**TRICARE ‘Certified Mental Health Counselor’ Requirements***

1. Licensure for independent practice in the jurisdiction where practicing

2. Have a minimum of 2 years/3,000 hours of post-master’s supervised mental health counseling practice, including 100 hours of face-to-face supervision. Supervision must be provided by a mental health counselor.

   **AND**

3. **Now through 2014**
   
   - Have a master’s or higher degree from a mental health counseling program of education and training from a CACREP-accredited program, and pass either the National Clinical Mental Health Counselor Exam (NCMHCE) or the National Counselor Exam (NCE) (both are administered by the National Board for Certified Counselors – [www.nbcc.org](http://www.nbcc.org))

   **OR**

   - Have a master’s or higher degree from a mental health counseling program of education and training from a regionally-accredited program and pass the NCMHCE

   **Beginning January 1, 2015**

   - Have a master’s or higher degree from a mental health counseling program of education and training from a CACREP-accredited program, and pass the National Clinical Mental Health Counselor Exam (NCMHCE)

*As of 4/2/2013. A final version of TRICARE’s regulation regarding counselors’ participation in the program is expected to be released later this year. For more information, contact Scott Barstow with ACA at sbarstow@counseling.org.
South Region
ValueOptions
(800) 700-8646

North Region
MHN (Medical Health Network)
(800) 541-3353

West Region
United Health Care
(877) 988-9378

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Outside U.S. +1 215-942-8333

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