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Education requirements for admission to the examination for professional counselor.

The requirements for licensure as a professional counselor are generally set forth in sections 4757.22 and 4757.23 of the Revised Code.

(A) Pertaining to the educational requirements, the board further describes:

- (1) A "graduate degree in counseling" is defined as a degree that meets all of the following criteria:
 - (a) The degree and/or the official transcript of course work must clearly indicate that the degree awarded is a degree in counseling. Graduate degrees in other human service areas such as psychology, social work and marriage and family therapy are not considered degrees in counseling.
 - (b) The program must be clearly identified as a counseling program. Such a program must specify in pertinent institutional catalogues and brochures its intent to educate and train professional counselors.
 - (c) The counseling program must stand as a recognizable organizational entity within the institution and have a counseling faculty who are appropriately licensed as professional counselors or professional clinical counselors.
 - (d) The counseling program must be an organized sequence of study that includes graduate coursework in each of these eleven areas of counselor training;
 - (i) Counseling theory: Includes a study of basic theories, principles of counseling and philosophical bases of the helping relationship;
 - (ii) Counseling techniques: Includes individual counseling practices, methods, facilitative skills, and the application of these skills;
 - (iii) Practicum: includes a supervised training experience, acceptable to the board, consisting of the provision of counseling to bona fide clients, and/or groups seeking services from counselors.

- (a) A practicum consists no less than one hundred hours of which forty hours are direct service or conforms to current "Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs" (CACREP) or the "Council on Rehabilitation Education" (CORE) standards for the required number of practicum hours, if those standards exceed one hundred hours.
 - (b) Prior to the beginning of the acceptable practicum, the student must have completed a course in counseling theory and a course in counseling techniques.
 - (c) The practicum, in all cases, must be under the direction of a qualified graduate faculty member. After June 30, 2000, the faculty member must be a professional clinical counselor or professional counselor.
 - (d) The supervisor's critique of the trainee's work shall take place through face-to-face contact. Face-to face contact may include electronic media only if prior board approval is granted.
 - (e) The training supervisee's work may be reviewed and critiqued either through live supervision or audio or video tape.
 - (f) Those students or counselor trainees who are intending to use the practicum experience to meet the educational requirements of the board must report their practicum experiences within thirty days of the successful completion of the practicum.
 - (g) Students, who have not completed their master's degree requirements prior to September 30, 1997, and have been enrolled in a practicum of less than one hundred hours prior to September 30, 1997, can use that course to fulfill the practicum requirement.
- (iv) Internship: Includes an on-the-job experience in professional counseling acceptable to the board, under the tutelage of an on-site supervisor who is a professional clinical counselor, professional counselor or is a licensed independent mental health practitioner acceptable to the board. After June 30, 2000, all on

site supervisors must be professional clinical counselors or professional counselors, who have supervising counselor status. Requests for exceptions to this rule must be made in writing to the committee jointly by the counseling program and the individual seeking an exception.

(a) The supervisors must demonstrate on a form prescribed by the board that through coursework or continuing education that they possess competency in the following areas of counseling:

(i) Supervision, theory, and practice.

(ii) Legal and ethical issues related to the practice of professional counseling;

(iii) Multicultural counseling.

(b) The supervised internship must be no less than six hundred hours of which two hundred forty hours must be in direct services which include the diagnosis and treatment of mental and emotional disorders and conditions, or conforms to current (CACREP) or (CORE) internship requirements, if those standards are greater.

(c) Those students or counselor trainees who are intending to use the internship experience to meet the educational requirements of the board must document their internship experience on a form prescribed by the board. The form must be completed by the supervisor or supervisors and must document the student's competency in all areas designated on the form. The form must be completed and submitted by the student within thirty days of the successful completion of the internship.

(d) Students who have not completed their master's degree requirements by September, 30, 1997, who have begun an internship of less than six hundred hours prior to September 30, 1997, can use that internship experience to fulfill the internship requirement. Any internship begun after September 30, 1997, must comply with the requirements in paragraph (A)(1)(d)(iv) of rule 4757-13-01 of the Administrative Code.

- (v) Human growth and development: Includes studies that provide a broad understanding of the nature and needs of individuals at all developmental levels. Emphasis is placed on psychological, sociological, and physiological approaches, human behavior, (normal and abnormal), personality theory, and learning theory;
 - (vi) Social and cultural foundations: Includes studies of change, ethnic groups, subcultures, changing roles of women, sexism, racism, ethnocentrism, urban and rural societies, population patterns, cultural mores, use of leisure time, and differing life patterns;
 - (vii) Group dynamics, processing and counseling: includes the study of group dynamics, group processes, practices and methods of group counseling, supervised practice, supervised facilitative skills, and theory and types of groups;
 - (viii) Life-style and career development: includes vocational-choice theory, relationship of career choice to life-style, sources of occupational and educational information, approaches to career decision-making processes, and career development exploration techniques;
 - (ix) Appraisal of the individual through: testing includes the development of a framework for understanding the individual, methods of data-gathering and interpretation, case study approaches, individual and group psychological and educational testing and the study of individual differences with consideration of ethnic, cultural and gender factors;
 - (x) Research and evaluation: Includes statistics, research design, the development of research and demonstration proposals, as well as the development and evaluation of program objectives;
 - (xi) Professional, legal, and ethical: includes the study of professional counseling organizations, codes of ethics, legal considerations, standards of preparation, certification and licensure including the Ohio licensure law, and the professional role identity of counselors.
- (e) In addition, either as a part of the applicant's master or doctoral degree or after the award of the degree, a minimum of thirty quarter hours, or twenty semester hours, of instruction acceptable to the board and

represented by at least one graduate course in each of the following areas:

- (i) Clinical psychopathology, personality, and abnormal behavior: includes the study of abnormal behavior, personality disorders, and psychopathological conditions specific to developmental phases through out the life span, and their application to counseling practice;
- (ii) Evaluation of mental and emotional status: includes the use of assessment procedures in diagnosis and treatment planning. Focuses on the administering and interpreting individual and group standardized tests of mental ability, and personality and measurement.
- (iii) Diagnosis of mental and emotional disorders: includes the appropriate use of the current edition of the "Diagnostic and Statistical Manual for Mental Disorders", and an understanding of the "International Classification of Diseases." Focuses on conducting mental status examinations, and on the development and recognition of a framework for identifying symptomology, etiology and psychodynamics of mental and emotional disorders.
- (iv) Methods of intervention and prevention of mental and emotional disorders: includes studies of the:
 - (a) Psychological and educational methods of intervention, such as client-centered, psychoanalytic, hypnotherapy, rational-emotive therapy, and reality therapy.
 - (b) Culturally sensitive intervention techniques used with diverse populations such as minorities, children, substance abusers, gay and lesbian individuals and individuals who are physically or mentally challenged.
 - (c) Intervention strategies used in different situations such as marriage and family problems, crisis situations, bereavement, sex therapy, rehabilitation, child abuse and multicultural counseling.
- (v) Treatment of mental and emotional disorders: includes developing and implementing a treatment plan, reporting and assessing

progress of treatment, appropriate referral procedures, Formulation of timelines for treatment and knowing the effect on client behavior and the interaction of psychotropic medications and mood altering chemicals in the treatment of mental and emotional disorders.

- (2) Programs that are accredited by the "Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Education Programs" (CACREP) or the "Council on Rehabilitation Education" (CORE), and also meet all of the conditions specified in paragraphs (A)(1) to (A)(1)(e) of this rule are recognized as meeting the requirements of this rule for a graduate degree in counseling.
- (3) Programs not accredited by the agencies listed in paragraph (A)(2) of this rule must be approved by this board as meeting the educational requirements for admission to the examination for the professional counselor license. Program approval may be obtained by submitting to the board written evidence that the degree meets the requirements of a counseling degree as set forth in paragraphs (A)(1) to (A)(1)(e) of this rule.
- (4) Applicants with graduate degrees in counseling not approved by this board must submit written evidence that their degree program and any additional coursework meets the criteria for a graduate degree in counseling set forth in paragraphs (A)(1) to (A)(1)(d) of this rule.
- (5) Applicants who are denied admission to the examination will be afforded an opportunity for a hearing pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised Code.

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