What is the Counseling Compact?
The Counseling Compact is an agreement among states to legislatively recognize other states’ counseling licenses. Counselors may participate in the compact if they:

- Are licensed at the highest level
- Can practice independently
- Can assess, diagnose and treat behavioral health conditions
- Have an unencumbered home license, which is defined as a license from the state where the counselor legally resides

Learn more: counseling.org/counseling-compact

How does the compact benefit counselors and clients?

For counselors. The Counseling Compact allows counselors to:

- Practice across state lines using a privilege-to-practice model
- Use telehealth in all compact states
- Practice as a military spouse on a home-state license in all compact states for the duration of active or reserve service
- Access an expedited pathway to licensure when the counselor moves to another compact state

For clients. The compact provides clients, particularly those in underserved areas, with:

- Continuity of care from a trusted counselor, no matter where the client or the counselor reside
- Expanded access to counselors and availability of services
- Additional protections for the public by establishing uniform standards and shared discipline data

What states are part of the compact?

As of November 2023, 13 states joined the compact in the 2023 session – resulting in a grand total of 30 states! These states are AL, AR, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, IA, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, ME, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, OH, OK, TN, UT, VA, VT, WA, WV, WY. Eight other states introduced legislation in 2023 that did not pass but will be reintroduced during the 2024 legislative session.

When can counselors apply for extended privileges?

The Counseling Compact Commission consists of one representative from the licensing board of each compact state. The commission is in the process of procuring necessary data and ensuring that the licensure data for all states is uploaded before it can grant privileges, which the commission hopes to do by the mid-2024.

Learn more: counseling.org/counseling-compact