

Board of Behavioral Sciences

Dept. of Consumer Affairs
1625 N. Market Blvd., S-102
Sacramento, CA 95834

License Portability Committee Meeting

June 8, 2018

1:00 p.m.

I. Discussion and Possible Recommendations to Proposed Revisions to Out-of-State Licensee Requirements for Licensed Professional Clinical Counselors

The Board's License Portability Committee last met on February 23, 2018. At that meeting, the Committee considered proposed framework language for the LPCC statute. Under the proposal, the Board may issue a license to a person who holds a license in another jurisdiction of the U.S. as a professional clinical mental health counselor at the highest level for independent practice, if they meet all the following:

- The license has been current, active, and unrestricted for at least 2 years immediately prior to the date the application was received by the Board.
- The qualifying degree is a master's or doctoral degree that was obtained from an accredited or approved school.
- The applicant submits fingerprints.
- The applicant passes the Board's California law and ethics exam.
- The applicant completes a 12-hour California law and ethics course.
- The applicant completes 15 hours of coursework in California Cultures.

In addition, under the proposal, once issued a California license, the licensee must complete a one-time, 6-hour course in mental health recovery-oriented care.

LPCCs who were licensed in another state that permits LPCC treatment of couples and families may continue to do so upon licensure in California, if they complete at least 6 hours of continuing education coursework specific to marriage and family therapy in each renewal cycle. If the other state of licensure does not permit LPCC treatment of couples and families, then the licensee would need to meet the full requirements for LPCCs to treat couples and families, as specified in Business and Professions Code Section 4999.20.

For consistency, this proposal also reduces the coursework requirement for the California law and ethics from 18 hours to 12 hours, for applicants who do not qualify to apply as an out of state licensee.

Bus. & Prof. Code, §4999.63(b)(5) (which is being deleted) allowed licensees to remediate up to six core content areas, except California law and ethics (which must be done prior to associate registration) and assessment and diagnosis (which cannot be remediated) while registered as an associate.

II. Discussion and Possible Recommendations to Proposed Revisions to Out-of-State Licensee Requirements for Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists

At the February 23, 2018 meeting, the Committee considered proposed framework language for the LPCC statute. The language for out of state LMFT applicants (shown in Attachment B) was drafted using the Committee's framework language for the LPCC statute.

Proposed Language

Under the proposal, the Board may issue a license to a person who holds a license in another jurisdiction of the U.S. as a marriage and family therapist at the highest level for independent clinical practice, if they meet all the following:

- The license has been current, active, and unrestricted for at least 2 years immediately prior to the date the application was received by the Board.
- The qualifying degree is a master's or doctoral degree that was obtained from an accredited or approved school.
- The applicant submits fingerprints.
- The applicant passes the Board's California law and ethics exam.
- The applicant completes a 12-hour California law and ethics course.
- The applicant completes 15 hours of coursework in California Cultures.

In addition, under the proposal, once issued a California license, the licensee must complete a one-time, 6-hour course in mental health recovery-oriented care.

For consistency, this proposal also reduces the coursework requirement for the California law and ethics from 18 hours to 12 hours, for applicants who do not qualify to apply as an out of state licensee, and specifies acceptable coursework providers as needed.

Certain additional amendments were also incorporated into the proposed language, as follows:

- Definitions of "accredited" and "approved" schools were added to the general definitions for the LMFT licensing law, located in BPC §4980.03. Similar definitions already exist in LPCC licensing law, and allow for easy reference to the definitions. It should be noted that the LMFT definition of "accredited" includes COAMFTE accredited institutions.
- Additions to §4980.74: This section previously only applied to those who do not hold a license, but it has been amended to also apply to those who hold a license, but have held it for less

than two years, or to those who hold a license but do not qualify under §4980.72 for other reasons. Now that license holders are included in this section, two provisions need to be added:

- The provision allowing an out-of-state licensee to count time actively licensed in good standing toward the 3,000-hour requirement at a rate of 100 hours per month, up to 1,200 hours maximum (if he or she meets the practicum requirements); and
- The provision allowing an active and in good standing licensee or registrant of another state to use his or her qualifying clinical exam score to count for this state's clinical exam requirement, if they have already passed the clinical exam that this Board accepts.
- Additions to §4980.78: Like §4980.74, as mentioned above, this section previously only applied to non-licensed individuals, but has been amended to also apply to certain licensed individuals. Licensed individuals were previously allowed to remediate the practicum requirement. Therefore, this allowance (for licensees in good standing only) has been added to this section.

III. Discussion and Possible Recommendations to Proposed Revisions to Out-of-State Licensee Requirements for Licensed Clinical Social Workers

At the February 23, 2018 meeting, the Committee considered proposed framework language for the LPCC statute. The language for out-of-state LCSW applicants (shown in Attachment C) was drafted using the Committee's recommendations for the LPCC framework language as a model.

Proposed Language

Under the proposal, the Board may issue a license to a person who holds a license in another jurisdiction of the U.S. as a clinical social worker at the highest level for independent practice, if they meet all the following:

- The license has been current, active, and unrestricted for at least 2 years immediately prior to the date the application was received by the Board.
- The qualifying degree is a master's degree from an accredited school or department of social work.
- The applicant submits fingerprints.
- The applicant passes the Board's California law and ethics exam.
- The applicant completes a 12-hour California law and ethics course.
- The applicant completes 15 hours of coursework in California Cultures.

In addition, under the proposal, once issued a California license, the licensee must complete a one-time, 6-hour course in mental health recovery-oriented care.

For consistency, this proposal also reduces the coursework requirement for the California law and ethics from 18 hours to 12 hours, for applicants who do not qualify to apply as an out of state licensee, and specifies acceptable coursework providers.

A motion was made to accept the proposed license portability draft for LPCC, LMFT and LCSW out of state applicants and to forward the proposed changes to the Board. The motion passed. The Board's Policy and Advocacy Committee will meet on August 24, 2018 and further discussion of these items will occur at that time.

IV. Suggestions for Future Agenda Items

There were no suggestions for future agenda items and the meeting adjourned at approximately 2:45 PM.