



Board of Behavioral Sciences

Memo

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To: Workforce Development Committee **Date:** October 4, 2024
From: Christy Berger, Regulatory Manager
Subject: **Discussion and Possible Recommendation Regarding Amendments to the Alcohol and Substance Abuse Coursework Requirements for all Board-Regulated Professions: (Business and Professions Code (BPC) §§ 29, 4980.36, 4980.37, 4980.41, 4996.2, 4996.18, 4999.32, 4999.33; Title 16, California Code of Regulations (CCR) §1807.3)**

The purpose of this item is to review the alcohol and substance abuse coursework requirement for all of the Board’s regulated license types for applicants who hold an **in-state** degree.

Who is required to take coursework regarding alcohol and substance abuse?

Coursework on the topic of alcohol and substance abuse is required for all LMFT, LPCC, and LCSW applicants with an in-state degree. It is required of all LEP licensees prior to their first renewal.

What are the different requirements among the professions?

There are varying requirements among the professions, and within certain populations of applicants within a profession, as described below. See **Attachment A** for a comparison, and **Attachments B through F** for the laws pertaining to the coursework for each profession. Also included are the full requirements for LMFT and LPCC degree programs since certain applicant populations are required to have this coursework within their degree program.

LMFT Profession

LMFT applicants are required to complete coursework in this area as described below (see **Attachments C and F** for the laws specifying the requirements). There are two “categories” of applicants, depending on the dates they began and/or ended graduate study, as follows:

Category A - Course Must be Within Degree Program: The following types of LMFT applicants must complete this coursework as part of their degree program (prior to associate registration). The number of hours/units is not specified but extensive content is listed that must be covered.

- LMFT applicants who began graduate study on or after August 1, 2012.
- LMFT applicants who began graduate study before August 1, 2012 and did not complete study on or before December 31, 2018.
- LMFT applicants who began graduate study prior to August 1, 2012 and who graduate from a degree program that meets the requirements of BPC section 4980.36.

Category B - Course May be Taken as CE After Degree Program: The following types of LMFT applicants must complete 15 hours of coursework in this area (prior to licensure). This course may be taken via continuing education (CE).

- LMFT applicants who began graduate study prior to August 1, 2012 and completed graduate study on or before December 31, 2018.
- This course is not required for LMFT applicants who began graduate study on or before January 1, 1986.

LPCC Profession

LPCC applicants are required to complete coursework in this area as described below (see **Attachments D and F** for the laws specifying the requirements). Similar to LMFT, there are two “categories” of applicants depending on the dates they began and/or ended graduate study, as follows:

Category A - Course Must be Within Degree Program: The following LPCC applicants must complete 3 semester units or 4 quarter units of coursework as part of their degree program (prior to associate registration).

- Applicants who began graduate study on or after August 1, 2012.
- Applicants who began graduate study before August 1, 2012 and did not complete that study on or before December 31, 2018.
- Applicants who began graduate study before August 1, 2012 and who graduate from a degree program that meets the requirements of BPC section 4999.33.

Category B - Course May be Taken as CE After Degree Program: LPCC applicants who began graduate study prior to January 1, 2012 and completed graduate study before December 31, 2018 must complete 15 hours of coursework in this area (prior to associate registration). This course may be taken via CE.

LCSW Profession

LCSW applicants who matriculate (enroll in a college or university as a candidate for a degree) on or after January 1, 1986 are required to complete 15 hours of coursework (see **Attachments E and F** for the laws specifying the requirements). This course may be taken via CE (prior to licensure). This course is not required for LCSW applicants who matriculated before January 1, 1986.

LEP Profession

All LEP licensees are required to complete 15 hours of CE in this area prior to first license renewal (see **Attachment F** for the regulation specifying the requirement).

Course Length Differences

There are some differences in required course length. As described above, most applicants and LEP licensees must take a 15-hour course. For Category A LMFT applicants, no specific number of units/hours are required within the degree program, although extensive content is required to be covered. For Category A LPCC applicants, 3 semester units or 4 quarter units of specified content is required within the degree program.

Course Timing Differences

“Category A” LMFT applicants, as well as all LPCC applicants, must take this course prior to obtaining an *associate registration*.

“Category B” LMFT applicants, as well as specified LCSW applicants, must take this course prior to obtaining a *license*.

All LEP licensees must take this course prior to *first license renewal*.

Course Content Differences

There are some differences in required course content depending on the type of applicant, as shown in **Attachment A**. Please note the following:

- The language describing required course content for Category A LMFT applicants appears to be the most thorough among the professions. The description of required content uses modern terminology regarding substance use disorders with one exception where it refers to a “substance abuse diagnosis”. Since the course must be taken within the degree program it is at the graduate level.
- The language describing required course content for Category A LPCC applicants uses some outdated terminology and is not as thorough as the description of required course content for Category A LMFT applicants. Since the course must be taken within the degree program it is at the graduate level.
- The language describing required course content for all other applicants and LEP licensees (see **Attachment F**) uses some outdated terminology and is not as thorough as the description of required course content for Category A LMFT applicants. These individuals may take the course via CE.

Implications of Changing Alcohol and Substance Abuse Course Requirements

For Category A LMFT and LPCC applicants, making any significant changes to course content required to be within the degree program could negatively affect future applicants because if any content is missing, even if minor, it may result in a nonqualifying degree (meaning the individual would have to obtain a new degree in order to qualify for registration or licensure). If changes are desired to required content

for Category A LMFT and LPCC “applicants, there are two ways this could be addressed to avoid this type of impact to applicants:

1. Option 1: Make it acceptable for any new content to be obtained outside of the degree program; or,
2. Option 2: Only require degrees obtained after a certain date to include the new content.

Both of these options have drawbacks. For option 1, proof of course completion would be submitted by the applicant for staff review. If multiple course content changes are recommended by the Committee during its holistic review of additional coursework, this will result in an increased length of application review, which leads to more possibilities of application deficiencies. However, staff are experienced with reviewing for multiple courses for each applicant, since Category B degree applicants and out-of-state applicants have sizeable lists of coursework to complete.

Option 2 would create another set of degree programs, with separate review processes and forms. The Board currently has separate criteria for Category A and Category B degrees. This would result in staff needing to evaluate against three separate sets of degree requirements. In addition, a longer delay in implementation would be needed to give schools time to incorporate the new content.

However, minor changes, such as changing the terminology “substance abuse” to “substance use” would not have this type of impact.

For all other applicants, these types of impacts would not occur because the content is not a required part of their degree program (can be taken via CE). However, for any law change it would be important to specify a future implementation date that provides adequate time for CE providers to update their course and for applicants to take the new course.

Note Re: Out-of-State Applicant Coursework

While this review focuses on applicants with an in-state degree, there are a couple of issues to consider pertaining to applicants with an out-of-state degree. LCSW, LMFT and LPCC out-of-state applicants under Path B (licensure via education and experience) must complete a graduate level course prior to licensure. There are two issues to consider:

- If the Committee recommends that coursework for in-state applicants should remain acceptable to be taken via CE (for those applicants not required to have it in their degree program), the Committee should discuss whether the course should be allowed to be taken via CE for out-of-state LCSW and LMFT applicants (since the course is a core content area requirement for LPCC applicants, it would need to remain at the graduate level).

- If the Committee recommends that course content changes are necessary for in-state applicants, similar course content requirements for out-of-state applicants should be considered. An inconsistency that may need to be considered is that LMFT Path B applicants are required to complete 30 hours of coursework in this area (not required to be part of their degree program, per BPC section 4980.81(a)(7)), where in-state applicants only need 15 hours.

Staff Recommendation

Discuss requirements for alcohol and substance abuse coursework for each license type, as follows:

Exemption for Certain LMFT and LCSW applicants: Staff recommends striking this exception for LMFT applicants who who began graduate study on or before January 1, 1986, and for LCSW applicants who matriculated before January 1, 1986.

It is inevitable that a mental health professional will encounter clients with a substance use problem, and it is imperative that such professionals be informed so that they can adequately assist these clients. The National Institute on Drugs and Addiction (NIDA, formerly the National Institute on Drug Abuse) found that 46.3 million people in the U.S. had a substance use disorder (SUD) in 2021, yet only 6.3% of people with SUD received treatment¹. As stated in NIDA Director Dr. Nora D. Volkow's testimony to congress (March 23, 2022)²:

"We are experiencing the worst drug overdose crisis in the nation's history. Exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, overdose deaths exceeded 100,000 from September 2020 to September 2021, the highest number ever recorded in a 12-month period and a staggering 50 percent increase over the previous two years. Large increases in many kinds of drug use have been seen over the course of the pandemic: Several reports have revealed increases in positive urine drug screens for fentanyl, cocaine, heroin, and methamphetamine. There have been increases in cannabis and alcohol use, especially among people with anxiety and depression and those experiencing COVID-19-related stress, underscoring the close relationship between drug use and mental health. Substance use disorders (SUDs) are considered mental illnesses, and these conditions frequently co-occur with other mental illnesses including depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and others. Half of people with mental illnesses will have an SUD at some point in their lives, and the reverse is also true."

¹ <https://nida.nih.gov/about-nida/legislative-activities/budget-information/fiscal-year-2025-budget-information-congressional-justification-national-institute-drug-abuse/ic-fact-sheet-2025>

² <https://nida.nih.gov/about-nida/legislative-activities/testimony-to-congress/2022/strengthening-federal-mental-health-and-substance-use-disorder-programs-opportunities-challenges-and-emerging-issues>

Course timing: Staff recommends that all LCSW and LMFT applicants be required to take the course prior to associate registration with no exceptions, and that LEP applicants take the course prior to licensure rather than prior to first license renewal, to help ensure all practitioners are able to adequately assist these clients. In addition, requiring specific courses at first renewal (as is currently true for LEPs) often lead to CE audit failures.

Course length: Staff recommends that a subject matter expert review the required course length and make a recommendation.

Course content: Staff recommends that a subject matter expert review the required course content and make a recommendation.

CE vs. graduate level for out-of-state LCSW and LMFT applicants: Staff recommends that this course be allowed as CE for out-of-state applicants. Graduate coursework is much more costly than CE courses, and making this change would create equity with in-state course requirements.

If any changes to the requirements are desired, direct staff to work with subject matter experts to develop recommended language to bring back to the Committee for review.

Attachments

Attachment A: Comparison Chart

Attachment B: BPC General Provisions

Attachment C: Pertinent LMFT Statute

Attachment D: Pertinent LPCC Statute

Attachment E: Pertinent LCSW Statute

Attachment F: Pertinent Regulations: Course Content Requirements; LEP Requirement

Attachment A

COMPARISON OF ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE COURSEWORK REQUIREMENTS

| Required of: | When Required | Length Required | Content Required | Legal Citation |
|--|--|------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| <p>LMFT Applicants who began a degree program on or after August 1, 2012</p> <p>LMFT applicants who began graduate study before August 1, 2012 and did not complete study on or before December 31, 2018</p> <p>LMFT applicants who began graduate study prior to August 1, 2012 and who graduated from a degree program that meets the requirements of BPC section 4980.36</p> | <p>Prior to Associate Registration</p> | <p>Not specified</p> | <p>Substance use disorders, co-occurring disorders, and addiction, including, but not limited to, instruction in all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The definition of substance use disorders, co-occurring disorders, and addiction. For purposes of this subparagraph, “co-occurring disorders” means a mental illness and substance abuse diagnosis occurring simultaneously in an individual. • Medical aspects of substance use disorders and co-occurring disorders. • The effects of psychoactive drug use. • Current theories of the etiology of substance abuse and addiction. • The role of persons and systems that support or compound substance abuse and addiction. • Major approaches to identification, evaluation, and treatment of substance use disorders, co-occurring disorders, and addiction, including, but not limited to, best practices. • Legal aspects of substance abuse. • Populations at risk with regard to substance use disorders and co-occurring disorders. • Community resources offering screening, assessment, treatment, and follow up for the affected person and family. • Recognition of substance use disorders, co-occurring disorders, and addiction, and appropriate referral. • The prevention of substance use disorders and addiction. | <p>BPC § 4980.36(d)(2)(I)</p> |

| Required of: | When Required | Length Required | Content Required | Legal Citation |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------|--|---|
| <p>LMFT Applicants who began graduate study <u>prior to August 1, 2012</u> and completed that study on or before December 31, 2018</p> <p>Not required of LMFT applicants who began graduate study on or before January 1, 1986</p> | <p>Prior to Licensure</p> | <p>15 hours</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The definition of alcoholism, substance abuse, and other chemical dependency, and the evaluation of the client. • Medical aspects of alcoholism, substance abuse, and other chemical dependency. • Current theories of the etiology of substance abuse. • The role of persons and systems that support or compound the abuse. • Major treatment approaches to alcoholism, substance abuse, and chemical dependency. • Legal aspects of substance abuse. • Knowledge of certain populations at risk with regard to substance abuse. • Community resources offering assessment, treatment, and follow-up for the client and family. • The process of referring affected persons. • Prevention of substance abuse. | <p>16 CCR § 1807.3 BPC § 4980.41(a)(4)</p> |

| Required of: | When Required | Length Required | Content Required | Legal Citation |
|---|--|--|---|-------------------------------|
| <p>LPCC Applicants who began graduate study on or after August 1, 2012</p> <p>LPCC applicants who began graduate study before August 1, 2012 and did not complete that study on or before December 31, 2018</p> <p>LPCC applicants who began graduate study before August 1, 2012 and who graduated from a degree program that meets the requirements of BPC section 4999.33</p> | <p>Prior to Associate Registration</p> | <p>3 semester units or 4 quarter units of graduate study</p> | <p>Addictions counseling, including substance abuse, co-occurring disorders, and addiction, major approaches to identification, evaluation, treatment, and prevention of substance abuse and addiction, legal and medical aspects of substance abuse, populations at risk, the role of support persons, support systems, and community resources.</p> | <p>BPC § 4999.33(c)(1)(K)</p> |

| Required of: | When Required | Length Required | Content Required | Legal Citation |
|---|--|-----------------|--|--|
| <p>LPCC Applicants who began graduate study before August 1, 2012 and completed study on or before December 31, 2018</p> | <p>Prior to Associate Registration</p> | <p>15 hours</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The definition of alcoholism, substance abuse, and other chemical dependency, and the evaluation of the client. • Medical aspects of alcoholism, substance abuse, and other chemical dependency. • Current theories of the etiology of substance abuse. • The role of persons and systems that support or compound the abuse. • Major treatment approaches to alcoholism, substance abuse, and chemical dependency. • Legal aspects of substance abuse. • Knowledge of certain populations at risk with regard to substance abuse. • Community resources offering assessment, treatment, and follow-up for the client and family. • The process of referring affected persons. • Prevention of substance abuse. | <p>16 CCR § 1807.3 BPC § 4999.32 (e)(1)</p> |

| Required of: | When Required | Length Required | Content Required | Legal Citation |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------|--|---|
| <p>LCSW Applicants who matriculate (enrolled in a college or university as a candidate for a degree) on or after January 1, 1986</p> <p>Not required of applicants who matriculated before January 1, 1986</p> | <p>Prior to Licensure</p> | <p>15 hours</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The definition of alcoholism, substance abuse, and other chemical dependency, and the evaluation of the client. • Medical aspects of alcoholism, substance abuse, and other chemical dependency. • Current theories of the etiology of substance abuse. • The role of persons and systems that support or compound the abuse. • Major treatment approaches to alcoholism, substance abuse, and chemical dependency. • Legal aspects of substance abuse. • Knowledge of certain populations at risk with regard to substance abuse. • Community resources offering assessment, treatment, and follow-up for the client and family. • The process of referring affected persons. • Prevention of substance abuse. | <p>16 CCR § 1807.3 BPC § 4996.2(e)</p> |
| <p>LEP Licensees</p> | <p>Upon First License Renewal</p> | <p>15 hours</p> | <p>Same as above</p> | <p>16 CCR § 1807.3</p> |

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Attachment B

Business and Professions Code, General Provisions

§ 29. CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY AND EARLY INTERVENTION TRAINING; CONTINUING EDUCATION

(a) The Board of Psychology and the Board of Behavioral Sciences shall consider adoption of continuing education requirements including training in the area of recognizing chemical dependency and early intervention for all persons applying for renewal of a license as a psychologist, clinical social worker, marriage and family therapist, or professional clinical counselor.

(b) Prior to the adoption of any regulations imposing continuing education relating to alcohol and other chemical dependency, the boards are urged to consider coursework to include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following topics:

- (1) Historical and contemporary perspectives on alcohol and other drug abuse.
- (2) Extent of the alcohol and drug abuse epidemic and its effects on the individual, family, and community.
- (3) Recognizing the symptoms of alcoholism and drug addiction.
- (4) Making appropriate interpretations, interventions, and referrals.
- (5) Recognizing and intervening with affected family members.
- (6) Learning about current programs of recovery, such as 12 step programs, and how therapists can effectively utilize these programs.

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Attachment C

LMFT PROFESSION DEGREE REQUIREMENTS AND ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE COURSEWORK REQUIREMENT

Business and Professions Code

Note: The alcohol and substance abuse coursework requirement is highlighted in orange within the text

Note: An applicant must meet the degree requirements of Section 4980.36 OR both Sections 4980.37 and 4980.41.

§ 4980.36. QUALIFYING DEGREE PROGRAM FOR LICENSURE OR REGISTRATION; BEGINNING GRADUATE STUDY AFTER AUGUST 1, 2012 OR COMPLETING GRADUATE STUDY AFTER DECEMBER 31, 2018

(a) This section shall apply to the following:

- (1) Applicants for licensure or registration who begin graduate study before August 1, 2012, and do not complete that study on or before December 31, 2018.
- (2) Applicants for licensure or registration who begin graduate study before August 1, 2012, and who graduate from a degree program that meets the requirements of this section.
- (3) Applicants for licensure or registration who begin graduate study on or after August 1, 2012.

(b) To qualify for a license or registration, applicants shall possess a doctoral or master's degree meeting the requirements of this section in marriage, family, and child counseling, marriage and family therapy, couple and family therapy, psychology, clinical psychology, counseling psychology, or either counseling or clinical mental health counseling with an emphasis in either marriage, family, and child counseling or marriage and family therapy. The degree shall be obtained from a school, college, or university approved by the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education, or accredited by either the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education, or a regional or national institutional accrediting agency that is recognized by the United States Department of Education. The board has the authority to make the final determination as to whether a degree meets all requirements, including, but not limited to, course requirements, regardless of accreditation or approval.

(c) A doctoral or master's degree program that qualifies for licensure or registration shall be a single, integrated program that does the following:

- (1) Integrate all of the following throughout its curriculum:

- (A) Marriage and family therapy principles.
 - (B) The principles of mental health recovery-oriented care and methods of service delivery in recovery-oriented practice environments, among others.
 - (C) An understanding of various cultures and the social and psychological implications of socioeconomic position, and an understanding of how poverty and social stress impact an individual's mental health and recovery.
- (2) Allow for innovation and individuality in the education of marriage and family therapists.
- (3) Encourage students to develop the personal qualities that are intimately related to effective practice, including, but not limited to, integrity, sensitivity, flexibility, insight, compassion, and personal presence.
- (4) Permit an emphasis or specialization that may address any one or more of the unique and complex array of human problems, symptoms, and needs of Californians served by marriage and family therapists.
- (5) Provide students with the opportunity to meet with various consumers and family members of consumers of mental health services to enhance understanding of their experience of mental illness, treatment, and recovery.
- (d) The degree described in subdivision (b) shall contain no less than 60 semester or 90 quarter units of instruction that includes, but is not limited to, the following requirements:
- (1) Both of the following:
 - (A) No less than 12 semester or 18 quarter units of coursework in theories, principles, and methods of a variety of psychotherapeutic orientations directly related to marriage and family therapy and marital and family systems approaches to treatment and how these theories can be applied therapeutically with individuals, couples, families, adults, including elder adults, children, adolescents, and groups to improve, restore, or maintain healthy relationships.
 - (B) Practicum that involves direct client contact, as follows:
 - (i) A minimum of six semester or nine quarter units of practicum in a supervised clinical placement that provides supervised fieldwork experience.
 - (ii) A minimum of 150 hours of face-to-face experience counseling individuals, couples, families, or groups.
 - (iii) A student must be enrolled in a practicum course while counseling clients, except as specified in subdivision (c) of Section 4980.42.
 - (iv) The practicum shall provide training in all of the following areas:
 - (I) Applied use of theory and psychotherapeutic techniques.
 - (II) Assessment, diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment planning.

(III) Treatment of individuals and premarital, couple, family, and child relationships, including trauma and abuse, dysfunctions, healthy functioning, health promotion, illness prevention, and working with families.

(IV) Professional writing, including documentation of services, treatment plans, and progress notes.

(V) How to connect people with resources that deliver the quality of services and support needed in the community.

(v) Educational institutions are encouraged to design the practicum required by this subparagraph to include marriage and family therapy experience in low income and multicultural mental health settings.

(vi) In addition to the 150 hours required in clause (ii), 75 hours of either of the following, or a combination thereof:

(I) Client centered advocacy, as defined in Section 4980.03.

(II) Face-to-face experience counseling individuals, couples, families, or groups.

(2) Instruction in all of the following:

(A) Diagnosis, assessment, prognosis, treatment planning, and treatment of mental disorders, including severe mental disorders, evidence-based practices, psychological testing, psychopharmacology, and promising mental health practices that are evaluated in peer-reviewed literature.

(B) Developmental issues from infancy to old age, including instruction in all of the following areas:

(i) The effects of developmental issues on individuals, couples, and family relationships.

(ii) The psychological, psychotherapeutic, and health implications of developmental issues and their effects.

(iii) Aging and its biological, social, cognitive, and psychological aspects. This coursework shall include instruction on the assessment and reporting of, as well as treatment related to, elder and dependent adult abuse and neglect.

(iv) A variety of cultural understandings of human development.

(v) The understanding of human behavior within the social context of socioeconomic status and other contextual issues affecting social position.

(vi) The understanding of human behavior within the social context of a representative variety of the cultures found within California.

(vii) The understanding of the impact that personal and social insecurity, social stress, low educational levels, inadequate housing, and malnutrition have on human development.

(C) The broad range of matters and life events that may arise within marriage and family relationships and within a variety of California cultures, including instruction in all of the following:

- (i) A minimum of seven contact hours of training or coursework in child abuse assessment and reporting as specified in Section 28, and any regulations promulgated thereunder.
- (ii) Spousal or partner abuse assessment, detection, intervention strategies, and same gender abuse dynamics.
- (iii) Cultural factors relevant to abuse of partners and family members.
- (iv) Childbirth, child rearing, parenting, and stepparenting.
- (v) Marriage, divorce, and blended families.
- (vi) Long-term care.
- (vii) End-of-life and grief.
- (viii) Poverty and deprivation.
- (ix) Financial and social stress.
- (x) Effects of trauma.
- (xi) The psychological, psychotherapeutic, community, and health implications of the matters and life events described in clauses (i) to (x), inclusive.

(D) Cultural competency and sensitivity, including a familiarity with the racial, cultural, linguistic, and ethnic backgrounds of persons living in California.

(E) Multicultural development and cross-cultural interaction, including experiences of race, ethnicity, class, spirituality, sexual orientation, gender, and disability, and their incorporation into the psychotherapeutic process.

(F) The effects of socioeconomic status on treatment and available resources.

(G) Resilience, including the personal and community qualities that enable persons to cope with adversity, trauma, tragedy, threats, or other stresses.

(H) Human sexuality, including the study of physiological, psychological, and social cultural variables associated with sexual behavior and gender identity, and the assessment and treatment of psychosexual dysfunction.

(I) Substance use disorders, co-occurring disorders, and addiction, including, but not limited to, instruction in all of the following:

- (i) The definition of substance use disorders, co-occurring disorders, and addiction. For purposes of this subparagraph, “co-occurring disorders” means a mental illness and substance abuse diagnosis occurring simultaneously in an individual.
- (ii) Medical aspects of substance use disorders and co-occurring disorders.
- (iii) The effects of psychoactive drug use.

- (iv) Current theories of the etiology of substance abuse and addiction.
- (v) The role of persons and systems that support or compound substance abuse and addiction.
- (vi) Major approaches to identification, evaluation, and treatment of substance use disorders, co-occurring disorders, and addiction, including, but not limited to, best practices.
- (vii) Legal aspects of substance abuse.
- (viii) Populations at risk with regard to substance use disorders and co-occurring disorders.
- (ix) Community resources offering screening, assessment, treatment, and follow up for the affected person and family.
- (x) Recognition of substance use disorders, co-occurring disorders, and addiction, and appropriate referral.
- (xi) The prevention of substance use disorders and addiction.

(J) California law and professional ethics for marriage and family therapists, including instruction in all of the following areas of study:

- (i) Contemporary professional ethics and statutory, regulatory, and decisional laws that delineate the scope of practice of marriage and family therapy.
- (ii) The therapeutic, clinical, and practical considerations involved in the legal and ethical practice of marriage and family therapy, including, but not limited to, family law.
- (iii) The current legal patterns and trends in the mental health professions.
- (iv) The psychotherapist-patient privilege, confidentiality, the patient dangerous to self or others, and the treatment of minors with and without parental consent.
- (v) A recognition and exploration of the relationship between a practitioner's sense of self and human values and the practitioner's professional behavior and ethics.
- (vi) The application of legal and ethical standards in different types of work settings.
- (vii) Licensing law and licensing process.

(e) The degree described in subdivision (b) shall, in addition to meeting the requirements of subdivision (d), include instruction in case management, systems of care for the severely mentally ill, public and private services and supports available for the severely mentally ill, community resources for persons with mental illness and for victims of abuse, disaster and trauma response, advocacy for the severely mentally ill, and collaborative treatment. This instruction may be provided either in credit level coursework or through extension programs offered by the degree-granting institution.

(f) The changes made to law by this section are intended to improve the educational qualifications for licensure in order to better prepare future licentiates for practice, and are not intended to expand or restrict the scope of practice for marriage and family therapists.

§ 4980.37. QUALIFYING DEGREE PROGRAM FOR LICENSURE OR REGISTRATION; BEGAN GRADUATE STUDY BEFORE AUGUST 1, 2012 AND COMPLETED GRADUATE STUDY BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2018

(a) This section shall apply to applicants for licensure or registration who began graduate study before August 1, 2012, and completed that study on or before December 31, 2018. Those applicants may alternatively qualify under paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 4980.36.

(b) To qualify for a license or registration, applicants shall possess a doctoral or master's degree in marriage, family, and child counseling, marriage and family therapy, couple and family therapy, psychology, clinical psychology, counseling psychology, or either counseling or clinical mental health counseling with an emphasis in either marriage, family, and child counseling or marriage and family therapy. The degree shall be obtained from a school, college, or university accredited by a regional or national institutional accrediting agency that is recognized by the United States Department of Education or approved by the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education. The board has the authority to make the final determination as to whether a degree meets all requirements, including, but not limited to, course requirements, regardless of accreditation or approval. In order to qualify for licensure pursuant to this section, a doctoral or master's degree program shall be a single, integrated program primarily designed to train marriage and family therapists and shall contain no less than 48 semester units or 72 quarter units of instruction. This instruction shall include no less than 12 semester units or 18 quarter units of coursework in the areas of marriage, family, and child counseling, and marital and family systems approaches to treatment. The coursework shall include all of the following areas:

(1) The salient theories of a variety of psychotherapeutic orientations directly related to marriage and family therapy, and marital and family systems approaches to treatment.

(2) Theories of marriage and family therapy and how they can be utilized in order to intervene therapeutically with couples, families, adults, children, and groups.

(3) Developmental issues and life events from infancy to old age and their effect on individuals, couples, and family relationships. This may include coursework that focuses on specific family life events and the psychological, psychotherapeutic, and health implications that arise within couples and families, including, but not limited to, childbirth, child rearing, childhood, adolescence, adulthood, marriage, divorce, blended families, stepparenting, abuse and neglect of older and dependent adults, and geropsychology.

(4) A variety of approaches to the treatment of children.

The board shall, by regulation, set forth the subjects of instruction required in this subdivision.

(c) (1) In addition to the 12 semester or 18 quarter units of coursework specified in subdivision (b), the doctoral or master's degree program shall contain not less than six semester units or nine quarter units of supervised practicum in applied psychotherapeutic technique, assessments, diagnosis, prognosis, treatment planning, and treatment of premarital, couple, family, and child relationships, including dysfunctions, healthy functioning, health promotion, and illness prevention, in a supervised clinical placement that provides supervised fieldwork experience within the scope of practice of a marriage and family therapist.

(2) For applicants who enrolled in a degree program on or after January 1, 1995, the practicum shall include a minimum of 150 hours of face-to-face experience counseling individuals, couples, families, or groups.

(3) The practicum hours shall be considered as part of the 48 semester or 72 quarter unit requirement.

(d) As an alternative to meeting the qualifications specified in subdivision (b), the board shall accept as equivalent degrees those master's or doctoral degrees granted by educational institutions whose degree program is approved by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education.

(e) In order to provide an integrated course of study and appropriate professional training, while allowing for innovation and individuality in the education of marriage and family therapists, a degree program that meets the educational qualifications for licensure or registration under this section shall do all of the following:

(1) Provide an integrated course of study that trains students generally in the diagnosis, assessment, prognosis, treatment planning, and treatment of mental disorders.

(2) Prepare students to be familiar with the broad range of matters that may arise within marriage and family relationships.

(3) Train students specifically in the application of marriage and family relationship counseling principles and methods.

(4) Encourage students to develop those personal qualities that are intimately related to the counseling situation such as integrity, sensitivity, flexibility, insight, compassion, and personal presence.

(5) Teach students a variety of effective psychotherapeutic techniques and modalities that may be utilized to improve, restore, or maintain healthy individual, couple, and family relationships.

(6) Permit an emphasis or specialization that may address any one or more of the unique and complex array of human problems, symptoms, and needs of Californians served by marriage and family therapists.

(7) Prepare students to be familiar with cross-cultural mores and values, including a familiarity with the wide range of racial and ethnic backgrounds common among California's population, including, but not limited to, Blacks, Hispanics, Asians, and Native Americans.

(f) Educational institutions are encouraged to design the practicum required by this section to include marriage and family therapy experience in low income and multicultural mental health settings.

§ 4980.41. ELIGIBILITY TO SIT FOR LICENSING EXAMINATIONS; COURSEWORK OR TRAINING

(a) An applicant for licensure whose education qualifies him or her under Section 4980.37 shall complete the following coursework or training in order to be eligible to sit for the licensing examinations as specified in subdivision (d) of Section 4980.40:

(1) A two semester or three quarter unit course in California law and professional ethics for marriage and family therapists, which shall include, but not be limited to, the following areas of study:

(A) Contemporary professional ethics and statutory, regulatory, and decisional laws that delineate the profession's scope of practice.

(B) The therapeutic, clinical, and practical considerations involved in the legal and ethical practice of marriage and family therapy, including family law.

(C) The current legal patterns and trends in the mental health profession.

(D) The psychotherapist-patient privilege, confidentiality, the patient dangerous to self or others, and the treatment of minors with and without parental consent.

(E) A recognition and exploration of the relationship between a practitioner's sense of self and human values and his or her professional behavior and ethics.

This course may be considered as part of the 48 semester or 72 quarter unit requirements contained in Section 4980.37.

(2) A minimum of seven contact hours of training or coursework in child abuse assessment and reporting as specified in Section 28 and any regulations promulgated thereunder.

(3) A minimum of 10 contact hours of training or coursework in human sexuality as specified in Section 25, and any regulations promulgated thereunder. When coursework in a master's or doctor's degree program is acquired to satisfy this

requirement, it shall be considered as part of the 48 semester or 72 quarter unit requirement contained in Section 4980.37.

(4) For persons who began graduate study on or after January 1, 1986, a master's or doctor's degree qualifying for licensure shall include specific instruction in alcoholism and other chemical substance dependency as specified by regulation. When coursework in a master's or doctor's degree program is acquired to satisfy this requirement, it shall be considered as part of the 48 semester or 72 quarter unit requirement contained in Section 4980.37. Coursework required under this paragraph may be satisfactory if taken either in fulfillment of other educational requirements for licensure or in a separate course. The applicant may satisfy this requirement by successfully completing this coursework from a master's or doctoral degree program at an accredited or approved institution, as described in subdivision (b) of Section 4980.37, or from a board-accepted provider of continuing education, as described in Section 4980.54.

(5) For persons who began graduate study during the period commencing on January 1, 1995, and ending on December 31, 2003, a master's or doctor's degree qualifying for licensure shall include coursework in spousal or partner abuse assessment, detection, and intervention. For persons who began graduate study on or after January 1, 2004, a master's or doctor's degree qualifying for licensure shall include a minimum of 15 contact hours of coursework in spousal or partner abuse assessment, detection, and intervention strategies, including knowledge of community resources, cultural factors, and same gender abuse dynamics. Coursework required under this paragraph may be satisfactory if taken either in fulfillment of other educational requirements for licensure or in a separate course. The applicant may satisfy this requirement by successfully completing this coursework from a master's or doctoral degree program at an accredited or approved institution, as described in subdivision (b) of Section 4980.37, or from a board-accepted provider of continuing education, as described in Section 4980.54.

(6) For persons who began graduate study on or after January 1, 2001, an applicant shall complete a minimum of a two semester or three quarter unit survey course in psychological testing. When coursework in a master's or doctor's degree program is acquired to satisfy this requirement, it may be considered as part of the 48 semester or 72 quarter unit requirement of Section 4980.37.

(7) For persons who began graduate study on or after January 1, 2001, an applicant shall complete a minimum of a two semester or three quarter unit survey course in psychopharmacology. When coursework in a master's or doctor's degree program is acquired to satisfy this requirement, it may be considered as part of the 48 semester or 72 quarter unit requirement of Section 4980.37.

(b) The requirements added by paragraphs (6) and (7) of subdivision (a) are intended to improve the educational qualifications for licensure in order to better prepare future licentiates for practice and are not intended in any way to expand or restrict the scope of practice for licensed marriage and family therapists.

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Attachment D

LPC PROFESSION DEGREE REQUIREMENTS AND ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE COURSEWORK REQUIREMENT

Business and Professions Code

Note: The alcohol and substance abuse coursework requirement is highlighted in orange within the text

Note: An applicant must meet the degree requirements of section 4999.32(a)-(d) OR section 4999.33.

§ 4999.32. QUALIFICATIONS FOR LICENSURE OR REGISTRATION; GRADUATE COURSEWORK BEGUN BEFORE AUGUST 1, 2012 AND COMPLETED BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2018

(a) This section shall apply to applicants for licensure or registration who began graduate study before August 1, 2012, and completed that study on or before December 31, 2018. Those applicants may alternatively qualify under paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 4999.33.

(b) To qualify for licensure or registration, applicants shall possess a master's or doctoral degree that is counseling or psychotherapy in content and that meets the requirements of this section, obtained from an accredited or approved institution, as defined in Section 4999.12. For purposes of this subdivision, a degree is "counseling or psychotherapy in content" if it contains the supervised practicum or field study experience described in paragraph (3) of subdivision (c) and, except as provided in subdivision (d), the coursework in the core content areas listed in subparagraphs (A) to (I), inclusive, of paragraph (1) of subdivision (c).

(c) The degree described in subdivision (b) shall be a single, integrated program that contains not less than 48 graduate semester units or 72 graduate quarter units of instruction, which shall, except as provided in subdivision (d), include all of the following:

(1) The equivalent of at least three semester units or four quarter units of graduate study in each of the following core content areas:

(A) Counseling and psychotherapeutic theories and techniques, including the counseling process in a multicultural society, an orientation to wellness and prevention, counseling theories to assist in selection of appropriate counseling interventions, models of counseling consistent with current professional research and practice, development of a personal model of counseling, and multidisciplinary responses to crises, emergencies, and disasters.

(B) Human growth and development across the lifespan, including normal and abnormal behavior and an understanding of developmental crises, disability,

psychopathology, and situational and environmental factors that affect both normal and abnormal behavior.

(C) Career development theories and techniques, including career development decisionmaking models and interrelationships among and between work, family, and other life roles and factors, including the role of multicultural issues in career development.

(D) Group counseling theories and techniques, including principles of group dynamics, group process components, developmental stage theories, therapeutic factors of group work, group leadership styles and approaches, pertinent research and literature, group counseling methods, and evaluation of effectiveness.

(E) Assessment, appraisal, and testing of individuals, including basic concepts of standardized and nonstandardized testing and other assessment techniques, norm-referenced and criterion-referenced assessment, statistical concepts, social and cultural factors related to assessment and evaluation of individuals and groups, and ethical strategies for selecting, administering, and interpreting assessment instruments and techniques in counseling.

(F) Multicultural counseling theories and techniques, including counselors' roles in developing cultural self-awareness, identity development, promoting cultural social justice, individual and community strategies for working with and advocating for diverse populations, and counselors' roles in eliminating biases and prejudices, and processes of intentional and unintentional oppression and discrimination.

(G) Principles of the diagnostic process, including differential diagnosis, and the use of current diagnostic tools, such as the current edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, the impact of co-occurring substance use disorders or medical psychological disorders, established diagnostic criteria for mental or emotional disorders, and the treatment modalities and placement criteria within the continuum of care.

(H) Research and evaluation, including studies that provide an understanding of research methods, statistical analysis, the use of research to inform evidence-based practice, the importance of research in advancing the profession of counseling, and statistical methods used in conducting research, needs assessment, and program evaluation.

(I) Professional orientation, ethics, and law in counseling, including professional ethical standards and legal considerations, licensing law and process, regulatory laws that delineate the profession's scope of practice, counselor-client privilege, confidentiality, the client dangerous to self or others, treatment of minors with or without parental consent, relationship between practitioner's sense of self and human values, functions and relationships with other human service providers, strategies for collaboration, and advocacy processes needed to address institutional and social barriers that impede access, equity, and success for clients.

(2) In addition to the course requirements described in paragraph (1), a minimum of 12 semester units or 18 quarter units of advanced coursework to develop knowledge of specific treatment issues, special populations, application of counseling constructs,

assessment and treatment planning, clinical interventions, therapeutic relationships, psychopathology, or other clinical topics.

(3) Not less than six semester units or nine quarter units of supervised practicum or field study experience that involves direct client contact in a clinical setting that provides a range of professional clinical counseling experience, including the following:

- (A) Applied psychotherapeutic techniques.
- (B) Assessment.
- (C) Diagnosis.
- (D) Prognosis.
- (E) Treatment planning.
- (F) Treatment.
- (G) Issues of development, adjustment, and maladjustment.
- (H) Health and wellness promotion.
- (I) Other recognized counseling interventions.
- (J) A minimum of 150 hours of face-to-face supervised clinical experience counseling individuals, families, or groups.

(d) (1) (A) An applicant whose degree is deficient in no more than two of the required areas of study listed in subparagraphs (A) to (I), inclusive, of paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) may satisfy those deficiencies by successfully completing postmaster's or postdoctoral degree coursework at an accredited or approved institution, as defined in Section 4999.12.

(B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), an applicant shall not be deficient in the required areas of study specified in subparagraph (E) or (G) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) unless the applicant meets one of the following criteria and remediates the deficiency:

(i) The application for licensure was received by the board on or before August 31, 2020.

(ii) The application for registration was received by the board on or before August 31, 2020, and the registration was subsequently issued by the board.

(2) Coursework taken to meet deficiencies in the required areas of study listed in subparagraphs (A) to (I), inclusive, of paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) shall be the equivalent of three semester units or four quarter units of study.

(3) The board shall make the final determination as to whether a degree meets all requirements, including, but not limited to, course requirements, regardless of accreditation.

(e) In addition to the degree described in this section, or as part of that degree, an applicant shall complete the following coursework or training prior to registration as an associate:

(1) A minimum of 15 contact hours of instruction in alcoholism and other chemical substance abuse dependency, as specified by regulation.

(2) A minimum of 10 contact hours of training or coursework in human sexuality as specified in Section 25, and any regulations promulgated thereunder.

(3) A two semester unit or three quarter unit survey course in psychopharmacology.

(4) A minimum of 15 contact hours of instruction in spousal or partner abuse assessment, detection, and intervention strategies, including knowledge of community resources, cultural factors, and same gender abuse dynamics.

(5) A minimum of seven contact hours of training or coursework in child abuse assessment and reporting as specified in Section 28 and any regulations adopted thereunder.

(6) A minimum of 18 contact hours of instruction in California law and professional ethics for professional clinical counselors that includes, but is not limited to, instruction in advertising, scope of practice, scope of competence, treatment of minors, confidentiality, dangerous clients, psychotherapist-client privilege, recordkeeping, client access to records, dual relationships, child abuse, elder and dependent adult abuse, online therapy, insurance reimbursement, civil liability, disciplinary actions and unprofessional conduct, ethics complaints and ethical standards, termination of therapy, standards of care, relevant family law, therapist disclosures to clients, and state and federal laws related to confidentiality of patient health information. When coursework in a master's or doctoral degree program is acquired to satisfy this requirement, it shall be considered as part of the 48 semester unit or 72 quarter unit requirement in subdivision (c).

(7) A minimum of 10 contact hours of instruction in aging and long-term care, which may include, but is not limited to, the biological, social, and psychological aspects of aging. On and after January 1, 2012, this coursework shall include instruction on the assessment and reporting of, as well as treatment related to, elder and dependent adult abuse and neglect.

(8) A minimum of 15 contact hours of instruction in crisis or trauma counseling, including multidisciplinary responses to crises, emergencies, or disasters, and brief, intermediate, and long-term approaches.

§ 4999.33. QUALIFICATIONS FOR LICENSURE OR REGISTRATION; GRADUATE COURSEWORK BEGINNING AFTER AUGUST 1, 2012 OR COMPLETED AFTER DECEMBER 31, 2018

(a) This section shall apply to the following:

(1) Applicants for licensure or registration who begin graduate study before August 1, 2012, and do not complete that study on or before December 31, 2018.

(2) Applicants for licensure or registration who begin graduate study before August 1, 2012, and who graduate from a degree program that meets the requirements of this section.

(3) Applicants for licensure or registration who begin graduate study on or after August 1, 2012.

(b) To qualify for licensure or registration, applicants shall possess a master's or doctoral degree that is counseling or psychotherapy in content and that meets the requirements of this section, obtained from an accredited or approved institution, as defined in Section 4999.12. For purposes of this subdivision, a degree is "counseling or psychotherapy in content" if it contains the supervised practicum or field study experience described in paragraph (3) of subdivision (c) and, except as provided in subdivision (f), the coursework in the core content areas listed in subparagraphs (A) to (M), inclusive, of paragraph (1) of subdivision (c).

(c) The degree described in subdivision (b) shall be a single, integrated program that contains not less than 60 graduate semester units or 90 graduate quarter units of instruction, which shall, except as provided in subdivision (f), include all of the following:

(1) The equivalent of at least three semester units or four quarter units of graduate study in all of the following core content areas:

(A) Counseling and psychotherapeutic theories and techniques, including the counseling process in a multicultural society, an orientation to wellness and prevention, counseling theories to assist in selection of appropriate counseling interventions, models of counseling consistent with current professional research and practice, development of a personal model of counseling, and multidisciplinary responses to crises, emergencies, and disasters.

(B) Human growth and development across the lifespan, including normal and abnormal behavior and an understanding of developmental crises, disability, psychopathology, and situational and environmental factors that affect both normal and abnormal behavior.

(C) Career development theories and techniques, including career development decisionmaking models and interrelationships among and between work, family, and other life roles and factors, including the role of multicultural issues in career development.

(D) Group counseling theories and techniques, including principles of group dynamics, group process components, group developmental stage theories, therapeutic factors of group work, group leadership styles and approaches, pertinent research and literature, group counseling methods, and evaluation of effectiveness.

(E) Assessment, appraisal, and testing of individuals, including basic concepts of standardized and nonstandardized testing and other assessment techniques, norm-referenced and criterion-referenced assessment, statistical concepts, social and cultural factors related to assessment and evaluation of individuals and groups, and ethical strategies for selecting, administering, and interpreting assessment instruments and techniques in counseling.

(F) Multicultural counseling theories and techniques, including counselors' roles in developing cultural self-awareness, identity development, promoting cultural social justice, individual and community strategies for working with and advocating for

diverse populations, and counselors' roles in eliminating biases and prejudices, and processes of intentional and unintentional oppression and discrimination.

(G) Principles of the diagnostic process, including differential diagnosis, and the use of current diagnostic tools, such as the current edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, the impact of co-occurring substance use disorders or medical psychological disorders, established diagnostic criteria for mental or emotional disorders, and the treatment modalities and placement criteria within the continuum of care.

(H) Research and evaluation, including studies that provide an understanding of research methods, statistical analysis, the use of research to inform evidence-based practice, the importance of research in advancing the profession of counseling, and statistical methods used in conducting research, needs assessment, and program evaluation.

(I) Professional orientation, ethics, and law in counseling, including California law and professional ethics for professional clinical counselors, professional ethical standards and legal considerations, licensing law and process, regulatory laws that delineate the profession's scope of practice, counselor-client privilege, confidentiality, the client dangerous to self or others, treatment of minors with or without parental consent, relationship between practitioner's sense of self and human values, functions and relationships with other human service providers, strategies for collaboration, and advocacy processes needed to address institutional and social barriers that impede access, equity, and success for clients.

(J) Psychopharmacology, including the biological bases of behavior, basic classifications, indications, and contraindications of commonly prescribed psychopharmacological medications so that appropriate referrals can be made for medication evaluations and so that the side effects of those medications can be identified.

(K) Addictions counseling, including substance abuse, co-occurring disorders, and addiction, major approaches to identification, evaluation, treatment, and prevention of substance abuse and addiction, legal and medical aspects of substance abuse, populations at risk, the role of support persons, support systems, and community resources.

(L) Crisis or trauma counseling, including crisis theory; multidisciplinary responses to crises, emergencies, or disasters; cognitive, affective, behavioral, and neurological effects associated with trauma; brief, intermediate, and long-term approaches; and assessment strategies for clients in crisis and principles of intervention for individuals with mental or emotional disorders during times of crisis, emergency, or disaster.

(M) Advanced counseling and psychotherapeutic theories and techniques, including the application of counseling constructs, assessment and treatment planning, clinical interventions, therapeutic relationships, psychopathology, or other clinical topics.

(2) In addition to the course requirements described in paragraph (1), 15 semester units or 22.5 quarter units of advanced coursework to develop knowledge of specific treatment issues or special populations.

(3) Not less than six semester units or nine quarter units of supervised practicum or field study experience that involves direct client contact in a clinical setting that provides a range of professional clinical counseling experience, including the following:

(A) Applied psychotherapeutic techniques.

(B) Assessment.

(C) Diagnosis.

(D) Prognosis.

(E) Treatment planning.

(F) Treatment.

(G) Issues of development, adjustment, and maladjustment.

(H) Health and wellness promotion.

(I) Professional writing including documentation of services, treatment plans, and progress notes.

(J) How to find and use resources.

(K) Other recognized counseling interventions.

(L) A minimum of 280 hours of face-to-face supervised clinical experience counseling individuals, families, or groups.

(d) The 60 graduate semester units or 90 graduate quarter units of instruction required pursuant to subdivision (c) shall, in addition to meeting the requirements of subdivision (c), include instruction in all of the following:

(1) The understanding of human behavior within the social context of socioeconomic status and other contextual issues affecting social position.

(2) The understanding of human behavior within the social context of a representative variety of the cultures found within California.

(3) Cultural competency and sensitivity, including a familiarity with the racial, cultural, linguistic, and ethnic backgrounds of persons living in California.

(4) An understanding of the effects of socioeconomic status on treatment and available resources.

(5) Multicultural development and cross-cultural interaction, including experiences of race, ethnicity, class, spirituality, sexual orientation, gender, and disability and their incorporation into the psychotherapeutic process.

(6) Case management, systems of care for the severely mentally ill, public and private services for the severely mentally ill, community resources for victims of abuse, disaster and trauma response, advocacy for the severely mentally ill, and collaborative treatment. The instruction required in this paragraph may be provided

either in credit level coursework or through extension programs offered by the degree-granting institution.

(7) Human sexuality, including the study of the physiological, psychological, and social cultural variables associated with sexual behavior, gender identity, and the assessment and treatment of psychosexual dysfunction.

(8) Spousal or partner abuse assessment, detection, intervention strategies, and same gender abuse dynamics.

(9) A minimum of seven contact hours of training or coursework in child abuse assessment and reporting, as specified in Section 28, and any regulations promulgated thereunder.

(10) Aging and long-term care, including biological, social, cognitive, and psychological aspects of aging. This coursework shall include instruction on the assessment and reporting of, as well as treatment related to, elder and dependent adult abuse and neglect.

(e) A degree program that qualifies for licensure under this section shall do all of the following:

(1) Integrate the principles of mental health recovery-oriented care and methods of service delivery in recovery-oriented practice environments.

(2) Integrate an understanding of various cultures and the social and psychological implications of socioeconomic position.

(3) Provide the opportunity for students to meet with various consumers and family members of consumers of mental health services to enhance understanding of their experience of mental illness, treatment, and recovery.

(f) (1) (A) An applicant whose degree is deficient in no more than three of the required areas of study listed in subparagraphs (A) to (M), inclusive, of paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) may satisfy those deficiencies by successfully completing post-master's or postdoctoral degree coursework at an accredited or approved institution, as defined in Section 4999.12.

(B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), an applicant shall not be deficient in the required areas of study specified in subparagraphs (E) or (G) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) unless the applicant meets one of the following criteria and remediates the deficiency:

(i) The application for licensure was received by the board on or before August 31, 2020.

(ii) The application for registration was received by the board on or before August 31, 2020, and the registration was subsequently issued by the board.

(2) Coursework taken to meet deficiencies in the required areas of study listed in subparagraphs (A) to (M), inclusive, of paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) shall be the equivalent of three semester units or four quarter units of study.

(3) The board shall make the final determination as to whether a degree meets all requirements, including, but not limited to, course requirements, regardless of accreditation.

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Attachment E
LCSW PROFESSION
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS AND
ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE COURSEWORK REQUIREMENT
Business and Professions Code

Note: The alcohol and substance abuse coursework requirement is highlighted in orange within the text

§ 4996.2. QUALIFICATIONS OF LICENSEES

Each applicant for a license shall furnish evidence satisfactory to the board that the applicant complies with all of the following requirements:

- (a) Is at least 21 years of age.
- (b) Has received a master's degree from an accredited school of social work.
- (c) Has had two years of supervised post-master's degree experience, as specified in Section 4996.23.
- (d) Not be subject to denial of licensure pursuant to Section 480. The board shall not issue a registration or license to any person who has been convicted of any crime in this or another state or in a territory of the United States that involves sexual abuse of children or who is required to register pursuant to Section 290 of the Penal Code or the equivalent in another state or territory, in accordance with Section 480.
- (e) Has completed adequate instruction and training in the subject of alcoholism and other chemical substance dependency. This requirement applies only to applicants who matriculate on or after January 1, 1986.
- (f) Has completed instruction and training in spousal or partner abuse assessment, detection, and intervention. This requirement applies to an applicant who began graduate training during the period commencing on January 1, 1995, and ending on December 31, 2003. An applicant who began graduate training on or after January 1, 2004, shall complete a minimum of 15 contact hours of coursework in spousal or partner abuse assessment, detection, and intervention strategies, including knowledge of community resources, cultural factors, and same gender abuse dynamics. Coursework required under this subdivision may be satisfactory if taken either in fulfillment of other educational requirements for licensure or in a separate course.
- (g) Has completed a minimum of 10 contact hours of training or coursework in human sexuality as specified in Section 1807 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations.

This training or coursework may be satisfactory if taken either in fulfillment of other educational requirements for licensure or in a separate course.

(h) Has completed a minimum of seven contact hours of training or coursework in child abuse assessment and reporting as specified in Section 1807.2 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations. This training or coursework may be satisfactory if taken either in fulfillment of other educational requirements for licensure or in a separate course.

§ 4996.18. ASSOCIATE CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER; REGISTRATION; SUPERVISION

(a) Except as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 4996.23, an applicant shall have an active registration with the board as an associate clinical social worker in order to gain hours of supervised experience. The application shall be made on a form prescribed by the board.

(b) An applicant for registration shall satisfy the following requirements:

(1) Possess a master's degree from an accredited school or department of social work.

(2) Not be subject to denial of licensure pursuant to Section 480.

(3) Have completed training or coursework, which may be embedded within more than one course, in California law and professional ethics for clinical social workers. The coursework shall be taken from an accredited school or department of social work, a school, college, or university accredited by a regional or national institutional accrediting agency that is recognized by the United States Department of Education, a school, college, or university that is approved by the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education, or from a continuing education provider that is acceptable to the board, as defined in Section 4996.22. Undergraduate coursework shall not satisfy this requirement. The coursework shall include instruction in all of the following areas of study:

(A) Contemporary professional ethics and statutes, regulations, and court decisions that delineate the scope of practice of clinical social work.

(B) The therapeutic, clinical, and practical considerations involved in the legal and ethical practice of clinical social work, including, but not limited to, family law.

(C) The current legal patterns and trends in the mental health professions.

(D) The psychotherapist-patient privilege, confidentiality, dangerous patients, and the treatment of minors with and without parental consent.

(E) A recognition and exploration of the relationship between a practitioner's sense of self and human values, and the practitioner's professional behavior and ethics.

(F) The application of legal and ethical standards in different types of work settings.

(G) Licensing law and process.

(c) An applicant who possesses a master's degree from a school or department of social work that is a candidate for accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of the Council on Social Work Education shall be eligible, and, except as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 4996.23, shall be required to register as an associate clinical social worker in order to gain experience toward licensure if the applicant is not subject to denial of licensure pursuant to Section 480. That applicant shall not, however, be eligible to take the clinical examination until the school or department of social work has received accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of the Council on Social Work Education.

(d) An applicant who possesses a master's degree from an accredited school or department of social work shall be able to apply experience the applicant obtained during the time the accredited school or department was in candidacy status by the Commission on Accreditation of the Council on Social Work Education toward the licensure requirements, if the experience meets the requirements of Section 4996.23. This subdivision shall apply retroactively to persons who possess a master's degree from an accredited school or department of social work and who obtained experience during the time the accredited school or department was in candidacy status by the Commission on Accreditation of the Council on Social Work Education.

(e) An applicant for registration or licensure trained in an educational institution outside the United States shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of the board that the applicant possesses a master's of social work degree that is equivalent to a master's degree issued from a school or department of social work that is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the Council on Social Work Education. These applicants shall provide the board with a comprehensive evaluation of the degree and shall provide any other documentation the board deems necessary. The board has the authority to make the final determination as to whether a degree meets all requirements, including, but not limited to, course requirements regardless of evaluation or accreditation.

(f) All applicants for licensure and registrants shall be at all times under the supervision of a supervisor who shall be responsible for ensuring that the extent, kind, and quality of counseling performed is consistent with the training and experience of the person being supervised and who shall be responsible to the board for compliance with all laws governing the practice of clinical social work.

(g) All applicants and registrants shall inform each client or patient before performing any professional services that the applicant or registrant is unlicensed and is under the supervision of a licensed professional.

Attachment F

Division 18, Title 16, California Code of Regulations

§ 1807.3. Alcoholism and Other Chemical Substance Dependency Training.

(a) The instruction and training in alcoholism and other chemical substance dependency required by sections 4980.41, 4996.2, 4996.17.2, and 4999.32 of the Code shall consist of not less than fifteen (15) hours of training or coursework and shall include each of the following areas:

- (1) The definition of alcoholism, substance abuse, and other chemical dependency, and the evaluation of the client.
- (2) Medical aspects of alcoholism, substance abuse, and other chemical dependency.
- (3) Current theories of the etiology of substance abuse.
- (4) The role of persons and systems that support or compound the abuse.
- (5) Major treatment approaches to alcoholism, substance abuse, and chemical dependency.
- (6) Legal aspects of substance abuse.
- (7) Knowledge of certain populations at risk with regard to substance abuse.
- (8) Community resources offering assessment, treatment, and follow-up for the client and family.
- (9) The process of referring affected persons.
- (10) Prevention of substance abuse.

(b) A licensed educational psychologist applying for a first-time license renewal shall have received not less than fifteen (15) hours of instruction and training in alcoholism and other chemical substance dependency as described in subsection (a).

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 4980.60 and 4990.20, Business and Professions Code.
Reference: Sections 4980.41, 4980.81, 4989.34, 4996.2, 4996.17.2 and 4999.32, Business and Professions Code.