential issued through the Center for Credentialing & Education, Inc. (CCE).
State	Credential Title	Requirements for Clinical Supervisors
Tennessee	Licensed Professional Counselor-Mental Health Service Provider (LPC-MHSP)	Licensed as a professional counselor, LPC-MHSP, marriage and family therapist, clinical social worker, psychologist with a health service provider designation, senior psychological examiner, or a psychiatrist, for a minimum of 5 years. As of January 31, 2013 supervisors must conform to section F of the <i>ACA Code of Ethics</i> and be trained in supervision (minimum 12 clock hours).
Texas	LPC	Licensed as a professional counselor for at least 2 years and successful completion of a graduate course in counselor supervision or successful completion of a CE course consisting of 40 clock hours of training in supervision.
Utah	LPC	Licensed as a professional counselor, marriage and family therapist, psychiatrist, psychologist, clinical social worker, or registered psychiatric mental health nurse specialist, for a minimum of 2 years. Supervisor must be on site and/or have a contract with the site.
Vermont	LCMHC	Licensed as a clinical mental health counselor, marriage and family therapist, clinical social worker, psychologist, psychiatric nurse practitioner, physician, or osteopathic physician who has been certified in psychiatry by the American Board of Medical Specialties, with at least 3 years of clinical experience.
Virginia	LPC	Licensed as a professional counselor, marriage and family therapist, substance abuse treatment practitioner, school psychologist, clinical psychologist, clinical social worker, or psychiatrist, in the

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

jurisdiction where the supervision is being provided, has 2 years of post-licensure clinical experience, and completion of professional training in supervision.		
Washington	LMHC	Licensed as a mental health counselor, marriage and family therapist, clinical social worker, psychologist, psychiatrist, or psychiatric nurse practitioner, for at least 2 years in good standing, a minimum of 15 hours of training in clinical supervision, and 25 hours of experience in supervision of clinical practice.
West Virginia	LPC	Licensed as a professional counselor, or other qualified supervisor as determined by the Board. At a minimum the professional should be licensed for 2 years with 5 years of counseling experience, completion of training in clinical counseling supervision, is currently licensed, and board approval. Supervisor must be pre-approved before hours can begin to accrue. The professional supervisor provide a statement detailing counseling philosophy, supervision experience, and counseling experience as well as being able to demonstrate skills necessary to address core areas of practice.
State	Credential Title	Requirements for Clinical Supervisors
Wisconsin	LPC	Doctoral degree in professional counseling or an LPC who has practiced for at least 5 years, or a licensed psychologist or psychiatrist, or a supervisor who is approved in advance by the board.
Wyoming	LPC	Licensed as a professional counselor, marriage and family therapist, clinical social worker, addictions therapist, psychologist, psychiatrist, physician with specialty in addictionology, or an advanced practitioner of nursing with psychiatric specialty, for at least 2 years and 4 years of professional experience prior to providing supervision.
Note: Table includes only highest level of licensure in each state.		

APPENDIX B:
Professional Associations Regional
Accrediting Organizations Professional
Accrediting Organizations National
Certification Organizations
International Counseling Associations

Professional Associations

American Association of State Counseling Boards (AASCB)
5999 Stevenson Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22304
Phone: 703/212-2239
www.aascb.org

American Mental Health Counselors Association (AMHCA)
801 N. Fairfax Street, Suite 304
Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: 800/326-2642
www.amhca.org

American Counseling Association (ACA)
5999 Stevenson Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22304
Phone: 800/347-6647
www.counseling.org

Regional Accrediting Organizations

Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE)
3624 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104
Phone: 267/284-5000
www.msche.org

Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New
Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico,
Virgin Islands

New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC)
209 Burlington Road, Suite 201
Bedford, MA 01730
Phone: 781/271-0022
www.neasc.org

Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New
Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont

North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA)
The Higher Learning Commission
30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400
Chicago, IL 60602
Phone: 800/621-7440
www.northcentralassociation.org

Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana,
Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri,
Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio,
Oklahoma, South Dakota, West Virginia,
Wisconsin, Wyoming

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU)
8060 165th Avenue, NE, Suite 100
Redmond, WA 98052
Phone: 425/558-4224
www.nwccu.org

Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah,
Washington

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)
1866 Southern Lane
Decatur, GA 30033
Phone: 404/679-4500
www.sacs.org

Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana,
Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina,
Tennessee, Texas, Virginia

Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC)
www.wascweb.org

American Samoa, California, Guam, Hawaii,
Trust Territory of the Pacific

Professional Accrediting Organizations

Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP)
1001 N. Fairfax Street, Suite 510
Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: 703/535-5990
www.cacrep.org

Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE)
1699 E. Woodfield Road, Suite 300
Schaumburg, IL 60173
Phone: 847/944-1345
www.core-rehab.org

Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA)
One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 510
Washington, DC 20036
Phone: 202/955-6126
<http://chea.org>

National Certification Organizations

National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC)
3 Terrace Way
Greensboro, NC 27403
Phone: 336/547-0607
www.nbcc.org

Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification (CRCC)
1699 E. Woodfield Road, Suite 300
Schaumburg, IL 60173
Phone: 847/944-1325
www.crc certification.com

International Counseling Associations

Asociación Argentina de Counselors
<http://www.aacounselors.org.ar>

Australian Guidance and Counselling Association
<http://www.agca.com.au>

British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy
<http://www.bacp.co.uk>

Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association
<http://www.ccpa-accp.ca>

Counselling Association of Nigeria
<http://www.cassonnig.org>

Counselling and Psychotherapy in Scotland
<http://www.cosca.org.uk>

European Association for Counselling
<http://www.eacnet.org>

Irish Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy
<http://www.irish-counselling.ie>

New Zealand Association of Counsellors
<http://www.nzac.org.nz>

Philippine Guidance & Counseling Association, Inc.
<http://www.pgca.org.ph>

Singapore Association for Counselling
<http://www.sac-counsel.org.sg>

APPENDIX C:
Accreditation, Licensure, and
Certification Defined
Privileged Communication/Confidentiality

Accreditation, Licensure and Certification Defined

Professional education program accreditation is the process whereby a college or university professional program (e.g. counseling or psychology) voluntarily undergoes review by an accrediting body, such as the Council for the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP), the Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE), or the American Psychological Association (APA). CACREP, CORE, and the APA are professional accrediting bodies that evaluate graduate education programs in professional counseling, rehabilitation counseling, and counseling psychology respectively. The purpose of these accreditation bodies is to ensure that the graduates of these programs meet the standards developed by these professions and by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) which oversees all academic accreditation bodies.

Governmentally sanctioned credentialing is usually called licensure and is based on the legal concept of the regulatory power of the state. This power holds that the state has the right and obligation to pass laws and take other such actions as it may deem necessary to protect the health, safety and welfare of its citizens. Passage of a state licensure or credentialing law for a given profession restricts or prohibits the practice of that profession by individuals not meeting state-determined qualification standards, and violators may be subject to legal sanctions such as fines, loss of license to practice, or imprisonment.

Separate from state laws and regulations, voluntary certification from independent professional certification organizations for counseling and a host of specializations within the counseling profession have been created to establish recognition of those practitioners as having met the minimum standards of education and supervised clinical experience as set by the profession. Certification is not required; rather it is strictly voluntary. This certification attests to the fact that the holder of this certification has met the standards of the credentialing organization and is therefore entitled to make the public aware of this as further documentation of his or her professional competence. In and of itself, however, this certification is not a practice credential but rather a professional credential in that it does not give the holder permission to practice. That permission is given only by the governmentally sanctioned entity. The two leading certification organizations for the counseling profession are the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) and the Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification (CRCC).

Confidentiality or Privileged Communication

Most states have enacted laws addressing the subjects of confidentiality and privileged communication between clients and counselors. “Same as attorney-client privilege” is the language used in most statutes while others refer to the state’s rules of evidence. While most states provide for confidentiality between counselors and clients, a list of exceptions always occurs. Common exceptions include the following:

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

1. A counselor formally reporting to or consulting with administrative supervisors, colleagues or supervisors who share professional responsibility (i.e. in this instance all recipients of such information are similarly bound to regard the communication as privileged);
2. With written consent of the person who provided the information;
3. When a communication reveals the intended commission of a crime or harmful act and such disclosure is judged necessary to protect any person from a clear, imminent risk of serious mental or physical harm or injury or to forestall a serious threat to public safety;
4. When the client waives the privilege by bringing any public charges against the licensee, and;
5. When knowledge is acquired revealing abuse or neglect of a minor or client lacking the capacity to give informed consent that the minor or client lacking the capacity to give informed consent is the victim of a crime.

The United States Supreme Court decision, *Jaffee v. Redmond* (1996), held that communications between psychotherapists and their clients are privileged and, therefore, are protected from forced disclosure in cases arising under federal law.

APPENDIX D:

State Licensure Renewal Requirements

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

States	Licensure Renewal	Contact Hours	Licenses expire	Seminar workshops	Conference seminars	Home Study Courses	Interactive Distance Learning	Online Distance Learning
Alabama	LPC – Every 2 years ALC – Annually	LPC – 40* ALC – 10*	LPC – July 31 ALC – Anniversary Date	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
Alaska	Every 2 years	40	October 31 – odd years	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
Arizona	Every 2 years*-	30	Anniversary Date	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept
Arkansas	Every 2 years*	24	June 30	Accept	Accept	Accept	Conditional	Conditional
California	Every 2 years*	36	Anniversary Date	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept
Colorado	Every 2 years	40*	August 31 – odd years	CPD Requirements	CPD Requirements	CPD Requirements	CPD Requirements	CPD Requirements
Connecticut	Annually	15	Birth Month	Accept	Accept	Accept	NO	NO
Delaware	Every 2 years	40	September 30 – even years	Accept	Accept	Accept	Conditional	Conditional
District of Columbia	Every 2 years*	40*	December 31 – even years	Accept	Accept	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
Florida	Every 2 years	30	March 31 – odd years	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept
Georgia	Every 2 years*	35	September 30 – even years	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept*	Accept*
Hawaii	Every 3 years	Not required	June 30	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Idaho	Annually	20*	Birthday	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

States	Licensure Renewal	Contact Hours	Licenses expire	Seminar workshops	Conference seminars	Home Study Courses	Interactive Distance Learning	Online Distance Learning
Illinois	Every 2 years	30*	March 31 – odd years	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
Indiana	Every 2 years	40 (20 a year)	April 1 – even years	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
Iowa	Every 2 years	40*	September 30 – even years	Accept	Accept	Accept – any combination, not to exceed 20 hours total		
Kansas	Every 2 years	30	Anniversary Date	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept
Kentucky	Annually	10	October 31	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept
Louisiana	Every 2 years	40	June 30	Accept	Accept	Effective July 1, 2014, a maximum of 20 CEHs may be obtained through an online format with the exception of coursework obtained through a regionally accredited institution of higher education.		
Maine*	Every 2 years	55*	Anniversary Date	Accept	Accept	Accept [5 hours max]	Accept	Conditional
Maryland	Every 2 years	40	December 31 – odd years	Accept [10 hours max]	Accept	NO	Accept – any combination, not to exceed 10 hours total	
Massachusetts	Every 2 years	30	December 31 – odd years	Conditional	Conditional	Accept – any combination up to 15 hours if approved by recognized entity		
Michigan*	Every 3 years	Not Required	May 31	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Minnesota	Annually	40 – every 2 years after first 4 years of licensure*	One day before anniversary date	Accept	Accept	Accept [10 hours max]	Accept	Accept
Mississippi	Every 2 years	24	June 30	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional	Accept	Accept

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

States	Licensure Renewal	Contact Hours	Licenses expire	Seminar workshops	Conference seminars	Home Study Courses	Interactive Distance Learning	Online Distance Learning
Missouri	Every 2 years*	40	June 30	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept
Montana	Annually	20*	December 31	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
Nebraska	Every 2 years	32	September 1 – even years	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept
Nevada	Annually	20	January 1	Accept	Accept	Accept – any combination, not to exceed 10 hours total		
New Hampshire	Every 2 years	40	even years	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept
New Jersey	Every 2 years	40	November 30	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
New Mexico	Every 2 years	40	September 30	Accept	Conditional	Conditional	NO	NO
New York	Registration renewal – every 3 years	Not Required	Registration expires the month prior to birth month	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
North Carolina*	Every 2 years	50 – LPCS 40 – LPCA & LPC New licensees are required 40 or 30 respectively	June 30	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
North Dakota	Every 2 years	40 – LPCC* 30 – LPC	Anniversary Date	Accept	Accept	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
Ohio	Every 2 years	30	Anniversary Date	Conditional	Conditional	Accept – any combination, not to exceed 15 hours total.* Video conferencing is not considered distance learning.		

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

Oklahoma	Annually	20	June 30	Conditional	Conditional	Accept – any combination, not to exceed 10 hours total.*		
Oregon	Annually	40 – every 2 years	Birth Month	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept
States	Licensure Renewal	Contact Hours	Licenses expire	Seminar workshops	Conference seminars	Home Study Courses	Interactive Distance Learning	Online Distance Learning
Pennsylvania	Every 2 years	30	February 28 – odd years	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional – any combination, not to exceed 20 hours total		
Puerto Rico	Every 3 years	45	Anniversary Date	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept
Rhode Island	Every 2 years	40	July 1 – even years	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
South Carolina	Every 2 years	40*	August 31	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
South Dakota	Annually	40 – every 2 years	December 31	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept
Tennessee*	Every 2 years	Dependent on # of certifications/li censures*	Birthday	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional – any combination of multi-media cannot exceed 50% of required total hours		
Texas*	Every 2 years	24 (12 a year)	Birth Month	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept
Utah	Every 2 years	40	September 30 – even years	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept – any combination, not to exceed 10 hours total	
Vermont	Every 2 years	40	January 31 – odd years	Accept	Accept	Accept – any combination, not to exceed 20 hours total		
Virginia	Annually	20	June 30	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept
Washington*	Annually	36 – every 2 years for LMHCs, CAs, and CCs*	Birthday	Conditional	Conditional	Accept – any combination, not to exceed 26 hours total		

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

West Virginia*	Every 2 years	35*	June 30 – odd years	Accept	Accept	Conditional [20 hours max]	Accept	Accept
States	Licensure Renewal	Contact Hours	Licenses expire	Seminar workshops	Conference seminars	Home Study Courses	Interactive Distance Learning	Online Distance Learning
Wisconsin	Every 2 years	30	March 1 – odd years	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
Wyoming	Every 2 years	45*	Birthday	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept	Accept

Notes:

***Alabama:** 75% must be real-time participation.

***Alaska:** If you have had your license less than 12 months at the time of renewal, you only need 20 CEUs... If you have had your license between 12 and 18 months, you are required to submit 30 CEUs.

***Arizona:** In accordance with federal and state law, each professional licensing agency in Arizona is now required to request proof of residency status from new applicants and current licensees at the time a license is renewed. Instructions and the required form are now available on the Board's website and will be mailed with all future application and renewal packets.

If you have a Certificate of Naturalization, you can do one of the following:

- 1) Provide a copy of your Certificate of Naturalization to the Board
- 2) Bring your original Certificate of Naturalization to the Board's Office for review by Board staff. NOTE: Please call the Board in advance to ensure that the staff members who are able to complete the verification are available.

***Arkansas:** AMFTRB registration packets are no longer available from the Arkansas Board of Examiners in Counseling. Candidates can get information for registration, examination, practice exam and dates if they visit Association for Marital and Family Therapy Regulatory Boards.

*** California:** All licenses are required to complete at least six (6) hours of CE in the area of Law and Ethics **as a condition of each renewal**. The six hours shall be considered part of the 36 hour CE requirement (CCR section 1887.3). 18 hours of CE is required for your initial (first) renewal. Those who obtained their licensure through the “grandparenting” procedure must document 18 hours of continuing education every year for the initial six years after the license was issued. Effective April 1, 2013, licensed professional clinical counselors must take a one-time, seven hour continuing education course covering the assessment and treatment of people living with HIV and AIDS, as part of the 36 hour continuing education coursework requirement. You must take this course in your first renewal period after the effective date of this regulation (1887.3, California Code

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

of Regulations). If you have previously taken an HIV or AIDS course that meets the requirements of this regulation, or have equivalent teaching or practice experience, you may submit proof of this to the Board, upon request, in lieu of taking the course. However, this equivalent coursework or experience will not count toward your required 36 hours of continuing education.

***Colorado** Licensee can roll over up to 5 credit hours if the CEUs were accrued within 6 months of the previous renewal. Also must submit a Professional Practice Survey and a Personal Learning Plan.

***District of Columbia:** For initial renewal, licensee is not required to submit CEUs. Must submit to a background check each renewal.

***Georgia:** A maximum of ten (10) hours of continuing education may be obtained online for each two-year renewal period. A maximum of five (5) hours of continuing education may be obtained through independent study.

***Idaho:** Licensees can carry over up to five (5) continuing education hours

***Illinois:** LCPC licensees must take a one-time requirement of 18 continuing education hours in the area of supervision.

***Iowa:** every 5 years licensee must have mandated reporting training – Two (2) continuing education hours in child, abuse reporting Two (2) continuing education hours in dependent adult abuse reporting or one 2 hour class covering both.

***Maine:** "NOTE: Chapter 11 of the Rules of the Office of Licensing and Registration establishes for all programs a uniform \$50 late fee for licenses renewed up to 90 days after expiration." A conditional licensee applying for full licensure must meet the 55 CEU requirements.

***Michigan:** Now requires renewal to be done online.

***Minnesota:** Licensees can carry over up to 10 CEUs per renewal cycle.

***Missouri:** All persons and business entities applying for or renewing licenses with the Division of Professional Registration are required to have paid all state income taxes, and to have filed all necessary state income tax returns for the preceding three years. On August 28, 2005 section 337.510.5 RSMo of the licensure law changed requiring continuing education. The law states, "All persons licensed to practice professional counseling in this state shall pay on or before the license renewal date a renewal license fee and shall furnish to the committee satisfactory evidence of the completion of the requisite number of hours of continuing education, which shall be no more than forty hours biennially. The continuing education requirements may be waived by the committee upon presentation to the committee of satisfactory evidence of the illness of the licensee or for other good cause." A licensee must obtain forty hours of continuing education prior to the expiration date of the license. There is no requirement that the licensee obtain a specific number of hours per calendar year.

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

***Montana:** Licensees can carry over up to 20 CEUs a year.

***North Carolina:** Renewing licensees shall complete the no-fail jurisprudence exam within 6 months prior to licensure expiration date.

*** North Dakota:** LPCC licensees must take 10 continuing education hours dealing with clinical topics.

*** Ohio:** Licensees may bank up to 12 continuing education hours. As of January 1, 2014, distance-learning courses must include 10,000 words per one (1) continuing education clock hour

*** South Carolina:** Supervisor licensees must obtain 10 continuing education hours in supervision

***Tennessee:** A Professional Counselor, Marriage and Family Therapist or a Clinical Pastoral Therapist licensed in Tennessee is required to complete 10 clock hours of continuing education each calendar year. Those who hold 2 certificates or licenses regulated by this Board shall complete 15 clock hours of continuing education each calendar year. Those who hold 3 certificates or licenses regulated by this Board shall complete 20 clock hours of continuing education each calendar year. In each case, at least 5 clock hours shall be directly related to the practice of each profession for which the person is licensed or certified.

***Texas:** Each licensee is required to take the TX jurisprudence exam each renewal. Also, 4 of the required continuing education hours must be in ethics.

***Washington:** Starting the fall of 2013, LMHC-S credentialed licensees need 18 continuing education hours in supervision to renew. Also, the 36 continuing education hours must be completed for initial licensure.

***West Virginia:** For the first two renewals, licensees must submit copies of certifications. 3 hours in ACA ethics.

***Wyoming:** 3 continuing education hours must be in professional ethics

State Required Continuing Education

Many states require that specific continuing education be completed during each licensure renewal period, or during another specific time period, as noted.

Alabama – 6 hours in ethics for LPC renewal and 2 hours in ethics for ALC renewal.

Alaska -- 3 hours in ethics and half must be in person.

Arizona – 3 hours in behavioral health ethics or mental health law and 3 hours in cultural competency and diversity. If a supervisor, you must have 12 hours to begin and 6 hours per renewal.

Arkansas – 2 hours in ethics. No more than 6 hours can be obtained through reviewing journal articles.

California – 6 hours in ethics, As of April 1, 2013, licensees must take a class on HIV/AIDS in their first renewal period.

Colorado -- Must submit Professional Practice Survey and Personal Learning Plan

Connecticut – As of October 1, 2014, each licensee must complete a minimum of one clock hour in the topic of cultural competency for each registration period.

District of Columbia -- 6 hours in ethics, 4 hours in Trauma Counseling

Florida – 2 hours of prevention of medical errors and 3 hours in ethics and boundary issues. Every 3rd renewal, 2 hours of training on domestic violence is required.

Georgia – 5 hours in ethics. As of the 2012 renewal period, only 10 hours may be obtained online.

Idaho – 3 hours in ethics.

Indiana – 2 hours in ethics and professional conduct (one hour is required each year).

Illinois – LCPCs are required to complete 18 hours in clinical supervision training of the 30 CEs required. This is a one-time requirement.

Indiana – 1 hour of ethics

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

Iowa – 3 hours in ethics and every 5 years: 2 hours of child abuse identification and reporting training for counselors who treat children; 2 hours of dependent adult abuse identification and reporting training for counselors who work with adults. If counselors work with both children and adults, training may be completed in one combined 2 hour course that includes curricula for identifying and reporting child abuse and dependent adult abuse. The course shall be a curriculum approved by the IDPH abuse education review panel.

Kansas – 3 hours in ethics and 6 hours related to the diagnosis and treatment of mental disorders.

Kentucky – A portion of continuing education credits must be in the areas of domestic violence and suicide assessment.

Louisiana -- Effective July 1, 2014, 3 hours must be in ethics and 6 clock hours must be accrued in diagnosis (assessment, diagnosis, and treatment under the most recent edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, as published by the American Psychiatric Association). A Board Approved Supervisor must accrue 3 clock hours (of the required 40 clock hours of continuing education) in supervision.

Maine -- 4 hours in ethics

Minnesota – Up to 12 graduate semester credits in counseling is required for the first 4 years of licensure CE cycle, or completion of the number of graduate credits sufficient to reach a combined total of 60 graduate semester credits between the degree program and this requirement. This is in addition to the 40 hours of continuing education required.

Mississippi – 6 hours in ethics or legal issues.

Nebraska – 2 hours in ethics.

Nevada – 3 hours in ethics.

New Hampshire – 6 hours in ethics/ 3 hours in suicide prevention.

New Jersey – 5 hours in ethics and legal standards.

New Mexico – 6 hours in ethics. Supervisors need to take 3 hours in supervision

North Carolina – 3 hours in ethics. LPC Supervisors must also complete a minimum of 10 contact hours of continuing education training related to professional knowledge and competency in the field of counseling supervision.

North Dakota – LPCCs must have 10 hours in clinical education.

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

Ohio – 3 hours in ethics and legal issues. Effective January 1, 2013, supervisors must have 3 hours of supervision education.

Oklahoma – 3 hours in ethics. Supervisors must have 3 hours of supervision training.

Oregon – 6 hours in ethics.

Pennsylvania – 3 hours in ethics.

South Carolina – Supervisors must have 10 hours of supervision training.

South Dakota – 4 hours of ethics

Tennessee – 3 hours of the annual requirement shall, every two years, be in in ethics and/or TN code, rules, and regulations. For supervisors, 3 hours of the annual requirement shall, every two years, be in in supervision.

Texas – 4 hours in ethics every 2 years and passage of a jurisprudence exam/6 hours in supervision for those acting in a supervisory capacity.

Vermont – 4 hours in ethics. Supervisors are encouraged to take supervision training.

Virginia – 2 hours in ethics.

Washington – 6 hours in ethics and law.

West Virginia – 3 hours in ethics. (First renewal must be formal training)

Wisconsin – 4 hours in ethics and boundaries.

Wyoming -- 3 hours in ethics

APPENDIX E:
Licensure by Endorsement,
Licensure by Reciprocity,
and Portability
State Requirements for Out-of-State
Applicants

Portability of Licensure

Counselors, like other health care professionals, do not always stay in one place. Since states have historically been responsible for the licensure of counselors and all other health and social service professionals, each profession has been faced with the problem of gaining recognition of their credentials when moving across state lines. While certification by an independent, third-party organization helps document having met certain established qualification standards, recognition of professional standing by the state in which one is practicing is a necessity. There are various ways in which states deal with the problem of recognizing professionals who have achieved licensure in another state. These mechanisms typically rely on the flexibility granted to the state licensing board in recognizing professionals.

Reciprocity

In a few cases, states grant full recognition to counselors licensed by specific other states they deem to have adequately stringent licensure standards, and each state may recognize the other's credentials. Only a handful of states have reciprocity agreements which automatically recognize other states' credentials.

Abbreviated Licensure Process / Interstate Endorsement

Some states have established an abbreviated licensure application process for individuals who have obtained licensure in another state. Such expedited licensure or interstate endorsement processes typically require that:

1. Licensure earned in another jurisdiction must meet substantially equivalent requirements in the practitioner's current state.
2. Licenses obtained in another state must be in good standing, with no unresolved legal or ethical issues.
3. Exam scores earned earlier in obtaining licensure in a different state must meet the current state's passing score.

State jurisprudence and oral exams are usually not waived, and must be successfully completed. Applicants for licensure through interstate endorsement are often required to pay an extra fee to cover the costs involved in obtaining and verifying paperwork from out of the state. Individuals who obtain licensure through "grandparenting" clauses typically are not eligible for interstate endorsement.

Alabama

Applicants currently licensed or certified to practice counseling by a similar board in another state, territorial possession of the U.S., D.C., or Puerto Rico must meet the following requirements:

- 1.) Submit an application on a form approved by the board.
- 2.) The board may, at its discretion, waive the formal examination requirements of an applicant, provided the applicant has a passing score on a written, counseling examination that, in the opinion of the board, is substantially equivalent to the examination established by the Alabama Board.
- 3.) Applications will be reviewed and must meet the licensure requirements of the Alabama regulations that were in effect on the date of the first issuance in the state of the current license.

Applicants who are currently licensed in another state and do not meet the requirements for licensure in Alabama may submit a plan of action for complying with the requirements and petition the board to issue a provisional license, valid for one year. Upon approval of the plan of action and payment of the required fee, a provisional license will be issued.

Alaska

Licensure by credentials: The board may issue a license under this chapter to a person who is licensed in another jurisdiction to practice professional counseling if the board finds that the other jurisdiction has substantially the same or higher licensure requirements as Alaska. The board may not license a person who is under investigation in Alaska or another jurisdiction for an act that would constitute a violation of Alaska's LPC Statutes and Regulations, until the investigation is complete and disciplinary sanctions, if any, are imposed and carried out.

Arizona

An applicant is eligible for licensure by reciprocity if the applicant meets the following requirements, as applicable:

- 1.) The applicant is currently certified or licensed in another state by a state regulatory agency in professional counseling and the license or certification is in effect and in good standing;
- 2.) Passage of an examination was required for certification or licensure and the applicant passed the exam, or the applicant passes the exam required for licensure in Arizona;
- 3.) The credentialing committee determines that the applicant's qualifications substantially meet the board's current licensure requirements;
- 4.) Prior to applying for licensure, applicant has engaged in the practice of professional counseling for a minimum of 800 hours each year for at least 5 out of the last 7 years in the state issuing the license used by the applicant to qualify for licensure by reciprocity; and
- 5.) The applicant is not the subject of a pending complaint before the board or any other state behavioral health regulatory entity and has not had their license or certificate to practice professional counseling suspended or revoked by another state behavioral health regulatory entity.

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

Arkansas

No reciprocity agreement exists between other states or other Arkansas agencies.

If a candidate is licensed or certified to practice counseling by a similar board in another state, the Arkansas Board may, at its discretion, waive the written examination requirements of a candidate if the candidate had an equivalent written examination in the process of obtaining the license in that other state and has been continuously licensed. If the previous license has expired or lapsed the examination may not be waived. If the applicant has written the examination, but did not complete the licensure process, the written examination of record may not be more than five years old.

Persons who apply for an Arkansas license, who have been continuously licensed seven years in another state and in good standing but lack no more than nine hours of the required graduate coursework may have a one-time license issued with the provision that the graduate course requirements must be met prior to the first license renewal.

Documents relevant to an application from a person licensed in another state will be accepted as official if sent directly from the state licensing board, from NBCC, or from the American Association of State Counseling Boards National Credentials Registry.

Applicants who hold a master's degree and who are credentialed as a CRC by the Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification (CRCC) standards adopted by CRCC July 1, 2003 will be accepted as meeting the board definition of equivalent/parallel training for licensed Associate or Professional Counselor provided the core curriculum courses are included in the degree or post-master's coursework. The Certified Rehabilitation Counselor Examination (CRCE) has not been determined equivalent to the NCE and will not be substituted for the NCE for the LPC license.

California

Requirements for applicants licensed in another state will differ depending on the applicant's education, experience, the length of time that the applicant has held an out-of-state license, and whether that license has been maintained and is in good standing.

Experience: All applicants must have completed 3,000 hours of supervised experience gained over a minimum two-year period. Those holding a current LPCC license in another state and who need additional experience to total 3,000 hours may count up to 100 hours for every month licensed, for a maximum of 1,200 hours.

Education: Degrees earned outside of California will be evaluated in accordance with California's educational requirements as defined in law. Certain components must be present within the degree in order to qualify, and some components can be remediated. Most applicants with an out-of-state degree will have a significant amount of coursework to remediate prior to licensure. However, applicants may register as an intern while completing most missing coursework.

Examinations: All applicants must pass two examinations: A California Law and Ethics Exam and the National Clinical Mental Health Counselor Exam (NCMHCE). If an applicant has already passed the NCMHCE, the Board may accept the passing score as follows:

- If the applicant holds a license in good standing in another state (must be current and not revoked, suspended, surrendered, denied or otherwise restricted or encumbered), the passing score can be any age.
- If the applicant does not hold a license which is current and in good standing in another state, the passing score must be less than seven (7) years old.

Colorado

- 1.) An applicant for licensure by endorsement must show that her/his credentials and qualifications are substantially equivalent to Colorado's requirements to be licensed as an LPC;
- 2.) Applicant must be at least 21 years old;
- 3.) Every license, certificate, or registration to practice professional counseling held by the applicant is active and in good standing;
- 4.) Applicant knows of no injunction or malpractice judgment entered/pending against him/her or complaint pending before, investigation being conducted by, or disciplinary proceeding pending before the licensing, grievance, or disciplinary board of any jurisdiction in which s/he is licensed, registered, or certified to practice professional counseling;
- 5.) Applicant must report any misdemeanor or felony convictions(s);
- 6.) Applicant must hold a master's or doctoral degree in professional counseling from an accredited program or equivalent, have passed an equivalent exam, demonstrate that s/he had at least 2 years of post-master's, or one year of postdoctoral practice in applied psychotherapy under supervision prior to licensure in Colorado OR provide evidence of active practice in professional counseling for 2 years. Applicants with a doctoral degree must demonstrate an active practice for at least one year; and
- 7.) Applicant must take and pass the Colorado jurisprudence exam.
- 8.) Confirm passing score for the NCE exam.
- 9.) Complete the Healthcare Professions Profiling Program (HPPP)

Connecticut

Licensure by endorsement: An applicant may qualify for licensure based on an out-of-state license if the applicant is licensed as a professional counselor in good standing in another state or jurisdiction whose requirements for practicing in such capacity are equal to or higher than those of this state.

An applicant seeking licensure shall arrange for the submission of documentation directly to the office:
The current licensure and practice standards forwarded directly to this office from the state of current licensure.

Applicants who wish to expedite the licensing process may choose to meet the eligibility requirements for obtaining licensure in Connecticut for the first time.

If it is determined that the other state's licensing requirements are not equal to those of this state and the applicant wants to pursue licensure, the applicant would be required to meet the current eligibility requirements.

Delaware

Licensure by reciprocity: Upon payment of the appropriate fee and submission and acceptance of a written application on forms provided by the board, the board shall grant a license to each applicant who provides proof of current licensure in good standing in another state, the District of Columbia, or territory of the United States, whose standards for licensure are substantially similar to those of this State, and an affidavit and release of information granting the board permission to contact said jurisdictions for verification of disciplinary history and current status. Each applicant must also provide a notarized affidavit affirming that the applicant meets the qualifications as stated in 24 Delaware Code, Chapter 30, Section 3008(a) (3) through (7).

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

An applicant, who is licensed in a jurisdiction whose standards are not substantially similar to those of this State, shall have had a license in good standing for a minimum of five years after licensure in the jurisdiction from which he or she is applying for reciprocal licensure, provided however, that he or she meets all other qualifications for reciprocity.

An applicant, who is licensed in a jurisdiction whose standards are not substantially similar to those of this State, and who lacks the minimum years of licensure required by Delaware, may apply for licensure as an associate counselor of mental health, in order to obtain the experience necessary to fulfill the requirements for licensure as an LPCMH.

District of Columbia

Licensure by endorsement: Applicants who have been or are licensed in other jurisdictions (states) shall submit a statement of good standing and requirements from the jurisdiction where currently licensed.

Florida

An applicant for licensure by endorsement must meet the following requirements:

- 1.) Submits a completed application and appropriate fees;
- 2.) Holds an active valid license to practice and has actively practiced the profession for which licensure is applied in another state for 3 of the last 5 years immediately preceding licensure;
- 3.) License is in good standing and is not under investigation;
- 4.) Meets the current educational requirements for licensure;
- 5.) Has passed the licensure examination (NCMHCE);
- 6.) Completes an 8 hour laws and rules course from an approved provider; and
- 7.) Completes a 2 hour course on the prevention of medical errors from an approved provider.

Georgia

Licensure by endorsement:

- 1.) The board may license without examination any professional counselor, social worker or marriage and family therapist currently licensed in another jurisdiction, so long as the jurisdiction's requirements for the license in question are substantially equal to those of Georgia. Georgia only recognizes states by endorsement where the NCE exam through NBCC is required.
- 2.) The applicant must file a written application for licensure by endorsement on forms provided by the board.
 - a. The applicant shall direct the Board of Examiners of that jurisdiction in which the license is held to send an official statement which indicates that such license is in effect and in good standing.
- 3.) The applicant shall submit the appropriate application fee. The application fee is non-refundable.

Hawaii

Hawaii has no reciprocity at this time. Individuals licensed in another state as a counselor must meet Hawaii's requirements to apply for licensure.

Idaho

Licensure by endorsement: The board may grant a license to any person who submits a completed application on a form approved by the board together with the required fees and who:

- 1.) Holds a Current License. The applicant must hold a current active license in the profession for which a license is being sought, issued by the authorized regulatory entity in another state or country, the certification of which must be received directly by the board from the issuing agency;
- 2.) Has Not Been Disciplined. The applicant must certify they have not been disciplined within the last 5 years, had a license revoked, suspended, restricted, or otherwise sanctioned by any regulatory entity and has never voluntarily surrendered a license;
- 3.) Is of Good Moral Character. The applicant must certify they are of good moral character and have not been convicted, found guilty, or received a withheld judgment or suspended sentence for any felony;
- 4.) Has Documented Experience. The applicant must provide a documented record of at least 5 years actual practice under licensure immediately prior to application in the profession for which a license is being sought, or can demonstrate hardship or extenuating circumstances that prohibited practice during a portion of the 5 year period as determined by the board;
- 5.) Will Abide by Laws, Rules and Code of Ethics. The applicant must certify under oath to abide by the laws and rules governing the practice of counseling and marriage and family therapy in Idaho and the applicable code of ethics as adopted; AND EITHER
- 6.) NEW RULE as of 3-30-07: National Credentials Registry. If applicant has been granted credentials by the American Association of State Counseling Boards (AASCB) as qualifying for Category II of the National Credentials Registry or any such similar qualification granted by the national credentialing entity otherwise approved by the board; OR
- 7.) Provides documentation of at least 3 of the following during the 5 years immediately prior to application:
 - a. A minimum of 1,000 hours client contact; b. Service as an officer of a state or national counseling or marriage and family therapy organization, or a member of a state or national counseling or marriage and family therapy board or committee, or other leadership positions as may be approved by the board; c. Teaching at least 3 graduate courses for credit at an accredited college or university; d. A certificate to supervise issued by the NBCC or AAMFT; e. Providing at least 12 months of supervision to each of no less than 3 persons seeking licensure; f. Maintained professional liability insurance for the previous 5 years with proof of no claims filed; g. Obtained a post graduate degree in a field of study related to counseling or marriage and family therapy that is in addition to the minimum licensure requirements; h. Current certification by a national credentialing entity as approved by the board in the discipline for which licensure is sought; i. 20 hours of continuing education per year for the 5 years immediately prior to application.

Illinois

Beginning January 1, 2005, applicants applying for professional counselor licensure by endorsement must provide:

- 1.) Certification of education and an official transcript from a master's or doctoral degree program in counseling, psychology, rehabilitation counseling, or similar degree program if approved OR certification of education and an official transcript from a baccalaureate program in human services or similar degree program approved by the Department and documentation of completion of 5 years of supervised professional experience;
- 2.) A complete work history since receipt of a qualifying degree for licensing;
- 3.) Successful completion of the professional counselor examination as required by Illinois;
- 4.) The required fee; and

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

- 5.) Certification, on forms provided by the Department, from the state or territory of the U.S. in which the applicant was originally licensed and the state in which the applicant is currently licensed, if applicable, stating: the time during which the applicant was licensed in that jurisdiction, including the date of the original issuance of the license, a description of the examination in that jurisdiction, and whether the file on the applicant contains any record of disciplinary actions taken or pending.

Indiana

If an applicant qualifies for licensure in Indiana by endorsement, he or she is only actually exempted from the examination requirement itself. The following requirements must be met in order to be approved for licensure through endorsement:

- 1.) Endorsement applicants must meet all of Indiana's education and supervised experience requirements for the licensure being sought.
- 2.) The examination that applicant took to gain licensure in another state must be substantially equivalent to the examination required for licensure in Indiana.
- 3.) Endorsement applicants must be currently licensed or certified to practice in another state at the same level of licensure that the individual is applying for in Indiana. This license or certification must be current and in good standing. Endorsement applicants must have been actively engaged in the practice of mental health counseling for not less than three (3) out of the previous five (5) years.
- 4.) Endorsement applicants are required to pass a written jurisprudence examination covering the board's statute (IC 25-23.6), rule (Title 839) and the Health Professions Standards of Practice (IC 25-1-9). You will be notified after the board reviews your application for licensure by exemption from examination and grants you approval to sit for the jurisprudence examination. The examination will be mailed to your address on file. A score of seventy-five (75) or above on the examination is passing. You will not be granted licensure in Indiana until you have successfully completed this examination.

Iowa

An applicant who has been a licensed marriage and family therapist or mental health counselor under the laws of another jurisdiction may file an application for licensure by endorsement by meeting the following requirements:

- 1.) Submits application and pays licensure fee;
- 2.) Shows evidence of licensure requirements that are similar to those required in Iowa;
- 3.) Provides official copies of the academic transcripts sent directly from the school to the board;
- 4.) Supplies satisfactory evidence of the candidate's qualifications in writing on the prescribed forms by the candidate's supervisors. If verification of clinical experience is not available, the board may consider submission of documentation from the state in which the applicant is currently licensed or equivalent documentation of supervision; and
- 5.) Provides verification(s) of licenses from all other states that have been sent directly from those states to the board office.

Kansas

Licensure through reciprocity: The board may issue a license to an individual who is currently registered, certified, or licensed to practice professional counseling in another jurisdiction if the board determines that:

- 1.) The standards for registration, certification, or licensure to practice professional counseling in the other jurisdiction are substantially equivalent to the requirements of Kansas OR
- 2.) The applicant demonstrates on forms provided by the board compliance with continuous registration, certification, or licensure to practice professional counseling during the five (5) years immediately preceding the application with at least the minimum

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

professional experience as established by rules and regulations of the board and the absence of disciplinary actions of a serious nature brought by a registration, certification, or licensing board or agency; and

3.) A master's degree in counseling from a regionally accredited college/university.

Applicants for licensure as a clinical professional counselor shall additionally demonstrate competence to diagnosis and treat mental disorders through meeting at least two of the following:

- 1.) Either graduate coursework as established by rules and regulations of the board or passing a national clinical examination approved by the board;
- 2.) Three (3) years of clinical practice with demonstrated experience in diagnosing or treating mental disorders;
- 3.) Attestation from a professional licensed to diagnose and treat mental disorders in independent practice or licensed to practice medicine and surgery stating that the applicant is competent to diagnose and treat mental disorders.

Kentucky

Licensure through reciprocity: The board shall grant the appropriate credential to an applicant who has received a master's, specialist's, or doctoral degree in counseling or related field from a regionally accredited institution with a minimum of sixty (60) hours of specific graduate coursework; holds an active valid license or certificate from another state to practice as a professional counselor; is in good standing with the certifying or licensing board of that state; is of good moral character; has provided the board with evidence of a minimum of five (5) years' experience as a certified or licensed professional counselor; and has paid the application fee to the board. Applicants are exempt from the required hours of supervised experience in the practice of counseling and the examination requirement.

Louisiana

Licensure by reciprocity: Upon application accompanied by fee and without written or oral examination, the board may issue a license to any person who furnishes upon a form and in such manner as the board prescribes, evidence satisfactory to the board that he or she is licensed, certified, or registered as a professional counselor by another state, territorial possession of the United States, D.C., or Puerto Rico if the requirements for such licensure, certification, or registration are substantially equivalent to those of this Chapter.

Maine

Pathway 1 – An applicant who is licensed under the laws of a jurisdiction that has a reciprocal agreement with the Board of Counseling Professionals may obtain a license under the terms and conditions as agreed upon through the reciprocal agreement. Currently, Maine has not entered into any reciprocal agreements with other jurisdictions.

Pathway 2 – An applicant who is licensed in good standing at the time of application to the board under the laws of a jurisdiction that has not entered into a reciprocal agreement with the Board of Counseling Professionals may qualify for licensure by submitting evidence to the board that the applicant has actively practiced with a substantially equivalent license for at least 5 consecutive years immediately preceding application to the board at the level of licensure applied for in this state.

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

Pathway 3 – An applicant who does not meet these requirements may qualify for licensure by submitting evidence satisfactory to the board that the applicant's qualifications for licensure are substantially similar to Maine's requirements for licensure.

Maryland

Maryland does not have reciprocity with any other states. Please contact the board for out-of-of state applicant requirements.

Massachusetts

Each applicant must meet all requirements of the Massachusetts Regulations.

Michigan

An applicant for a professional counselor or professional clinical counselor license by endorsement shall submit a completed application on a form provided by the Department, together with the requisite fee. If an applicant has been licensed in another state, and has been engaged in the practice of counseling for a minimum of 5 years before the date of filing an application for Michigan licensure, the applicant may apply by endorsement. Completed license verification forms must be sent directly to the Michigan Board from every state in which the applicant has ever been licensed.

Minnesota

If you are currently a clinical professional counselor or professional counselor licensed in another state or jurisdiction, you may be eligible for licensure by reciprocity pursuant to Minn. Stat. sec. 148B.56, if the board determines that the licensure requirements for your credential are substantially similar to those in Minnesota. Your license from another state or jurisdiction must be renewed and active at the time you apply for the Minnesota LPC or LPCC license. You are encouraged to contact the board office before submitting an application to determine whether the state from which you obtained your license already has been reviewed and approved for reciprocity.

Mississippi

Mississippi does not presently have an agreement of reciprocity with any other state. Licensure criteria met by the applicant in other states may be honored by the MS State Board of Examiners for Licensed Professional Counselors if he/she meets the requirements for licensure in the State of Mississippi. Each criterion will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Missouri

337.510.3 RSMo of the Missouri law defines licensure by reciprocity as follows:

- 1.) Currently be licensed in another state with no discipline and;
- 2.) Approval by the American Association of State Counseling Boards (AASCB) or its successor organization according to the eligibility criteria established by AASCB. The successor organization shall be defined by board rule; or
- 3.) In good standing and currently certified by the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) or its successor organization and has completed acceptable supervised counseling experience defined by board rule. The successor organization shall be defined by board rule; or

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

- 4.) Determined by the board that the requirements of the other state or territory are substantially the same as Missouri and certified by the applicant's current licensing entity that the applicant has a current license. The applicant shall also consent to examination of any disciplinary history.

Montana

Licensure by reciprocity: If you hold a current, valid license in another state, and you have taken the exams given by Montana, you may apply for licensure in Montana without exam. If you have not taken an examination to receive your current license, you will be asked to take the examination to become licensed in Montana.

- 1.) Montana has no formal signed reciprocal agreement with any state.
- 2.) All applications are reviewed on a case-by-case basis, and formally approved by the board.
- 3.) If your state's licensure requirements meet or exceed Montana's you may be able to license in Montana without examination.
- 4.) You will need to complete the appropriate application forms for the board's review and approval. This becomes the basis of your Montana Licensure file.
 - a. Other state's application forms are not accepted in lieu of a completed Montana form.
 - b. The Supervisory Experience Forms are considered a part of the application and must be completed. If not, the application is considered incomplete and will not be reviewed by the board.
 - c. The Summary sheet in the Counselor Application Packet is also considered to be part of the application, and if not completed the application will not be reviewed by the board. The official transcript does not take the place of the Summary sheet.
 - d. All forms must be completed for review.

The candidate must also meet the following requirements:

- (a) The candidate holds a valid and unrestricted license to practice as a licensed professional counselor or equivalent in another state or jurisdiction, which was issued under standards substantially equivalent to or greater than current standards in this state. Official written verification of such licensure status must be received by the board directly from the other state(s) or jurisdiction(s);
- (b) The candidate holds a graduate degree which meets the requirements of 37-23-202, MCA, and shall supply a copy of the certified transcript sent directly from an accredited college, university or institution, and shall complete the degree summary sheet provided by the board;
- (c) The candidate shall supply proof of successful completion of the National Counselor Examination (NCE) or another board-approved licensing examination. Candidate scores on the examination must be forwarded directly to the board; and
- (d)(i) The candidate shall submit proof the candidate has previously completed 3,000 hours of supervised counseling practice as defined in 37-23-202, MCA. The candidate may verify the experience hours by affidavit, and need not supply a supervisor's signature upon reasonable explanation of why the supervisor's signature is unavailable to the candidate; OR
- (ii) The candidate shall submit proof the candidate has been in continuous practice as a licensed professional counselor or equivalent in another jurisdiction for the two years immediately preceding the date of application in Montana.

Nebraska

Licensure by reciprocity – Certified Professional Counselor Requirements:

- 1.) Qualify for certification and have made an application for a license as a mental health practitioner.
- 2.) Have received a master's degree from an approved educational program as specified in NE's requirements.
- 3.) Have 3,000 hours of experience in counseling, after receipt of a master's degree.
- 4.) Have been in the active and continuous practice under the license or certification by examination in the State, Territory, or District of Columbia from which s/he comes for at least one year and have been actively engaged in the practice under such license or certificate or in an accepted residency or graduate training program for at least one of the three years immediately preceding the application for certification by reciprocity.
- 5.) Have passed the NCE or NCMHCE examination or an equivalent examination with a minimum score set at the National Cut Score.
- 6.) Have attained at least the age of majority and have good moral character.
- 7.) Be a U.S. citizen or have lawful presence in the U.S.

Nevada

The board will, after verifying that an applicant for licensure meets Nevada's requirements and holds an active, equivalent license in good standing from another jurisdiction, issue an interim permit authorizing applicant to practice as a clinical professional counselor, under the supervision of a person approved by the board, until the results of the required examination are received. If the applicant does not pass the examination, the interim permit expires upon notification by the board. The interim permit is not renewable (NAC 641A.111).

New Hampshire

New Hampshire does not have reciprocity with any other states. The board may license any applicant who is licensed in any other state, provided the other state's licensure requirements are substantially equivalent to or higher than those of New Hampshire.

New Jersey

Licensure to practice counseling or rehabilitation counseling may be granted to any person who at the time of the application is licensed or certified by an agency located in another jurisdiction, if in the opinion of the Committee the requirements of that credential are substantially equivalent. Contact the Committee for out-of-state application requirements.

New Mexico

Licensure by reciprocity – LPC and LPCC Licensure:

The board may issue a license to a person who files a completed application accompanied by the required fees and who submits satisfactory evidence that the applicant holds and has held for a minimum of five (5) years a current license issued by the appropriate examining board under the law of any other state or territory of the U.S., D.C., or any foreign nation and is in good standing with no disciplinary action pending or brought against the applicant within the past five (5) years and holds a master's or doctoral degree in counseling or in a counseling related field from an accredited institution. Applicants who do not meet the licensure by reciprocity requirements must meet the current licensure requirements.

New York

If the applicant does not meet all requirements (e.g., passed the NCE rather than NCMHCE) he/she may have to go through standard pathway or be made eligible for the exam and practice under a limited permit while attempting the exam.

Regulations state:

An applicant seeking endorsement of a license in mental health counseling issued by another state, country territory shall present evidence of:

- 1.) the applicant shall be at least 21 years of age;
- 2.) Licensure by another jurisdiction;
- 3.) Completion of a graduate degree in mental health counseling or a related field that at the time of completion qualified the applicant for licensure as a mental health counselor in the other jurisdiction;
- 4.) Completion of supervised experience in mental health counseling a psychotherapy that qualified the applicant for initial licensure in the other jurisdiction;
- 5.) Passage of an examination acceptable to the department for the practice of mental health counseling;
- 6.) At least five years of experience in mental health counseling satisfactory to the State Board for Mental Health Practitioners, within the 10 years immediately preceding the application for licensure by endorsement in New York;
- 7.) Completion of coursework in the identification and reporting of suspected child abuse and neglect or the exemption from such coursework, as specified in 6507 (3) of the Education Law;
- 8.) Good moral character as determined by the department; and
- 9.) Acceptable licensure and discipline status in each jurisdiction in which the applicant holds a professional license.

North Carolina

The NCBLPC has no reciprocal agreement with any other state counseling board. If an applicant is licensed to practice counseling by a Board in another state, the applicant shall apply for licensure with the North Carolina Board and shall meet the following requirements:

- (1) shall have a minimum of five years of full time counseling experience, or eight years of part time counseling experience, or a combination of full time and part time counseling experience equivalent to five years of full time counseling experience, within 10 years directly prior to application;
- (2) shall have a minimum of 2500 hours of direct client contact;
- (3) shall have an active independent license that does not require supervision, and be in good standing as a licensed professional counselor in another state for a minimum of two years directly prior to application; and
- (4) shall comply with all other applicable rules for licensure as a licensed professional counselor.

North Dakota

An applicant may be granted LPC reciprocity upon satisfactory proof to the board that the applicant is currently licensed as a licensed professional counselor under the laws of a state or territory of the United States that imposes requirements equal to or more stringent than this chapter. Currently, there is no reciprocity for the Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC) credential. Please contact the board for more information.

Ohio

(A) An applicant requesting licensure as a professional counselor or professional clinical counselor via endorsement shall submit to the board all of the following:

- 1.) A completed licensure application for the level of licensure for which the applicant is seeking licensure;
- 2.) The required fee;
- 3.) An official statement, which indicates applicant is currently licensed, certified, registered, or otherwise authorized to practice as a professional counselor or professional clinical counselor in another jurisdiction;
- 4.) An official statement from any and all jurisdictions where the applicant is currently or has been previously licensed, certified, registered, or otherwise authorized to practice as a professional counselor or professional clinical counselor indicating whether the applicant is in good standing and whether disciplinary action has been taken or is pending against the applicant;
- 5.) All transcripts of undergraduate and graduate education, if any;
- 6.) If the applicant has taken another jurisdiction's professional counselor or professional clinical counselor licensure exam, documentation of whether the applicant passed that exam; and
- 7.) Any additional documentation requested by the board that would assist the board in making a determination based on paragraphs (B)(1) to (B)(7) of this rule.

(B) The counselor professional standards committee may consider the following factors to determine whether to grant the applicant a license via endorsement:

- 1.) Whether the applicant possesses a degree in counseling awarded by an appropriately accredited institution whose program is clearly identified as a counseling program that confers a counseling degree;
- 2.) Whether the applicant's coursework is substantially similar to Ohio's requirement for licensure;
- 3.) Whether the hourly amount of applicant's degree coursework is substantially similar to Ohio's requirement for licensure;
- 4.) Whether the applicant has passed a state professional counselor or professional clinical counselor licensure exam that is substantially similar to Ohio's examination;
- 5.) Whether the applicant for professional clinical counselor has substantially equivalent supervised experience required by Ohio for licensure;
- 6.) Whether the applicant's license is in good standing in another jurisdiction and whether applicant has been disciplined in another jurisdiction; and
- 7.) The number of years the applicant has practiced as a professional counselor or professional clinical counselor in another jurisdiction.

Oklahoma

An applicant applying for licensure by endorsement must have qualifications comparable to those required under the LPC Act as deemed by the Commissioner of Health. The Department may require the applicant to submit a copy of the statute and rules of the agency issuing the license.

An applicant must submit the application form and related documents as requested, licensure fees, three current documents of recommendation, and official transcripts.

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

(a) The Department shall issue a license by full endorsement to an applicant who is licensed or certified as a professional counselor in another jurisdiction and who meets the following:

- 1.) The applicant's professional counselor's license in the other jurisdiction is active and in good standing with no history of suspension or revocation action against the license;
- 2.) The applicant fulfills the requirements of the Oklahoma LPC Act;
- 3.) The applicant must have at least a master's degree in a counseling field from a regionally accredited college or university;
- 4.) The applicant takes and passes the NCE, unless the applicant has passed a written counseling exam that, in the judgment of the Department, is substantially equivalent to the NCE; and,
- 5.) The applicant takes and passes the Oklahoma Legal and Ethical Responsibilities Examination.

(b) The Department shall issue a two (2) year, non-renewable license by endorsement to applicants seeking full endorsement who do not fulfill the requirements set forth in section a above, but only under the following conditions:

- 1.) The applicant must show proof of continuous practice in counseling for five (5) years prior to application in Oklahoma;
- 2.) The applicant must show proof of professional counselor licensure in the other jurisdiction is current and in good standing, with no history of suspension or revocation against the license;
- 3.) The applicant takes and passes the NCE; and,
- 4.) The applicant completes all deficient coursework to meet the academic requirements for licensure in Oklahoma.

(c) The license by endorsement will expire after 2 years from the date of issue. Failure to fulfill the requirements as provided in this subsection, within the two (2) year licensure period, will require the applicant to fulfill licensure requirements set forth in Section 1906 (C)(1)(2) of the LPC Act.

Oregon

The board does not grant blanket reciprocity. The board reviews the minimum standards for licensure by the other state at the time licensure was granted for equivalency with the board's minimum standards for Oregon licensure. The board will conduct a review for each applicant for reciprocity on an individual basis.

- 1.) Application for licensure is made to the board office and be on forms provided by the board.
- 2.) Application for licensure shall be accompanied by:
 - a. The non-refundable application fee;
 - b. Official transcript of graduate degree that qualified the individual for licensure in the other state;
 - c. Verification of licensure from the other state and information on the education, experience and examination requirements for licensure in that state at the time licensure was granted;
 - d. Professional disclosure statement; and
 - e. Graduate school catalog and course descriptions.
- 3.) Applicant is required to complete and pass an examination on Oregon laws and rules.

Pennsylvania

The board shall have the power to grant a reciprocal license to an applicant who is licensed or certified as a social worker, clinical social worker, marriage and family therapist or professional counselor in another state and has demonstrated qualifications which equal or exceed those required pursuant to this act in the determination of the board, provided that no license shall be granted under this section to an applicant unless the state in which the applicant is licensed affords reciprocal treatment to persons who are residents of this Commonwealth and who are licensed pursuant to this act.

Puerto Rico

The board will offer a license to a person that possesses a professional counselor license in another jurisdiction that qualifies, if the person has completed requirements that are equal to or greater than those established by Law Number 147. The board will not offer a license by reciprocity to an applicant that is under investigation in another geographical jurisdiction, by the accusation of an act that could constitute a violation of Law Number 147.

Rhode Island

Licensure by endorsement: A license as a clinical mental health counselor may be issued, at the discretion of the board, without examination, to an applicant who is a clinical mental health counselor where the applicant is licensed or certified in another state, whose requirements are equivalent to or exceed the requirements established pursuant to this Act.

South Carolina

The board may offer licensure by endorsement with any state that credentials professional counselors and marriage and family therapists if the board finds that the state has substantially the same or higher licensure requirements.

- 1.) The board may license an individual who is currently credentialed or meets the requirements of a licensed professional counselor or a licensed marriage and family therapist in another jurisdiction of the United States if the individual has met the same or higher requirements.
- 2.) The board shall delineate in regulation procedures for verifying an applicant's credentials from another jurisdiction.
- 3.) The board may not license an applicant who is under investigation in this or another jurisdiction for an act that would constitute a violation of this chapter until the investigation is complete. When deciding a case, the board shall determine what, if any, rules or discipline apply.
- 4.) The board may grant a license to practice professional counseling or marriage and family therapy to an applicant who has completed an educational program in a college or university in a foreign country if the applicant meets all requirements of this article and demonstrates to the satisfaction of the board that the applicant's experience, command of the English language, and completed academic program meet the standards of a relevant academic program of an accredited educational institution within the United States. If the requirements of this item are met, the applicant must be considered to have received the education from an accredited educational institution as required by this article.

South Dakota

The applicant for licensure by endorsement must hold an active license and be in good standing with the state's board that issued the current license(s). That state's requirements must substantially meet South Dakota's requirements. The appropriate application shall be filled out and accompanied by the fee required.

Tennessee

Individuals seeking LPC licensure by reciprocity must meet the following qualifications:

Hold a current professional counselor license from another state, meet licensure requirements, and pass all required examinations.

Individuals seeking LPC/MHSP licensure by reciprocity must meet the following qualifications:

Hold a current professional counselor license with a mental health service provider designation, or its equivalent, from another state, meet licensure requirements, and pass all required exams.

Required documentation: completed application and supporting documentation; recent photo; birth certificate; evidence of good moral character; original certificate/license and renewal certificate/license; the state certification or licensing law and rules in effect at the time the applicant was credentialed; and an official statement from the certification or licensing agency in applicant's state which indicates that such certificate or license is in effect and in good standing, and under what provision such a certificate or license was issued (i.e. grandfathering, examination, reciprocity, endorsement). An applicant shall pay, at the time of the application, the nonrefundable application fee.

Texas

- 1.) The Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors may grant a provisional license to a person who holds, at the time of application, a license as a counselor or art therapist issued by another state or territory that is acceptable to the board.
- 2.) The board shall consider only state and territories of the United States as acceptable for the purposes of licensure by endorsement.
 - a. Submit an application and license fee;
 - b. Be licensed in good standing as a counselor or art therapist in another state or territory that has licensing requirements that are substantially equivalent to the regular licensing requirements of the Licensed Professional Counselor Act; and
 - c. Have passed the required examinations.

A provisional license is valid for 180 days or until the date the board issues a regular license or denies the provisional licensee's application for a license, whichever occurs first. The board shall issue a regular license to the holder of a provisional license if the board verifies that the provisional licensee has the academic and experience requirements for a regular license.

Utah

To qualify for licensure by endorsement, an applicant must document that he/she is currently licensed in good standing in another state and has been actively engaged in the lawful practice of professional counseling, including mental health therapy, for not less than 4,000 hours during the three (3) years immediately preceding the application for licensure in Utah. The applicant for licensure must also document a passing score on the Utah Professional Counselor Laws, Rules, and Ethics Examination.

Vermont

Licensure by endorsement: The board may license without requiring the applicant to take both the NCMHCE and NCE.

- a. Applicants from a jurisdiction with substantially equivalent standards: if the applicant is licensed/certified in good standing as a clinical mental health counselor in another jurisdiction which currently has, in the opinion of the board, regulatory standards and qualifications for licensure/certification as a clinical mental counselor substantially equivalent to those in Vermont, the board may issue a license. The board, in this case, reviews only the current licensure statutes and rules of the jurisdiction in which the applicant is licensed/certified; or
- b. Applicants from a jurisdiction with substantially equivalent standards except for national competency examinations: if the applicant is licensed/certified as a clinical mental health counselor in good standing in an American or Canadian jurisdiction whose regulatory standards are, in the opinion of the board, substantially equivalent except for requiring only one exam, the NCMHCE or NCE, the applicant may be licensed upon successful completion of the examination the applicant was not required to take for licensing in the other jurisdiction; or
- c. Applicants in active practice in a U.S. or Canadian jurisdiction regardless of licensing standards: if the applicant has been licensed/certified as a clinical mental health counselor and is in good standing in another U.S. or Canadian jurisdiction, notwithstanding the jurisdiction's current licensing requirements, and has been in "active practice" no fewer than 5 years, the board may issue a license. "Active practice" as used in this section means practicing clinical mental health counseling more than an average of 20 hours per week for 48 weeks per year over the 5 years before application for licensure in Vermont; or
- d. National Registry: If the applicant is registered in a national registry of clinical mental health counselors approved by the board under the auspices of the American Association of State Counseling Boards (AASCB) or similar organization approved by the board, the board may issue a license.

Virginia

Every applicant for licensure by endorsement shall submit in one package the following:

- 1.) A completed application;
- 2.) The application processing fee;
- 3.) Verification of all professional licenses or certificates ever held in any other jurisdiction. In order to qualify for endorsement the applicant shall have no unresolved action against a license or certificate. The board will consider history of disciplinary action on a case-by-case basis;
- 4.) Documentation of having completed education and experience requirements substantially equivalent to those in effect in Virginia at the time of initial licensure as verified by an official transcript and a certified copy of the original application materials;
- 5.) Verification of a passing score on a licensure examination in the jurisdiction in which licensure was obtained; and
- 6.) An affidavit of having read and understood the regulations and laws governing the practice of professional counseling in Virginia.

Washington

Applicants must have met the same education, examination, and experience as required by Washington state statute. Applicant must have passed the NBCC National Counselor Examination (NCE) or the National Clinical Mental Health Counselor Examination (NCMHCE).

Verification must be provided directly from the jurisdiction in which the applicant took the required examination.

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

West Virginia

An individual may apply for reciprocity review if the individual is currently licensed in another state whose licensing requirements are greater than or equal to the requirements in this rule as determined by the board. It is the applicant's responsibility to provide the documentation necessary for the board to make an appropriate decision on reciprocity. The following documentation is required for the board to review for reciprocity: a completed WV application form and the required fee; copies of graduate transcripts from the issuing institutions; a certified copy, including exam results, of the applicant's file from the jurisdiction where currently licensed; and two completed professional recommendation forms from individuals permanently licensed as professional counselors, psychologists, social workers, or psychiatrists on forms provided by the board. Persons with a temporary license cannot complete the recommendation form.

Wisconsin

Licensure by reciprocity: Upon application and payment of the fee, the board may grant a professional counselor license to any individual who holds a similar certificate or license in another state or territory of the United States and who passes an examination approved by the board that tests knowledge of state law relating to professional counseling, if the board determines that the requirements for obtaining the certificate or license in the other state or territory are substantially equivalent to Wisconsin's requirements.

Wyoming

Licensure by reciprocity: Applicants must hold a current license in good standing under the laws of another state having licensure requirements substantially similar to those required in this state.

APPENDIX F:
Practice Act / Title Act Chart
Year Original Certification/Licensure Law Passed
State Counselor Counts

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

States	Law Passed	Credentials		Practice/Title	Counselor Counts
Alabama	1979	Licensed Professional Counselor Associate Licensed Counselor	LPC ALC	Practice and Title	1,600 280
Alaska	1998	Licensed Professional Counselor	LPC	Title	497
Arizona	1988	Licensed Professional Counselor Licensed Associate Counselor	LPC LAC	Practice	2500 1200
Arkansas	1979	Licensed Professional Counselor Licensed Associate Counselor	LPC LAC	Practice and Title	900 455
California	2009	Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor Professional Clinical Counselor Intern	LPCC PCCI	Practice and Title	1,416 2,231
Colorado	1988	Licensed Professional Counselor Provisional Licensed Professional Counselor	LPC	Title	4,432 90
Connecticut	1997	Licensed Professional Counselor	LPC	Practice and Title	As of 2012 1932
Delaware	1987	Licensed Professional Counselor of Mental Health Licensed Associate Counselor of Mental Health	LPCM LACMH	Title	304 3
District of Columbia	1992	Licensed Professional Counselor	LPC	Practice and Title	1,111
Florida	1981	Licensed Mental Health Counselor Provisional Mental Health Counselor Registered Mental Health Counselor Intern	LMHC	Practice	8813 71 3990
Georgia	1984	Licensed Professional Counselor Associate Professional Counselor	LPC ALPC	Practice and Title	5252 1228
Hawaii	2004	Licensed Mental Health Counselor	LMHC	Practice and Title	268
Idaho	1982	Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor Licensed Professional Counselor Registered Counselor Intern	LCPC LPC	Practice	750 895 11
Illinois	1993	Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor Licensed Professional Counselor	LCPC LPC	Practice	5,590 2,720
Indiana	1997	Licensed Mental Health Counselor	LMHC	Practice and Title	1853

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

States	Law Passed	Credentials		Practice/Title	Counselor Counts
Iowa	1991	Licensed Mental Health Counselor	LMHC	Practice	935/
Kansas	1997**	Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor Licensed Professional Counselor	LCPC LPC	Practice and Title	359 429
Kentucky	1996	Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor Licensed Professional Counselor Associate	LPCC LPCA	Practice and Title	1400 800
Louisiana	1987	Licensed Professional Counselor Counselor Intern	LPC CI	Practice	2810 914
Maine	1989	Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor Licensed Professional Counselor Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor – Conditional Licensed Professional Counselor – Conditional Registered Counselor	LCPC LPC RC	Practice Practice	1,453 211 469 93 634
Maryland	1985	Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor	LCPC CPC LGPC	Practice and Title	3000
Massachusetts	1987	Licensed Mental Health Counselor	LMHC	Practice	5446
Michigan	1988	Licensed Professional Counselor Limited Licensed Professional Counselor	LPC LLPC	Practice and Title	9,069 total
Minnesota	2007	Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor Licensed Professional Counselor	LPCC LPC	Practice and Title Practice and Title	391 465
Mississippi	1985	Licensed Professional Counselor	LPC	Practice and Title	954
Missouri	1985	Licensed Professional Counselor Provisional Licensed Professional Counselor	LPC PLPC	Practice and Title	3,531 693
Montana	1985	Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor	LCPC	Practice and Title	954
Nebraska	1986	Licensed Independent Mental Health Practitioner Licensed Mental Health Practitioner Certified Professional Counselor Provisional Licensed Mental Health Practitioner	LIMHP LMHP CPC PLMHP	Practice and Title Practice and Title Title Practice and Title	682*** 2,615*** 1,106 935***

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

States	Law Passed	Credentials		Practice/Title	Counselor Counts
Nevada	2007	Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor Intern	LCPC	Practice and Title	25* 13*
New Hampshire	1998	Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor	LCMHC	Practice and Title	737
New Jersey	1993	Licensed Professional Counselor Licensed Associate Counselor	LPC LAC	Title	3217 1061
New Mexico	1993	Licensed Professional Clinical Mental Health Counselor Licensed Professional Mental Health Counselor Licensed Mental Health Counselor	LPCC LPC LMHC	Practice	1862 279 802
New York	2002	Licensed Mental Health Counselor Limited Permit	LMHC	Practice and Title	5832
North Carolina	1983	Licensed Professional Counselor Licensed Professional Counselor Associate Licensed Professional Counselor Supervisor	LPC LPCA LPCS	Practice and Title	5,160 1,754 594
North Dakota	1989	Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor Licensed Professional Counselor Licensed Associate Professional Counselor	LPCC LPC LAPC	Practice and Title	430 198 74
Ohio	1984	Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor Licensed Professional Counselor Professional Counselor/Clinical Resident Registered Counselor Trainee	LPCC LPC CR RCT	Practice and Title	4858 3933 1003 690
Oklahoma	1985	Licensed Professional Counselor	LPC	Practice and Title	3,784
Oregon	1985	Licensed Professional Counselor Registered Intern	LPC	Title	1,694 434
Pennsylvania	1998	Licensed Professional Counselor	LPC	Title	6,048
Puerto Rico	2002	Licensed Professional Counselor Professional Counselor with a Provisional License	LPC PCPL	Practice and Title	2,474 75
Rhode Island	1987	Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor	LCMHC	Practice and Title	363
South Carolina	1985	Licensed Professional Counselor Professional Counselor Intern	LPC LPC/I	Practice	1,777 311

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

States	Law Passed	Credentials		Practice/Title	Counselor Counts
South Dakota	1990	Licensed Professional Counselor – Mental Health Licensed Professional Counselor	LPC-MH LPC	Practice	211 471
Tennessee	1984	Licensed Professional Counselor – Mental Health Service Provider Licensed Professional Counselor	LPC/MHSP LPC	Practice and Title	1806 355
Texas	1981	Licensed Professional Counselor Licensed Professional Counselor Intern	LPC	Practice and Title	18,000 4,000
Utah	1994	Licensed Professional Counselor Certified Professional Counselor Intern Certified Professional Counselor Extern	LPC	Practice	1045 310 48
Vermont	1988	Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor	LCMHC	Practice and Title	485
Virginia	1976	Licensed Professional Counselor	LPC	Practice and Title	4150
Washington	2001	Licensed Mental Health Counselor Licensed Mental Health Counselor Associate Certified Counselor Certified Advisor Agency Affiliated Counselors	LMHC LMHCA CC CA AAC	Practice and Title	5,133 1,235 717 9 5,996
West Virginia	1986	Licensed Professional Counselor	LPC	Practice and Title	1,060
Wisconsin	1992	Licensed Professional Counselor Licensed Professional Counselor Trainee	LPC	Practice and Title	5158 582
Wyoming	1987	Licensed Professional Counselor Provisional Professional Counselor	LPC PPC	Practice and Title	810 190

Note: Please see page 4 for information on practice vs. title acts.

*The state is still in the process of implementing the law for this credential.

**Kansas began registering counselors in 1987; the law licensing professional counselors passed in 1997.

***Count includes professional counselors, marriage and family therapists, and social workers. Those holding the CPC credential also hold either the LMHP or LIMHP credential and can use the title LPC.

APPENDIX G:

States That Have Adopted the ACA Code of Ethics

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

Professional Counseling State Licensure Boards	Adopted the ACA Code of Ethics into their Rules and Regulations
Alabama	No
Alaska	Yes
Arizona	Yes
Arkansas	Yes
California	No
Colorado	No
Connecticut	No
Delaware	No
District of Columbia	Yes
Florida	No
Georgia	No
Hawaii	No
Idaho	Yes
Illinois	Yes
Indiana	No
Iowa	Yes
Kansas	No
Kentucky	No
Louisiana	Yes
Maine	No
Maryland	No
Massachusetts	Yes
Michigan	No
Minnesota	No
Mississippi	Yes
Missouri	No
Montana	No
Nebraska	No
Nevada	No

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

Professional Counseling State Licensure Boards	Adopted the ACA Code of Ethics into their Rules and Regulations
New Hampshire	No
New Jersey	Yes*
New Mexico	No
New York	No
North Carolina	Yes
North Dakota	Yes
Ohio	Yes*
Oklahoma	No
Oregon	No
Pennsylvania	Yes*
Puerto Rico	No
Rhode Island	No
South Carolina	Yes*
South Dakota	Yes
Tennessee	Yes
Texas	No
Utah	Yes
Vermont	Yes
Virginia	No
Washington	No
West Virginia	Yes
Wisconsin	No
Wyoming	Yes

Of the 52 jurisdictions, 18 have adopted the *ACA Code of Ethics*.

*The board *subscribes* to the code of ethics and practice standards for counselors promulgated by the American Counseling Association. ACA's standards shall be used as aids in resolving ambiguities which may arise in interpretation of the rules of professional ethics and conduct, except that the board's rules of standards of ethical practice and professional conduct shall prevail whenever any conflict exists between these rules and ACA's standards.

APPENDIX H:

Scope of Practice

Scope of Practice: Career Counseling and Rehabilitation Counseling

Twenty-seven (27) states and the District of Columbia include career counseling in the scope of practice. Twelve (12) states include rehabilitation counseling in the scope of practice. Twelve (12) states include both career counseling and rehabilitation counseling in the scope of practice. One (1) state, South Carolina, does not have any specialty licenses

State	Career Counseling	Rehabilitation Counseling
Alabama	X	X
Arizona	X	
Arkansas	X	X
District of Columbia	X	
Florida	X	
Idaho	X	X
Indiana	X	X
Kansas	X	
Maryland	X	
Michigan	X	
Missouri	X	X
Montana	X	
New Hampshire	X	
New Mexico	X	
North Carolina	X	
North Dakota	X	
Ohio	X	X
Oregon	X	X
Pennsylvania	X	X
Tennessee	X	
Texas	X	X
Vermont	X	
Virginia	X	
West Virginia	X	X
Wyoming	X	X

ALABAMA

“PRIVATE PRACTICE OF COUNSELING” means rendering or offering to render to individuals, groups, organizations or the general public counseling services, in settings of individual or group practice, for a fee, salary, or other compensation, involving the application of principles, methods or procedures of the counseling profession which include, but are not restricted to:

- a. Counseling. To render evaluation and therapy that includes, but is not limited to, providing individual counseling, family counseling, marital counseling, group therapy, school counseling, play therapy, rehabilitation counseling, art therapy, human growth and development counseling, couples counseling, chemical abuse or dependency counseling, career counseling, and vocational disability counseling. The use of specific methods, techniques, or modalities within the practice of a licensed professional counselor is restricted to counselors appropriately trained in the use of these methods, techniques, or modalities. A licensed professional counselor or associate licensed counselor may diagnose and develop treatment plans but shall not attempt to diagnose, prescribe for, treat, or advise a client with reference to problems or complaints falling outside the boundaries of counseling services.
- b. Appraisal Activities. Selecting, administering, scoring and interpreting instruments designed to assess an individual's aptitudes, attitudes, abilities, achievements, interests and personal characteristics, but shall not include the use of projective techniques in the assessment of personality.
- c. Counseling, Guidance and Personnel Consulting. Interpreting or reporting upon scientific fact or theory in counseling, guidance and personal services to provide assistance in solving some current or potential problems of individuals, groups or organizations.
- d. Referral Activities. The evaluating of data to identify problems and to determine advisability of referral to other specialists.
- e. Research Activities. The designing, conducting and interpreting of research with human subjects.

ALASKA

“PRACTICE OF PROFESSIONAL OF COUNSELING” means, subject to (C) of this paragraph, the application of principles, methods, or procedures of the counseling profession to diagnose or treat, other than through the use of projective testing or individually administered intelligence tests, mental and emotional disorders that are referenced in the standard diagnostic nomenclature for individual, group, and organizational therapy, whether cognitive, affective, or behavioral, within the context of human relationships and systems; if otherwise within the scope of this paragraph, “practice of professional counseling” includes:

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

- a. The professional application of evaluation techniques, treatments, and therapeutic services to individuals and groups for the purpose of treating the emotional and mental disorders;
- b. An applied understanding of the dynamics of the individual and of group interactions, along with the application of therapeutic and counseling techniques for the purpose of resolving intrapersonal and interpersonal conflict and changing perceptions, attitudes, and behaviors in the area of human relationships; and
- c. Consistent with regulations adopted by the board under AS 08.29.020(a)(4), administration and use of appropriate assessment instruments that measure or diagnose problems or dysfunctions within the course of human growth and development as part of a counseling process or in the development of a treatment plan.

ARIZONA

“PRACTICE OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING” means the professional application of mental health, psychological and human development theories, principles and techniques to:

- a. Facilitate human development and adjustment throughout the human life span.
- b. Assess and facilitate career development.
- c. Treat interpersonal relationship issues and nervous, mental and emotional disorders that are cognitive, affective or behavioral.
- d. Manage symptoms of mental illness.
- e. Assess, appraise, evaluate, diagnose and treat individuals, couples, families and groups through the use of psychotherapy.

ARKANSAS

“LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR” means any person holding himself/herself out to the public by any title or description of services incorporating the words Licensed Professional Counselor, who meets the requirements set forth in Section 3.2 of the rules and regulations, and who offers to render counseling services to individuals, groups, organizations, corporations, institutions, government agencies, or to the general public for monetary remuneration or who otherwise implies licensure, training, experience, and/or expertise in counseling and who holds a current valid license to practice counseling/psychotherapy.

“PRACTICE OF COUNSELING” means rendering or offering to render to individuals, groups, organizations, or the general public any service involving the application of principles, methods, or procedures of the counseling profession which include, but are not restricted to:

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

- a. "Counseling", which means assisting an individual or groups, through the counseling relationship, to develop understandings of personal problems, to define goals, and to plan action reflecting his or her interests, abilities, aptitudes, and needs as these are related to personal social concerns, educational progress, and occupations and careers;
- b. "Appraisal activities", which means selecting, administering, scoring, and interpreting instruments designed to assess an individual's aptitudes, attitudes, abilities, achievements, interests, and personal characteristics but shall not include the use of projective techniques in the assessment of personality;
- c. "Consulting", which means interpreting or reporting scientific fact or theory to provide assistance in solving current or potential problems of individuals, groups, or organizations;
- d. "Referral activities", which means the evaluating of data to identify problems and to determine the advisability of referral to other specialists; and
- e. "Research activities", which means reporting, designing, conducting, or consulting on research in counseling with human subjects.

“COUNSELING/PSYCHOTHERAPY” means assisting individuals or groups, through the counseling relationship, to develop understanding of personal problems, define goals, and plan action reflecting interests, abilities, aptitudes, and needs. Counseling/Psychotherapy is the application of mental health, psychological, or human development principles, through cognitive, affective, behavioral or systemic intervention strategies that address wellness, personal growth, or career development, as well as pathology. The terms Counseling/Psychotherapy are used interchangeably in definitions of mental health activities in counseling textbooks.

CALIFORNIA

“PROFESSIONAL CLINICAL COUNSELING” means the application of counseling interventions and psychotherapeutic techniques to identify and remediate cognitive, mental, and emotional issues, including personal growth, adjustment to disability, crisis intervention, and psychosocial and environmental problems. “Professional clinical counseling” includes conducting assessments for the purpose of establishing counseling goals and objectives to empower individuals to deal adequately with life situations, reduce stress, experience growth, change behavior, and make well-informed, rational decisions.

“Professional clinical counseling” is focused exclusively on the application of counseling interventions and psychotherapeutic techniques for the purposes of improving mental health, and is not intended to capture other, nonclinical forms of counseling for the purposes of licensure. For purposes of this paragraph, “nonclinical” means nonmental health.

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

“Professional clinical counseling” does not include the assessment or treatment of couples or families unless the professional clinical counselor has completed all of the following additional training and education, beyond the minimum training and education required for licensure:

(A) One of the following:

(i) Six semester units or nine quarter units specifically focused on the theory and application of marriage and family therapy.

(ii) A named specialization or emphasis area on the qualifying degree in marriage and family therapy; marital and family therapy; marriage, family, and child counseling; or couple and family therapy.

(B) No less than 500 hours of documented supervised experience working directly with couples, families, or children.

(C) A minimum of six hours of continuing education specific to marriage and family therapy, completed in each license renewal cycle.

“Professional clinical counseling” does not include the provision of clinical social work services.

“Counseling interventions and psychotherapeutic techniques” means the application of cognitive, affective, verbal or nonverbal, systemic or holistic counseling strategies that include principles of development, wellness, and maladjustment that reflect a pluralistic society. These interventions and techniques are specifically implemented in the context of a professional clinical counseling relationship and use a variety of counseling theories and approaches.

“Assessment” means selecting, administering, scoring, and interpreting tests, instruments, and other tools and methods designed to measure an individual’s attitudes, abilities, aptitudes, achievements, interests, personal characteristics, disabilities, and mental, emotional, and behavioral concerns and development and the use of methods and techniques for understanding human behavior in relation to coping with, adapting to, or ameliorating changing life situations, as part of the counseling process. “Assessment” shall not include the use of projective techniques in the assessment of personality, individually administered intelligence tests, neuropsychological testing, or utilization of a battery of three or more tests to determine the presence of psychosis, dementia, amnesia, cognitive impairment, or criminal behavior.

Professional clinical counselors shall refer clients to other licensed health care professionals when they identify issues beyond their own scope of education, training, and experience.

COLORADO

“LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR” means a professional counselor who practices professional counseling or mental health counseling and who is licensed pursuant to this part 6.

“CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING” includes:

- a. Assessment, counseling activities, consultation, and referral; and
- b. Treatment, diagnosis, testing, assessment, psychotherapy, or counseling in a professional relationship to assist individuals or groups to alleviate mental and emotional disorders, understand unconscious or conscious motivation, resolve emotional, relationship, or attitudinal conflicts, or modify behaviors that interfere with effective emotional, social, or intellectual functioning.

“PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING” means:

- a. Those activities that assist the person receiving counseling in developing an understanding of personal, emotional, social, educational, alcohol and substance abuse, domestic violence, and vocational development and in planning and effecting actions to increase functioning or gain control of his or her behavior in such areas. Such activities include, but are not limited to, skill-building in communications, decision-making, and problem-solving, clarifying values, promoting adaptation to loss and other life changes, developing social skills, restructuring cognitive patterns, defining educational and career goals, and facilitating adjustment to personal crises and conflicts;
- b. The selecting, administering, scoring, and interpreting of instruments designed to measure aptitudes, attitudes, abilities, achievements, interests, emotions, and other personal characteristics and includes the application of nonstandardized methods, such as interviews, to evaluate a person receiving counseling and to evaluate such personal and social functioning;
- c. A voluntary relationship between a counselor and a client in which the counselor assists a person, couple, group, or organization to cope with matters that include relationships, conflicts, problem-solving, decision-making, and competencies by interpreting, reporting on, or applying counseling theory; and
- d. Rendering of or offering to render counseling services that facilitate effective personal, emotional, social, educational, and vocational development in individuals, couples, groups, and organizations, with an emphasis on the natural aspects of human development and with an educational orientation.

CONNECTICUT

“PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING” means the application, by persons trained in counseling, of established principles of psycho-social development and behavioral science to the evaluation, assessment, analysis and treatment of emotional, behavioral or interpersonal dysfunction or difficulties that interfere with mental health and human development. “Professional counseling” includes,

but is not limited to, individual, group, marriage and family counseling, functional assessments for persons adjusting to a disability, appraisal, crisis intervention and consultation with individuals or groups.

DELAWARE

“LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR OF MENTAL HEALTH” (LPCMH) is an individual licensed as a professional counselor of mental health under this chapter who publicly offers to render to individuals, groups, organizations or the general public a service involving the application of clinical counseling principles, methods or procedures and the diagnosis and treatment of mental and emotional disorders to assist individuals in achieving more effective personal and social adjustment.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

“PRACTICE OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING” means engaging in counseling activities, for compensation, by a person who represents, by title or description of services, that he or she is a “professional counselor” or “licensed professional counselor,” and includes the processes of: (a) conducting assessments for the purpose of determining treatment goals and objectives; (b) assisting clients through a professional relationship to achieve effective mental, emotional, physical, social, educational, or career development and adjustment throughout the life span; and (c) using counseling treatment interventions to facilitate human development and to identify and remediate mental, emotional, or behavioral conditions and associated difficulties which interfere with functional wellness.

FLORIDA

“PRACTICE OF MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING” is defined as the use of scientific and applied behavioral science theories, methods, and techniques for the purpose of describing, preventing, and treating undesired behavior and enhancing mental health and human development and is based on the person-in-situation perspectives derived from research and theory in personality, family, group, and organizational dynamics and development, career planning, cultural diversity, human growth and development, human sexuality, normal and abnormal behavior, psychopathology, psychotherapy, and rehabilitation. The practice of mental health counseling includes methods of a psychological nature used to evaluate, assess, diagnose, and treat emotional and mental dysfunctions or disorders (whether cognitive, affective, or behavioral), behavioral disorders, interpersonal relationships, sexual dysfunction, alcoholism, and substance abuse. The practice of mental health counseling includes, but is not limited to, psychotherapy, hypnotherapy, and sex therapy. The practice of mental health counseling also includes counseling, behavior modification, consultation, client-centered advocacy, crisis intervention, and the provision of needed information and education to clients, when using methods of a psychological nature to evaluate, assess, diagnose, treat, and prevent emotional and mental disorders and dysfunctions (whether cognitive, affective, or behavioral), behavioral disorders, sexual dysfunction, alcoholism, or substance abuse. The practice of mental health counseling may also include clinical research into more effective psychotherapeutic modalities for the

treatment and prevention of such conditions.

- a. Mental health counseling may be rendered to individuals, including individuals affected by the termination of marriage, and to couples, families, groups, organizations, and communities.
- b. The use of specific methods, techniques, or modalities within the practice of mental health counseling is restricted to mental health counselors appropriately trained in the use of such methods, techniques, or modalities.
- c. The terms "diagnose" and "treat," as used in this chapter, when considered in isolation or in conjunction with any provision of the rules of the board, shall not be construed to permit the performance of any act which mental health counselors are not educated and trained to perform, including, but not limited to, admitting persons to hospitals for treatment of the foregoing conditions, treating persons in hospitals without medical supervision, prescribing medicinal drugs as defined in chapter 465, authorizing clinical laboratory procedures pursuant to chapter 483, A49 or radiological procedures, or use of electroconvulsive therapy. In addition, this definition shall not be construed to permit any person licensed, provisionally licensed, registered, or certified pursuant to this chapter to describe or label any test, report, or procedure as "psychological," except to relate specifically to the definition of practice authorized in this subsection.
- d. The definition of "mental health counseling" contained in this subsection includes all services offered directly to the general public or through organizations, whether public or private, and applies whether payment is requested or received for services rendered.

GEORGIA

“PRACTICE OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING” means practice in that specialty which utilizes counseling and psychotherapy to evaluate and treat emotional and mental problems and conditions, whether cognitive, behavioral, or affective.

“PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING” means that specialty which utilizes counseling techniques based on principles, methods, and procedures of counseling that assist people in identifying and resolving personal, social, vocational, intrapersonal and interpersonal concerns; utilizes counseling and psychotherapy to evaluate and treat emotional and mental problems and conditions, whether cognitive, behavioral, or affective; administers and interprets educational and vocational assessment instruments and other tests which the professional counselor is qualified to employ by virtue of education, training, and experience; utilizes information and community resources for personal, social, or vocational development; utilizes individual and group techniques for facilitating problem solving, decision making, and behavior change; utilizes functional assessment and vocational planning and guidance for persons requesting assistance in adjustment to a disability or disabling condition; utilizes referral for persons who request counseling services; and utilizes and interprets counseling research.

HAWAII

“PRACTICE OF MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING” means the rendering of professional counseling services based on specialized education, training, and experience to individuals, families, or groups for compensation, monetary or otherwise. These professional counseling services include applying the restrictive principles, methods, and theories of counseling human development, learning theory, group and family dynamics, rehabilitation, and the etiology of mental illness and dysfunctional behavior, and defining goals and developing a treatment plan of action aimed toward the prevention, treatment, and resolution of mental and emotional dysfunction and intra or interpersonal disorders to all persons irrespective of diagnosis. “Practice of mental health counseling” includes but is not limited to:

- a. The assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of, and counseling for, mental and emotional disorders;
- b. The assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of, and counseling for, substance abuse and conduct disorders defined in the approved diagnostic and statistical manual for mental disorders;
- c. The application of educational techniques aimed at the prevention of these disorders; and
- d. The provision of consultative services to individuals, couples, families, groups, organization, and communities.

IDAHO

“PRACTICE OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING” means the application of mental health, psychological, and human development principles in order to facilitate human development and adjustment throughout the life span; prevent, assess, human development and adjustment throughout the life span; prevent, assess, and treat mental, emotional or behavioral disorders and associated distresses which interfere with mental health; conduct assessments for the purpose of establishing treatment goals and objectives; and plan, implement and evaluate treatment plans using counseling treatment interventions. "Counseling treatment interventions" means the application of cognitive, affective, behavioral, and systemic counseling strategies, which include principles of development, wellness and pathology that reflect a pluralistic society. Such interventions are specifically implemented in the context of a professional counseling relationship. The practice of professional counseling includes, but is not limited to:

- a. Individual, group, marriage and family counseling and therapy;
- b. Assessment;
- c. Crisis intervention;
- d. Treatment of persons with mental and emotional disorders;
- e. Guidance and consulting to facilitate normal growth and development, including educational and career development;

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

- f. Utilization of functional assessment and counseling for persons requesting assistance in adjustment to a disability or handicapping condition;
- g. Consulting;
- h. Research; and
- i. Referral.

ILLINOIS

“CLINICAL PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING” means the provision of professional counseling and mental health services, which includes, but is not limited to, the application of clinical counseling theory and techniques to prevent and alleviate mental and emotional disorders and psychopathology and to promote optimal mental health, rehabilitation, treatment, testing, assessment, and evaluation. It also includes clinical counseling and psychotherapy in a professional relationship to assist individuals, couples, families, groups, and organizations to alleviate emotional disorders, to understand conscious and unconscious motivation, to resolve emotional, relationship, and attitudinal conflicts, and to modify behaviors that interfere with effective emotional, social, adaptive, and intellectual functioning.

“PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING” means the provision of services to individuals, couples, groups, families, and organizations in any one or more of the fields of professional counseling. Professional counseling includes, but is not limited to:

- 1.) social, emotional, educational, and career testing and evaluation;
- 2.) a professional relationship between a counselor and a client in which the counselor provides assistance in coping with life issues that include relationships, conflicts, problem solving, decision making, and developmental concerns; and
- 3.) research.

Professional counseling may also include clinical professional counseling as long as it is not conducted in independent private practice as defined in this Act.

INDIANA

“PRACTICE OF MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING” means a specialty that:

- a. Uses counseling and psychotherapeutic techniques based on principles, methods, and procedures of counseling that assist people in identifying and resolving personal, social, vocational, intrapersonal, and interpersonal concerns;

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

- b. Uses counseling to evaluate and treat emotional and mental problems and conditions in a variety of settings, including mental and physical health facilities, child and family service agencies, or private practice, and including the use of accepted evaluation classifications, including classifications from the American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-IV) as amended and supplemented, but only to the extent of the counselor's education, training, experience, and scope of practice as established by this article;
- c. Administers and interprets appraisal instruments that the mental health counselor is qualified to employ by virtue of the counselor's education, training, and experience;
- d. Uses information and community resources for personal, social, or vocational development;
- e. Uses individual and group techniques for facilitating problem solving, decision making, and behavioral change;
- f. Uses functional assessment and vocational planning guidance for persons requesting assistance in adjustment to a disability or disabling condition;
- g. Uses referrals for individuals who request counseling services; and
- h. Uses and interprets counseling research.

The term does not include diagnosis (as defined in IC 25-22.5-1-1.1(c)).

IOWA

“MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING” means the provision of counseling services involving assessment, referral, consultation, and the application of counseling, human development principles, learning theory, group dynamics, and the etiology of maladjustment and dysfunctional behavior to individuals, families, and groups.

KANSAS

“LICENSED CLINICAL PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING” means a person who engages in the independent practice of professional counseling including the diagnosis and treatment of mental disorders specified in the edition of the diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders of the American psychiatric association designated by the board by rules and regulations and who is licensed under this act.

“PRACTICE OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING” means assisting an individual or group for a fee, monetary or otherwise, through counseling, assessment, consultation and referral and includes the diagnosis and treatment of mental disorders as authorized under the professional counselors licensure act.

- a. "Assessment" means selecting, administering, scoring and interpreting instruments designed to describe an individual's aptitudes, abilities, achievements, interests and personal characteristics.
- b. "Consultation" means the application of principles, methods and techniques of the practice of counseling to assist in solving current or potential problems of individuals or groups in relation to a third party.
- c. "Referral" means the evaluation of information to identify problems and to determine the advisability of referral to other practitioners.

“PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING” means to assist an individual or group to develop understanding of personal strengths and weaknesses, to restructure concepts and feelings, to define goals and to plan actions as these are related to personal, social, educational and career development and adjustment.

KENTUCKY

“PRACTICE OF COUNSELING” means professional counseling services within the scope of Section 2 of this administrative regulation and which involve the application of mental health and development principals, methods or procedures, including assessment, evaluation, diagnosis, and treatment of emotional disorders or mental illnesses, to assist individuals to achieve more effective personal, social, educational, or career development and adjustment.

Section 2. Requirements for the Practice of Professional Counseling. (1) The practice of professional counseling shall be based on knowledge of interpersonal, cognitive behavioral, psychodynamics, human relations, crisis intervention, psychopathology, group dynamics, and effective methods and strategies necessary to help the client achieve mental, vocational, emotional, physical, social, moral, and spiritual development and adjustment throughout the client's life span. (2) A practitioner of professional counseling shall possess and utilize numerous skills, including skills necessary to apply professional counseling services relative to the following areas:

- a. The helping relationship, including counseling theory and practice;
- b. Human growth and development;
- c. Lifestyle and career development;
- d. Group dynamics, process, counseling, and consulting;
- e. Assessment, appraisal, and testing of individuals;
- f. Social and cultural foundation, including multicultural issues;

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

- g. Principles of etiology, diagnosis, treatment planning, and prevention of mental and emotional disorders and dysfunctional behavior;
- h. Research and evaluation; and
- i. Professional orientation and ethics.

LOUISIANA

“LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR” means any person who holds oneself out to the public for a fee or other personal gain, by any title or description of services incorporating the words “licensed professional counselor” or any similar term, and who offers to render professional mental health counseling/psychotherapy services denoting a client-counselor relationship in which the counselor assumes the responsibility, knowledge, skill, and ethical consideration needed to assist individuals, groups, organizations, or the general public, and who implies that he/she is licensed to practice mental health counseling.

PRACTICE OF MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING/PSYCHOTHERAPY” means rendering or offering prevention, assessment, diagnosis, and treatment, which includes psychotherapy of mental, emotional, behavioral, and addiction disorders to individuals, groups, organizations, or the general public by a licensed professional counselor, which is consistent with his professional training as prescribed by R.S. 37:1107(A)(8), and code of ethics/behavior involving the application of principles, methods, or procedures of the mental health counseling profession which includes but is not limited to:

- a. assisting an individual or group through psychotherapy by rendering or offering prevention, assessment, diagnosis, and treatment, which includes psychotherapy of mental, emotional, behavioral, and addiction disorders. This professional relationship empowers diverse individuals, families, and groups to accomplish mental health, wellness, education, and career goals.

MAINE

“CLINICAL PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR” means a professional counselor who renders or offers to render for a fee, monetary or otherwise, to individuals, families, groups, organizations or the general public, a counseling service involving the application of the principles and procedures of counseling to assess and treat intrapersonal and interpersonal problems and other dysfunctional behaviors and to assist in the overall development and adjustment of those served.

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

“PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR” means a person who, for a fee, monetary or otherwise, renders or offers to render to individuals, families, groups, organizations or the general public a service involving the application of principles and procedures of counseling to assist those served in achieving more effective personal, emotional, social, educational and vocational development and adjustment.

“PROCEDURES OF COUNSELING” means methods and techniques that include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. "Assessment" means selecting, administering and interpreting instruments designed to assess personal, interpersonal and group characteristics.
- b. "Consulting" means the application of scientific principles and procedures in counseling to provide assistance in understanding and solving a current or potential problem that the client may have in relation to a 3rd party, be it an individual, a family, a group or an organization.
- c. "Counseling" means assisting individuals, families or groups through the counseling relationship to develop understanding of intrapersonal and interpersonal problems, to define goals, to make decisions, to plan a course of action reflecting their needs, and to use information and community resources, as these procedures are related to personal, social, educational and vocational development.
- d. "Referral" means the evaluation of information to identify needs or problems of the counselee and to determine the advisability of referral to other specialists, informing the counselee of that judgment, and communicating as requested or deemed appropriate with referral sources.

MARYLAND

“PRACTICE OF CLINICAL PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING” means to engage professionally and for compensation in counseling and appraisal activities by providing services involving the application of counseling principles and methods in the diagnosis, prevention, treatment, and amelioration of psychological problems and emotional or mental conditions of individuals or groups.

“PRACTICE OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING” means to engage professionally and for compensation in counseling and appraisal activities while representing oneself to be a professional counselor.

“COUNSELING” means assisting an individual, family, or group through the client-counselor relationship:

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

- a. To develop understanding of intrapersonal and interpersonal problems;
- b. To define goals;
- c. To make decisions;
- d. To plan a course of action reflecting the needs, interests, and abilities of the individual, family, or group; and
- e. To use informational and community resources, as these procedures are related to personal, social, emotional, educational, and vocational development and adjustment.

MASSACHUSETTS

“PRACTICE OF MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING” means the rendering of professional services to individuals, families or groups for compensation, monetary or otherwise. These professional services include: applying the principles, methods, and theories of counseling, human development, learning theory, group and family dynamics, the etiology of mental illness and dysfunctional behavior and psychotherapeutic techniques to define goals and develop a treatment plan of action aimed toward the prevention, treatment and resolution of mental and emotional dysfunction and intra or interpersonal disorders to all persons irrespective of diagnosis. The practice of mental health counseling includes, but is not limited to, assessment, diagnosis and treatment, counseling and psychotherapy, of a nonmedical nature of mental and emotional disorders, psychoeducational techniques aimed at prevention of such disorders, and consultation to individuals, couples, families, groups, organizations and communities.

MICHIGAN

“PRACTICE OF COUNSELING” or **“COUNSELING”** means the rendering to individuals, groups, families, organizations, or the general public a service involving the application of clinical counseling principles, methods, or procedures for the purpose of achieving social, personal, career, and emotional development and with the goal of promoting and enhancing healthy self-actualizing and satisfying lifestyles whether the services are rendered in an educational, business, health, private practice, or human services setting. The practice of counseling does not include the practice of psychology except for those preventive techniques, counseling techniques, or behavior modification techniques for which the licensed professional counselor or limited licensed counselor has been specifically trained. The practice of counseling does not include the practice of medicine such as prescribing drugs or administering electroconvulsive therapy.

“COUNSELING PRINCIPLES, METHODS, OR PROCEDURES” means a developmental approach that systematically assists an individual through the application of any of the following procedures: Evaluation and appraisal techniques. As used in this subparagraph, “appraisal techniques” means selecting, administering, scoring, and interpreting instruments and procedures designed to assess an individual's aptitudes, interests, attitudes, abilities, achievements, and personal characteristics for developmental purposes and not for psychodiagnostic purposes.

- a. Exploring alternative solutions.

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

- c. Developing and providing a counseling plan for mental and emotional development.
- d. Guidance.
- e. Psychoeducational consulting.
- f. Learning theory.
- g. Individual and group techniques emphasizing prevention.
- h. Counseling techniques.
- i. Behavioral modification techniques.
- j. Referrals. As used in this subparagraph, referral includes determining the need for referral to 1 or more statutorily regulated mental health professionals whose expertise, skills, and competence are appropriate to the problems of the individual, informing the individual of the referral, and communicating as appropriate with the professional to whom the individual has been referred.

“COUNSELING TECHNIQUES” means the application of basic counseling and psychotherapy skills and theories in the counseling process in order to do all of the following:

- a. Establish and maintain the counseling relationship.
- b. Diagnose and identify the problem.
- c. Formulate a preventive, treatment, or rehabilitative plan.
- d. Facilitate appropriate interventions.

MINNESOTA

LPCC

“MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL” means a person providing clinical services in the treatment of mental illness of adults or providing clinical services in the diagnosis and treatment of children’s emotional disorders. A mental health professional must have training and experience in working with children consistent with the age group to which the mental health professional is assigned. LPCCs are included in the definition of mental health professional in Minnesota law. LPCC licensure requires, among other things, clinical coursework in specified areas, a master’s or doctoral degree in counseling or related field, and 4,000 hours of post-master’s supervised experience in the delivery of clinical services in the treatment of mental illness.

LPC

“LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING” means the application of counseling, human development, and mental health research, principles, and procedures to maintain and enhance the mental health, development, personal and interpersonal effectiveness, and adjustment to work and life of individuals and families.

“SCOPE OF PRACTICE”

The scope of practice of a licensed professional clinical counselor and licensed professional counselor includes, but is not limited to:

- a. The implementation of professional counseling treatment interventions including evaluation, treatment planning, assessment, and referral;
- b. Direct counseling services to individuals, groups, and families;
- c. Counseling strategies that effectively respond to multicultural populations;
- d. Knowledge of relevant laws and ethics impacting practice;
- e. Crisis intervention;
- f. Consultation; and
- g. Program evaluation and applied research.

MISSISSIPPI

“COUNSELING/PSYCHOTHERAPY PROCEDURES” counseling/psychotherapy is the application of mental health, psychological, or human development principles, through cognitive, affective, behavioral, or systemic intervention strategies that address wellness, personal growth, or career development, as well as pathology. Counseling/psychotherapy involves diagnoses, assessment, and treatment by use of counseling/psychotherapy methods and techniques, both verbal and nonverbal, which require the application of principles, methods, or procedures of understanding, predicting and/or influencing behavior or motivation; the use of informational and community resources for personal or social development; the use of group and/or placement methods and techniques which serve to further the goals of counseling/psychotherapy; designing, conducting and interpreting research on human subjects and on any consultation on any item above; appraisal techniques including, but not limited to, testing of achievement, abilities, interests, aptitudes and personality.

Note: The terms counseling and psychotherapy are used interchangeably throughout this document.

MISSOURI

“PRACTICE OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING” means rendering, offering to render, or supervising those who render to individuals, couples, groups, organizations, institutions, corporations, schools, government agencies, or the general public any counseling service involving the application of counseling procedures, and the principles and methods thereof, to assist in achieving more effective intrapersonal or interpersonal, marital, decisional, social, educational, vocational, developmental, or rehabilitative adjustments; “Professional counseling”, includes, but is not limited to:

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

- a. The use of verbal or nonverbal counseling or both techniques, methods, or procedures based on principles for assessing, understanding, or influencing behavior (such as principles of learning, conditioning, perception, motivation, thinking, emotions, or social systems);
- b. Appraisal or assessment, which means selecting, administering, scoring, or interpreting instruments designed to assess a person's or group's aptitudes, intelligence, attitudes, abilities, achievement, interests, and personal characteristics;
- c. The use of referral or placement techniques or both which serve to further the goals of counseling;
- d. Therapeutic vocational or personal or both rehabilitation in relation to coping with or adapting to physical disability, emotional disability, or intellectual disability or any combination of the three;
- e. Designing, conducting, and interpreting research;
- f. The use of group methods or techniques to promote the goals of counseling;
- g. The use of informational and community resources for career, personal, or social development;
- h. Consultation on any item in paragraphs (a) through (g) above; and
- i. No provision of sections 337.500 to 337.540, or of chapter 354 or 375, RSMo, shall be construed to mandate benefits or third-party reimbursement for services of professional counselors in the policies or contracts of any insurance company, health services corporation or other third-party payer.

MONTANA

“PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING” means engaging in methods and techniques that include:

- a. Counseling, which means the therapeutic process of:
 - Conducting assessments and diagnoses for the purpose of establishing treatment goals and objectives; or Planning, implementing, and evaluating treatment plans that use treatment interventions to facilitate human development and to identify and remediate mental, emotional, or behavioral disorders and associated distresses that interfere with mental health;

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

- b. Assessment, which means selecting, administering, scoring, and interpreting instruments designed to assess an individual's aptitudes, attitudes, abilities, achievement, interests, and personal characteristics and using nonstandardized methods and techniques for understanding human behavior in relation to coping with, adapting to, or changing life situations;
- c. Counseling treatment intervention, which means those cognitive, affective, behavioral, and systemic counseling strategies, techniques, and methods common to the behavioral sciences that are specifically implemented in the context of a therapeutic relationship. Other treatment interventions include developmental counseling, guidance, and consulting to facilitate normal growth and development, including educational and career development; and
- d. Referral, which means evaluating information to identify needs or problems of an individual and to determine the advisability of referral to other specialists, informing the individual of the judgment, and communicating as requested or considered appropriate with the referral sources.

NEBRASKA

LIMHP

“INDEPENDENT MENTAL HEALTH PRACTICE” means the provision of treatment, assessment, psychotherapy, counseling, or equivalent activities to individuals, couples, families, or groups for behavioral, cognitive, social, mental, or emotional disorders, including interpersonal or personal situations. This includes diagnosing major mental illness or disorder, using psychotherapy with individuals suspected of having major mental or emotional disorders, or using psychotherapy to treat the concomitants of organic illness, with or without consultation with a qualified physician or licensed psychologist. Independent mental health practice does not include the practice of psychology or medicine, prescribing drugs or electroconvulsive therapy, treating physical disease, injury, or deformity, or measuring personality or intelligence for the purpose of diagnosis or treatment planning.

LMHP

“MENTAL HEALTH PRACTICE” means the provision of treatment, assessment, psychotherapy, counseling, or equivalent activities to individuals, couples, families, or groups for behavioral, cognitive, social, mental, or emotional disorders, including interpersonal or personal situations; and includes the initial assessment of organic mental or emotional disorders for the purpose of referral or consultation. Mental health practice does not include:

- a. the practice of psychology or medicine;
- b. prescribing drugs or electroconvulsive therapy;
- c. treating physical disease, injury, or deformity;
- d. diagnosing major mental illness or disorder except in consultation with a qualified physician, licensed clinical psychologist or licensed independent mental health practitioner;
- e. measuring personality or intelligence for the purpose of diagnosis or treatment planning;

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

- f. using psychotherapy with individuals suspected of having major mental or emotional disorders except in consultation with a qualified physician, licensed clinical psychologist or licensed independent mental health practitioner; or using psychotherapy to treat the concomitants of organic illness except in consultation with a qualified physician or licensed clinical psychologist.

“PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING” means the assessment and treatment of mental and emotional disorders within the context of professional counseling theory and practice of individuals, couples, families, or groups for remuneration and includes, but is not limited to:

- a. Assisting individuals or groups through the counseling relationship to develop understanding, define goals, plan action, and change behavior with the goal of reflecting interests, abilities, aptitudes, and needs as they are related to personal and social concerns, educational progress, and occupations;
- b. Appraisal activities which means selecting, administering, scoring, and interpreting instruments designed to assess a person's aptitudes, attitudes, abilities, achievements, interests, and personal characteristics, except that nothing in this subdivision authorizes a certified professional counselor to engage in the practice of clinical psychology as defined in the Psychology Practice Act;
- c. Referral activities which evaluate data to identify which persons or groups may better be served by other specialists;
- d. Research activities which means reporting, designing, conducting, or consulting on research in counseling with human subjects;
- e. Therapeutic, vocational, or personal rehabilitation in relationship to adapting to physical, emotional, or intellectual disability; and
- f. Consulting on any activity listed in this section.

NEVADA

“PRACTICE OF CLINICAL PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING” means the treatment, assessment and counseling or equivalent activities, to a person or group of persons to achieve mental, emotional, physical and social development and adjustment. The term, as defined by legislation, includes counseling interventions to prevent, diagnose and treat emotional or behavioral disorders which interfere with mental health. The term does not include:

- The practice of psychology or medicine;
- 1. The prescription of drugs or electroconvulsive therapy;

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

2. The treatment of physical disease, injury or deformity;
3. The diagnosis or treatment of a psychotic disorder;
4. The use of projective techniques in the assessment of personality;
5. The use of psychological, neuropsychological or clinical tests designed to identify or classify abnormal or pathological human behavior;
6. The use of individually administered intelligence tests, academic achievement tests or neuropsychological tests;
or
7. The use of psychotherapy to treat the concomitants of organic illness except in consultation with a qualified physician or licensed clinical psychologist.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

“MENTAL HEALTH PRACTITIONER” means persons licensed under this chapter as psychologists, pastoral psychotherapists, clinical social workers, clinical mental health counselors, or marriage and family therapists. For purposes of this chapter, the term clinical social worker shall include independent clinical social worker.

“MENTAL HEALTH PRACTICE” means the observation, description, evaluation, interpretation, diagnosis, and modification of human behavior by the application of psychological and systems principles, methods, and procedures for the purpose of preventing or eliminating symptomatic, maladapted, or undesirable behavior and of enhancing interpersonal relationships, work and life adjustments, personal effectiveness, behavioral health, and mental health, as well as the diagnosis and treatment of the psychological and social aspects of physical illness, accident, injury, or disability. Mental health practice may include, but shall not be limited to, those services based on diagnosis and treatment of mental and emotional disorders and psycho-educational or consultative techniques integral to the treatment of such disorders when diagnosis is specified in the most current edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*, published by the American Psychiatric Association, or an equivalent of such manual as determined by the board. Notwithstanding any other provision to the contrary, no person licensed or registered under this chapter shall assess the need for medications, prescribe medications, or otherwise practice medicine as defined in RSA 329.

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

“SCOPE OF PRACTICE” means assessment, diagnosis, consultation, treatment recommendations and treatment of a person with a diagnosis or a concern specified in the current edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual* of the American Psychiatric Association (DSM) in accordance with RSA 330-A: 1.

NEW JERSEY

“PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING SERVICES” means the application of mental health and human development principles in order to facilitate human development and adjustment throughout the lifespan; clinically assess and evaluate mental, emotional, and associated distresses which interfere with mental health and development; conduct assessments and evaluations for the purpose of establishing goals and objectives; and plan, implement, and evaluate counseling interventions.

“SCOPE OF PRACTICE”

The scope of practice of a licensed professional counselor includes, but is not limited to, counseling, counseling interventions, appraisal and assessment, consulting, referral and research activities.

NEW MEXICO

“PRACTICE OF PROFESSIONAL CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING” means the application of mental health, psychotherapeutic and human development principles through a therapeutic relationship to:

- a. achieve the mental, emotional, physical, social, moral, educational, spiritual or career-related development and adjustment of the client throughout the client's life;
- b. diagnose, evaluate, prevent and treat mental, emotional or behavioral disorders and associated distresses that interfere with mental health;
- c. conduct appraisal, assessments and evaluations to establish treatment goals and objectives; and
- d. plan, implement and evaluate treatment plans using counseling treatment interventions and strategies.

NEW YORK

“PRACTICE OF MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING”

The practice of the profession of mental health counseling is defined as:

- a. The evaluation, assessment, amelioration, treatment, modification, or adjustment to a disability, problem, or disorder of behavior, character, development, emotion, personality or relationships by the use of verbal or behavioral methods with individuals, couples, families or groups in private practice, group, or organized settings; and
- b. The use of assessment instruments and mental health counseling and psychotherapy to identify, evaluate and treat dysfunctions and disorders for purposes of providing appropriate mental health counseling services.

NORTH CAROLINA

“PRACTICE OF COUNSELING” means holding oneself out to the public as a professional counselor offering counseling services that include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. Counseling. --Assisting individuals, groups, and families through the counseling relationship by evaluating and treating mental disorders and other conditions through the use of a combination of clinical mental health and human development principles, methods, diagnostic procedures, treatment plans, and other psychotherapeutic techniques, to develop an understanding of personal problems, to define goals, and to plan action reflecting the client's interests, abilities, aptitudes, and mental health needs as these are related to personal-social-emotional concerns, educational progress, and occupations and careers.
- b. Appraisal Activities. --Administering and interpreting tests for assessment of personal characteristics.
- c. Consulting. --Interpreting scientific data and providing guidance and personnel services to individuals, groups, or organizations.
- d. Referral Activities. --Identifying problems requiring referral to other specialists.
- e. Research Activities. --Designing, conducting, and interpreting research with human subjects.

NORTH DAKOTA

“CLINICAL COUNSELING” means providing clinical mental health counseling services involving the application of principles of human development, learning theory, psychotherapy, group dynamics, and the etiology of mental illness and dysfunctional behavior to

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

individuals, couples, families, and groups for the purpose of promoting optimal mental health, dealing with normal problems of living, and treating psychopathic disorders. Clinical counseling includes diagnosis and treatment of emotional and mental disorders; psycho-educational techniques aimed at the prevention of emotional and mental disorders; consultations to individuals, couples, families, groups, organizations, and communities; and clinical research into more effective psycho-therapeutic modalities.

“COUNSELING” means the application of human development and mental health principles in a therapeutic process and professional relationship to assist individuals, couples, families, and groups in achieving more effective emotional, mental, marital, family, and social or educational development and adjustment. The goals of professional counseling are to:

- a. Facilitate human development and adjustment throughout the life span;
- b. Prevent, assess, and treat emotional, mental, or behavioral disorder and distress which interferes with mental health;
- c. Conduct assessments for the purpose of establishing treatment goals and objectives; and
- d. Plan, implement, and evaluate treatment plans using professional counseling strategies and interventions.

OHIO

“SCOPE OF PRACTICE FOR A PROFESSIONAL CLINICAL COUNSELOR”

A professional clinical counselor may for a fee, salary, or other considerations:

- a. Engage in all practices, principles, methods, and procedures permitted under the scope of practice for a Professional Counselor.
- b. Engage, as a private practitioner, in the unsupervised diagnosis and treatment of mental and emotional disorders as defined in division (F) of section 4757.01 of the Revised Code.
- c. Independently, as an employee of an agency, without supervision, perform or approve a diagnosis and/or develop or approve a treatment plan as required for record keeping, insurance purposes, accreditation, or governmental requirements.
- d. Provide work supervision for professional counselors, social workers, social worker temporaries, assistant social workers, and marriage and family therapists; and supervision of chemical dependency counselors and prevention specialists as specified in chapter 4758 of the Revised Code; and training supervision for students, registered counselor trainees and registered clinical residents.

“CLINICAL COUNSELING PRINCIPLES, METHODS, OR PROCEDURES” means an approach to counseling that emphasizes the counselor’s role in systematically assisting clients through all of the following: assessing and analyzing background

and current information, diagnosing mental and emotional disorders, exploring possible solutions, and developing and providing a treatment plan for mental and emotional adjustment or development. “Clinical counseling principles, methods, or procedures” includes at least counseling, appraisal, consulting, and referral.

“SCOPE OF PRACTICE FOR A PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR”

A professional counselor as a private practitioner or an employee of an agency may for a fee, or salary, or other considerations:

- a. “Engage in the practice of professional counseling,” means to render to individuals, groups, organizations, or the general public counseling services involving the application of clinical counseling principles, methods, or procedures to assist individuals in achieving more effective personal, social, educational, or career development and adjustment. The practice of professional counseling does not include the diagnosis and treatment of mental and emotional disorders unless the individual is licensed as a professional clinical counselor or is supervised by a professional clinical counselor, a psychologist, psychiatrist, or an independent social worker.
- b. “Apply clinical counseling principles, methods, and procedures,” means an approach to counseling that emphasizes the counselor’s role in systematically assisting clients through all of the following: Assessing and analyzing emotional conditions, exploring possible solutions, and developing and providing a treatment plan for mental and emotional adjustment or development. It may include counseling, appraisal, consulting, supervision, administration and referral.
- c. Provide diagnosis and treatment of mental and emotional conditions not attributable to mental and emotional disorders as defined in division (F) of section 4757.01 of the Revised Code.
- d. Engage in the diagnosis and treatment of mental and emotional disorders as the employee of a private practitioner or an agency when under the supervision of a professional clinical counselor, psychologist, psychiatrist, or independent social worker.
- e. Provide training supervision for students and registered counselor trainees when services are within their scope of practice, which does not include supervision of the diagnosis and treatment of mental and emotional disorders.

OKLAHOMA

“COUNSELING” means the application of mental health and developmental principles in order to:

- a. Facilitate human development and adjustment throughout the life span;
- b. Prevent, diagnose or treat mental, emotional or behavioral disorders or associated distress which interfere with mental health;
- c. Conduct assessments or diagnoses for the purpose of establishing treatment goals and objectives; and

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

- d. Plan, implement or evaluate treatment plans using counseling treatment interventions.

OREGON

“PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING” means counseling services provided to individuals, couples, families, children, groups, organizations or the general public through the therapeutic relationship, developing understanding of personal problems, defining goals and planning action reflecting interests, abilities, aptitudes and needs as these relate to problems and concerns in personal, social, educational, rehabilitation and career adjustments. “Professional counseling” includes, but is not limited to:

- a. Application of counseling theories and techniques designed to assist clients with current or potential problems and to facilitate change in thinking, feeling and behaving.
- b. Research activities including reporting, designing, conducting or consulting on research in counseling with human subjects.
- c. Referral activities including the referral to other specialists.
- d. Consulting activities which apply counseling procedures and interpersonal skills to provide assistance in solving problems that a client may have in relation to an individual, group or organization.
- e. Record keeping activities, including documentation of counseling treatment or therapeutic services.

PENNSYLVANIA

“PRACTICE OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING” includes all of the following:

- a. The application of principles and practices of counseling, mental health and human development to evaluate and facilitate human growth and adjustment throughout the life span and to prevent and treat mental, emotional or behavioral disorders and associated stresses which interfere with mental health and normal human growth and development.
- b. The evaluation and assessment of normal and abnormal mental, emotional, social, educational, vocational, family and behavioral functioning throughout the life span; individual, group, family counseling and psychotherapy; crisis intervention, career counseling and educational and vocational counseling; functional assessment of persons with disabilities; and professional consulting.
- c. Professional counselors' utilization of verbal and nonverbal approaches and specialization in the use of arts-based therapeutic approaches, such as art, dance, music or drama, to accomplish treatment objectives.

PUERTO RICO

“PRACTICE OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING” refers to dedicating oneself to exercising the profession by way of the use of methods and strategies that include, but are not limited to:

- a. Counseling, which signifies the process of helping, which occurs through an instant personal relationship in which one utilizes theories, principles, methods, and strategies based on scientific knowledge to promote the integral well-being of the people.
- b. Evaluation, which signifies the selection, administration, and interpretation of developed tools for evaluating personal characteristics and the utilization of technical methods for observation, measurement, and understanding human behavior in relation to the way to confront, adapt to, and alter life situations.
- c. Consultation, which signifies the application of theories, principles, and scientific processes of counseling and human development to provide help and understand and resolve the real or potential situations that a person creates in relation to another person or a group or organization.
- d. Referral, which signifies the recommendation to consult other specialists, after having identified and evaluated the needs of a client in order to determine the convenience of having verbal consultation and the coordination with the chosen specialist.
- e. Investigation, which signifies the systematic work of compilation, analysis, and interpretation of information or data using scientific, quantitative, or qualitative methods to describe the social characteristics, the behavior, and the interactions between people or organizations.

RHODE ISLAND

“THE PRACTICE OF CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING” means the rendering of professional services to individuals, families or groups for monetary compensation. These professional services would include:

- a. Applying the principals, methods and theories of counseling and/or psychotherapeutic techniques to define goals and develop a treatment plan of action aimed toward the prevention, treatment and resolution of social, mental, and emotional dysfunction and intra- or interpersonal disorders in persons diagnosed at intake as nonpsychotic and not presenting medical problems; and
- b. Engaging in psychotherapy of a nonmedical nature utilizing supervision when appropriate and making referrals to other psychiatric, psychological or medical resources when the person is diagnosed as psychotic or presenting a medical problem.

SOUTH CAROLINA

“PRACTICE OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING” means functioning as a psycho-therapist and may include, but is not limited to, providing individual therapy, family counseling, group therapy, marital counseling, play therapy, couples counseling, chemical abuse or dependency counseling, vocational counseling, school counseling, rehabilitation counseling, intervention, human growth and development counseling, behavioral modification counseling, and hypnotherapy. The practice of professional counseling may include assessment, crisis intervention, guidance and counseling to facilitate normal growth and development, including educational and career development; utilization of functional assessment and counseling for persons requesting assistance in adjustment to a disability or handicapping condition; and consultation and research. The use of specific methods, techniques, or modalities within the practice of licensed professional counseling is restricted to professional counselors appropriately trained in the use of these methods, techniques, or modalities.

“ASSESSMENT” in the practice of counseling and therapy means selecting, administering, scoring, and interpreting evaluative or standardized instruments; assessing, diagnosing, and treating, using standard diagnostic nomenclature, a client's attitudes, abilities, achievements, interests, personal characteristics, disabilities, and mental, emotional, and behavioral problems that are typical of the developmental life cycle; and the use of methods and techniques for understanding human behavior in relation to, coping with, adapting to, or changing life situations. A counselor may assess more serious problems as categorized in standard diagnostic nomenclature but only if the counselor has been specifically trained to assess and treat that particular problem. If a client presents with a problem which is beyond the counselor's training and competence, the counselor must refer that problem to a licensed professional who has been specifically trained to diagnose and treat the presenting problem. In all cases, ethical guidelines as established by the board must be followed.

SOUTH DAKOTA

LPC

“PRACTICE OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING” means the application of mental health, psychological, and human development principles in order to:

- a. facilitate human development and adjustment throughout the lifespan;
- b. prevent, diagnose, and treat mental, emotional, or behavioral disorders and associated distresses which interfere with mental health;
- c. conduct assessments and diagnoses for the purpose of establishing treatment goals and objectives; and
- d. plan, implement, and evaluate treatment plans using counseling treatment interventions.

LPC-MH

“MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING” means the practice of mental health counseling includes diagnosis and treatment of mental illness or mental and emotional disorders; individual, group, and marriage and family counseling, and psychotherapy; assessment;

crisis intervention; counseling and consulting to facilitate normal growth and development; psychoeducational techniques aimed at the prevention of mental and emotional disorders; consultations to individuals, couples, families, groups, organizations, and communities; and clinical research.

TENNESSEE

“PRACTICE OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING” (without the designation as a mental health service provider) means the rendering or offering to render to individuals, groups, organizations, or the general public any service involving the application of principles, techniques, methods, or procedures of the counseling profession, including appraisal activities, as defined by the law, counseling, consulting and referral activities. Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit the treatment of any mental, emotional or adjustment disorder other than marital problems, parent-child problems, child, and adolescent antisocial behavior, adult antisocial behavior, other specified family circumstances, other interpersonal problems, phase of life problems, other life circumstance problems, occupational problems, and uncomplicated bereavement.

“PRACTICE OF COUNSELING AS A MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDER” means the application of mental health and human development principles in order to:

- a. facilitate human development and adjustment throughout the life span;
- b. prevent, diagnose, and treat mental, emotional or behavioral disorders and associated disorders which interfere with mental health;
- c. conduct assessments and diagnoses for the purpose of establishing treatment goals and objectives within the limitations prescribed in T.C.A. § 63-22-150(1); and
- d. plan, implement, and evaluate treatment plans using counseling treatment interventions. Counseling treatment interventions shall mean the application of cognitive, affective, behavioral and systemic counseling strategies which include principles of development, wellness, and pathology that reflect a pluralistic society. Nothing in this definition shall be construed to permit the performance of any act which licensed professional counselors designated as mental health service providers are not educated and trained to perform, nor shall it be construed to permit the designation of testing reports as “psychological”.

“SCOPE OF PRACTICE”

(1) The following shall be considered necessary when addressing the scope of practice for professional counselors:

- a. Assisting an individual, through the counseling relationship, in a manner intended to facilitate normal human growth and development, using a combination of mental health and human development principles, methods and techniques, to achieve mental, emotional, physical, social, moral, educational, spiritual and/or career development and adjustment through the lifespan.

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

- b. Rendering or offering to render to individuals, groups, organizations, or the general public any service involving the application of principles, techniques, methods or procedures of the counseling profession, including appraisal activities, counseling, consulting and referral activities. Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit the treatment of any mental, emotional or adjustment disorder other than marital problems, parent-child problems, child and adolescent antisocial behavior, adult antisocial behavior, other specified family circumstances, other interpersonal problems, phase of life problems, other life circumstance problems, occupational problems, and uncomplicated bereavement.
- c. Selecting, administering, scoring, and interpreting instruments designed to assess an individual's aptitudes, achievements, or interests, which are used to understand, measure or facilitate such individual's normal human growth and development, but shall not include the use of projective techniques in the assessment of personality, nor the use of psychological or clinical tests designed to identify or classify abnormal or pathological human behavior, nor the use of individually administered intelligence tests. Consistent with each counselor's formal education and training, licensed or certified professional counselors may administer and utilize appropriate assessment instruments which measure and/or diagnose problems and/or dysfunctions within the context of human growth and development as part of the counseling process or in the development of a treatment plan.

(2) In addition to the provisions of paragraph (1), the following shall be considered necessary when addressing the scope of practice for professional counselors as a mental health service provider:

- a. Facilitate human development and adjustment throughout the life span;
- b. Prevent, diagnose, and treat mental, emotional or behavioral disorders and associated disorders which interfere with mental health;
- c. Conduct assessments and diagnoses for the purpose of establishing treatment goals and objectives within the limitations prescribed in T.C.A. § 63-22-150(1); and
- d. Plan, implement, and evaluate treatment plans using counseling treatment interventions. "Counseling treatment interventions" means the application of cognitive, affective, behavioral and systemic counseling strategies which include principles of development, wellness, and pathology that reflect a pluralistic society. Nothing in this definition shall be construed to permit the performance of any act which licensed professional counselors designated as mental health service providers are not educated and trained to perform, nor shall it be construed to permit the designation of testing reports as "psychological."

(3) Any person who engages in any unlawful act enumerated in these rules and T.C.A. §§ 63-22-101, et seq., is guilty of a Class B misdemeanor.

(4) Nothing in these rules shall be construed as permitting individuals registered with the board to administer or prescribe drugs or in any manner engage in the practice of medicine as defined by Tennessee law.

TEXAS

“PRACTICE OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING” is defined as the application of mental health, psychotherapeutic, and human development principles to facilitate human development and adjustment throughout the life span; prevent, assess, evaluate, and treat mental, emotional, or behavioral disorders and associated distresses that interfere with mental health; conduct assessments and evaluations to establish treatment goals and objectives; and plan, implement, and evaluate treatment plans using counseling treatment interventions that include:

1. "counseling" which means assisting one or more clients through the therapeutic relationship, using a combination of mental health and human development principles, methods, and techniques, including the use of psychotherapy, to achieve the mental, emotional, physical, social, moral, educational, spiritual, or career-related development and adjustment of the client throughout the client's life;
2. "assessment" which means selecting, administering, scoring, and interpreting instruments designed to assess an individual's aptitudes, attitudes, abilities, achievements, interests, personal characteristics, disabilities, and mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders and the use of methods and techniques for understanding human behavior that may include the evaluation, assessment, and treatment by counseling methods, techniques, and procedures for mental and emotional disorders, alcoholism and substance abuse, and conduct disorders, but does not include the use of standardized projective techniques or permit the diagnosis of a physical condition or disorder;
3. "consulting" which means the application of scientific principles and procedures in counseling and human development to provide assistance in understanding and solving current or potential problems that the person seeking consultation may have with regard to a third party, including an individual, group, or an organization; and
4. "referral" which means evaluating and identifying needs of a counselee to determine the advisability of referral to other specialists, informing the counselee of such judgement, and communicating as requested or deemed appropriate to such referral sources.

UTAH

“PRACTICE OF CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING” means the practice of mental health therapy by means of observation, description, evaluation, interpretation, intervention, and treatment to effect modification of human behavior by the application of generally recognized clinical mental health counseling principles, methods, and procedures for the purpose of preventing, treating, or eliminating mental or emotional illness or dysfunction, symptoms of any of these, or maladaptive behavior.

VERMONT

“THE PRACTICE OF CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING” means providing, for a consideration, professional counseling services that are primarily drawn from the theory and practice of psychotherapy and the discipline of clinical mental health counseling, involving the application of principles of psychotherapy, human development, learning theory, group dynamics, and the etiology of mental illness and dysfunctional behavior to individuals, couples, families, and groups, for the purposes of treating psychopathology and promoting optimal mental health. The practice of clinical mental health counseling includes diagnosis and treatment of mental and emotional disorders, psychoeducational techniques aimed at the prevention of such disorders, consultations to individuals, couples, families, groups, organizations and communities and clinical research into more effective psychotherapeutic treatment modalities.

“PSYCHOTHERAPY” means the provision of treatment, diagnosis, evaluation or counseling services to individuals or groups, for a consideration, for the purpose of alleviating mental disorders. “Psychotherapy” involves the application of therapeutic techniques to understand unconscious or conscious motivation, resolve emotional, relationship or attitudinal conflicts, or modify behavior which interferes with effective emotional, social or mental functioning. “Psychotherapy” follows a systematic procedure of psychotherapeutic intervention which takes place on a regular basis over a period of time, or, in the case of evaluation and brief psychotherapies, in a single or limited number of interventions. If a person is employed by or under contract with the agency of human services, this definition does not apply to persons with less than a master's degree, to persons providing life skills training or instruction, such as learning to make friends, to handle social situations, to do laundry and to develop community awareness, or interactions of employees or contracted individuals with clients whose job description or contract specifications do not specifically mention “psychotherapy” as a job responsibility or duty.

VIRGINIA

“PRACTICE OF COUNSELING” means rendering or offering to render to individuals, groups, organizations, or the general public any service involving the application of principles, methods or procedures of the counseling profession, which shall include appraisal, counseling, and referral activities.

“COUNSELING” means the therapeutic process of: (i) conducting assessments and diagnoses for the purpose of establishing treatment goals and objectives and (ii) planning, implementing, and evaluating treatment plans using treatment interventions to facilitate human development and to identify and remediate mental, emotional or behavioral disorders and associated distresses which interfere with mental health.

“COUNSELING TREATMENT INTERVENTION” means those cognitive, affective, behavioral and systemic counseling strategies, techniques and methods common to the behavioral sciences that are specifically implemented in the context of a therapeutic relationship. Other treatment interventions include developmental counseling, guidance, and consulting to facilitate normal growth and development, including educational and career development.

WASHINGTON

“MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING” means the application of principles of human development, learning theory, psychotherapy, group dynamics, and etiology of mental illness and dysfunctional behavior to individuals, couples, families, groups, and organizations, for the purpose of treatment of mental disorders and promoting optimal mental health and functionality. Mental health counseling also includes, but is not limited to, the assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of mental and emotional disorders, as well as the application of a wellness model of mental health.

“PSYCHOTHERAPY” means the practice of counseling using diagnosis of mental disorders according to the fourth edition of the diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders, published in 1994, and the development of treatment plans for counseling based on diagnosis of mental disorders in accordance with established practice standards.

“CERTIFIED COUNSELOR”

The scope of practice of certified counselors consists exclusively of the following:

(1) Appropriate screening of the client's level of functional impairment using the global assessment of functioning as described in the fourth edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*. Recognition of a mental or physical disorder or a global assessment of functioning score of sixty or less requires that the certified counselor refer the client for diagnosis and treatment to a licensed healthcare practitioner.

(2) If the client has a global assessment of functioning score greater than sixty, a certified counselor may counsel and guide the client in adjusting to life situations, developing new skills, and making desired changes, in accordance with the theories and techniques of a specific counseling method and established practice standards.

(3) If the client has a global assessment of functioning score of sixty or less, a certified counselor may counsel and guide the client in adjusting to life situations, developing new skills, and making desired changes, in accordance with the theories and techniques of a specific counseling method and established practice standards if:

(a) The client has been referred to the certified counselor by a licensed healthcare practitioner and care is provided as part of a plan of treatment developed by the referring practitioner who is actively treating the client. The certified counselor must adhere to any conditions related to the certified counselor's role as specified in the plan of care; or

(b) The certified counselor referred the client for diagnosis and treatment from a licensed healthcare practitioner and the client

refused, in writing, to seek diagnosis and treatment from the other provider. The certified counselor may provide services to the client consistent with a treatment plan developed by the certified counselor and the consultant or supervisor with whom the certified counselor has a written consultation or supervisory agreement.

(4) A certified counselor must not be the sole treatment provider for a client with a global assessment of functioning score of less than fifty.

“CERTIFIED ADVISER”

The scope of practice of certified advisers consists exclusively of the following:

(1) Appropriate screening of the client's level of functional impairment using the global assessment of functioning as described in the fourth edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*. Recognition of a mental or physical disorder or a global assessment of functioning score of sixty or less requires that the certified adviser refer the client to a licensed healthcare practitioner.

(2) If the client has a global assessment of functioning score greater than sixty, a certified adviser may counsel and guide the client in adjusting to life situations, developing new skills, and making desired changes, in accordance with the theories and techniques of a specific counseling method and established practice standards.

“AGENCY AFFILIATED COUNSELOR” scope of practice:

(1) An agency affiliated counselor may only provide counseling services as part of his or her employment as an agency affiliated counselor for a recognized agency.

(2) An applicant for an agency affiliated counselor must be employed by, or have an offer of employment from, an agency or facility identified in WAC 246-810-016.

WEST VIRGINIA

“PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING” means the assessment, diagnosis, treatment and prevention of mental, emotional or addiction disorders through the application of clinical counseling procedures. Professional counseling includes the use of psychotherapy, assessment instruments, counseling, consultation, treatment planning, and supervision in the delivery of services to individuals, couples, families and groups.

“CLINICAL COUNSELING PROCEDURES” means an approach to counseling that emphasizes the counselor’s role in systematically assisting clients through all of the following including, but are not limited to, observing, assessing and analyzing background and current information; utilizing assessment techniques useful in appraising aptitudes, abilities, achievements, interests

or attitudes; diagnosing; and developing a treatment plan. The goal of these procedures is the prevention and elimination of symptomatic, maladaptive, or undesired behavior, cognitions, or emotions in order to integrate a wellness, preventative, pathology and multicultural model of human behavior to assist an individual, couple, family, group of individuals, organization, institution or community to achieve mental, emotional, physical, social, moral, educational, spiritual, vocational or career development and adjustment through the life span of the individual, couple, family, group of individuals, organization, institution or community.

The licensee's areas of competence in counseling and the services provided, based on training and experience, from the following list, as is appropriate: career counseling, consultation, diagnosis and treatment of mental and emotional disorders, employee assistance counseling, family counseling, human resources counseling, marriage counseling, mental health counseling, rehabilitation counseling, school counseling, substance abuse and addictions counseling, supervision, and vocational counseling.

WISCONSIN

“PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING” means applying a combination of human development, rehabilitation and either psychosocial or psychotherapeutic principles, procedures or services that integrate a wellness, pathology and multicultural model of human behavior in order to assist an individual, couple, family, group of individuals, organization, institution or community to achieve mental, emotional, physical, social, moral, educational, spiritual, vocational or career development and adjustment through the life span of the individual, couple, family, group of individuals, organization, institution or community.

WYOMING

“PRACTICE OF COUNSELING” means rendering to individuals, couples, families, groups, organizations, corporations, institutions, government agencies or the general public a service that integrates a wellness, pathology and multicultural model of human behavior. This model applies a combination of mental health, psychotherapeutic, and human development principles and procedures to help clients achieve effective mental, emotional, physical, social, moral, educational, spiritual or career development and adjustment throughout the life span, and includes the diagnostic description and treatment of mental disorders or disabilities within the range of the professional's preparation.

“MENTAL HEALTH PROCEDURES” means engaging in methods and techniques which include, but are not restricted to:

- a. "Counseling" means assisting clients through the counseling relationship, using a combination of mental health, psychotherapy and human development principles, methods and techniques, to achieve mental, emotional, physical, social, moral, educational, spiritual or career development and adjustment through the life span, but shall not include religious instruction;

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors – 2016

- b. "Appraisal" means selecting, administering, scoring and interpreting instruments designed to assess an individual's attitudes, abilities, achievements, interests and personal characteristics and the use of methods and techniques for understanding human behavior in relation to coping with, adapting to, or changing life situations;
- c. "Consulting" means the application of scientific principles and procedures in counseling and human development to provide assistance in understanding and solving current or potential problems that the client may have in relation to a third party, be it an individual, a group or an organization;
- d. "Referral" means evaluating and identifying needs of a client to determine the advisability of referral to other specialists, informing the client of such judgment and communicating as requested or deemed appropriate to such referral sources;
- e. "Research" means systematic efforts to collect, evaluate, interpret and apply procedures related to improving the understanding and delivery of counseling services to clients.

“PSYCHOTHERAPY” means the treatment, diagnosis, testing, assessment or counseling in a professional relationship to assist individuals or groups to alleviate mental disorders, understand unconscious or conscious motivation, resolve emotional relationships, or attitudinal conflicts, or modify behaviors which interfere with effective emotional, social or intellectual functioning.



AMERICAN COUNSELING
ASSOCIATION

6101 Stevenson Avenue, Suite 600
Alexandria, Virginia 22304

counseling.org