# Rules of Department of Economic Development

## Division 95—Committee for Professional Counselors

### Chapter 2—Licensure Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 CSR 95-2.010 Educational Requirements</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 CSR 95-2.020 Supervised Counseling Experience</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 CSR 95-2.021 Supervisors and Supervisory Responsibilities</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 CSR 95-2.030 Examinations</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 CSR 95-2.040 Reexamination (Rescinded June 30, 2005)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 CSR 95-2.050 Renewal of License (Rescinded June 30, 2005)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 CSR 95-2.060 Name and Address Changes (Rescinded June 30, 2005)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 CSR 95-2.065 Application for Licensure</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 CSR 95-2.070 Reciprocity (Rescinded June 30, 2005)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 CSR 95-2.080 Endorsement of Written Examination Score (Rescinded June 30, 2005)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter 2—Licensure Requirements

PURPOSE: This rule defines the educational requirements for professional counselors.

(1) In order to apply for supervision, professional licensure, or licensure as a professional counselor, an applicant shall have received a graduate degree at the doctoral, specialist or master level with either a major in counseling or another mental health discipline from an acceptable educational institution.

(A) An acceptable educational institution shall mean a regionally accredited institution approved by the United States Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

(2) For the purpose of this rule and pursuant to sections 337.510(1) and 337.520(5), RSMo the equivalent basic educational requirements shall be a course of study in a mental health discipline and shall be a degree in counseling and guidance, counseling psychology, clinical psychology, or school psychology. The committee shall have the authority to review the composition of the degree to determine compliance with the education requirements of this regulation.

(3) To be considered an acceptable degree in counseling or another mental health discipline, the degree shall be either:

(A) Issued by a counseling program accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP), or its successor organization, or the Counseling on Rehabilitation Education, Incorporated (CORE), or its successor organization; or

(B) Be from a graduate program designed primarily to teach counseling principles and techniques. It shall be designed to train the student to become a licensed professional counselor as defined in section 337.500(5), RSMo and to engage in the practice of professional counseling as defined in section 337.500(6) and (7), RSMo. The teaching of counseling theories, counseling techniques, and counseling interventions shall be the major course of study within the graduate program.

1. Prior to January 1, 2006 shall consist of thirty (30) semester hours or forty-five (45) quarter hours of graduate study. After January 1, 2006 a degree shall consist of at least forty-eight (48) semester hours or sixty (60) quarter hours of graduate study; and

2. An application received after January 1, 2006 shall document at least six (6) semester hours or nine (9) quarter hours of graduate level supervised practicum, internship, or field experience in the practice of counseling. Applications received prior to January 1, 2006:

A. With graduate education starting before July 1, 1991, shall document at least five (5) semester hours or eight (8) quarter hours of graduate level supervised practicum, field experience, or internship in the practice of counseling;

B. With graduate education starting after July 1, 1991 shall document at least six (6) semester hours or nine (9) quarter hours of graduate level supervised practicum, internship, or field experience in the practice of counseling.

C. Any practicum, field experience, or internship shall be clearly delineated on the transcript with graduate level credit and a passing grade.

(4) The applicant shall have the burden of demonstrating that the degree is in counseling or a mental health discipline as defined in section (2). If the applicant’s transcript does not clearly delineate that the degree is in counseling or mental health discipline as defined in section (2), the applicant may be required to obtain a letter from the chair of the department of counseling education or other appropriate school official, stating that the applicant has a master, specialist, or doctoral degree in counseling or a mental health discipline as defined in section (2). If the applicant's transcript does not clearly delineate that the degree is in counseling or mental health discipline and the applicant is awarded a passing grade and satisfies the degree requirements for professional counselors.

(5) In determining whether a degree program included no less than one three (3)-semester-hour or a five (5)-quarter-hour graduate course in a core area, the following shall apply:

(A) It shall be the applicant’s responsibility to document that the course was an in-depth study of a particular core area through course descriptions from official school catalogues, course syllabi, bulletins, or written documentation from an appropriate school official;

(B) A seminar course shall be acceptable if the applicant is awarded a passing grade and graduate credit is clearly delineated on the transcript;

(C) Reading courses or independent study shall be submitted to the committee for review;

(D) Continuing education, workshops, work experience, or any course offered primarily by audio or video tape or noninteractive electronic communication shall not be acceptable. For the purpose of this rule, noninteractive electronic communication is defined as course(s) transmitted via satellite
in which the student has no means of simultaneously interacting visually and verbally with the course instructor during the transmission of the course;

(E) Undergraduate course work shall not be in compliance with core requirements unless graduate credit is clearly delineated on the transcript;

(F) When evaluating transcripts based upon a quarter-hour system, the committee shall consider a quarter hour of graduate credit as two-thirds (2/3) of a semester hour. A semester hour of graduate credit shall be defined as fifteen (15) clock hours of regularly scheduled classroom study; and

(G) No more than six (6) semester hours or nine (9) quarter hours in seminar course work or independent study shall be applicable to the total number of hours of graduate study comprising the degree in the area of counseling or mental health discipline.

(6) Upon receipt of official educational transcripts from the college or university and/or information relating to the program, and upon payment of the fee for an educational review as defined in 4 CSR 95-1.040(1) the committee will review education credentials or a proposed plan for obtaining the appropriate education in compliance with these rules. All information shall be submitted to the committee no later than thirty (30) days prior to the next regularly scheduled committee meeting. Information received fewer than thirty (30) days before a committee meeting may be reviewed at the committee’s discretion.

(7) Graduate course work in counseling, or a mental health discipline as defined in section (2) and from a school, college, university, or other institution of higher learning outside of the United States, may be considered in compliance with these rules if, at the time the school, college, university, or other institution of higher learning where the applicant was enrolled or graduated, maintained a standard of training substantially equivalent to the standards of training of those institutions accredited by one of the regional accrediting commissions recognized by the United States Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The committee shall determine if the standard of training was substantially the same as those institutions accredited by one (1) of the regional accrediting commissions recognized by the United States Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

(A) It shall be the applicant’s responsibility to document that the course work is in counseling or another mental health discipline, as defined in section (2), is substantially the same as those institutions accredited by one (1) of the regional accrediting commissions recognized by the United States Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

(B) The applicant shall obtain the appropriate form and fingerprint cards for filing the application for registration of supervision by writing to the Division of Professional Registration or Committee for Professional Counselors, PO Box 1335, Jefferson City, MO 65102-1335, calling (573) 751-0018, sending a fax to (573) 751-0735, or sending an e-mail to profcounselor@pr.mo.gov. The TDD number is (800) 735-2996.

(A) All proposed supervision arrangements beginning on or after July 1, 1989 shall be approved by the committee. An application for supervision or change of supervision shall not be considered as officially filed with the committee unless it is typewritten or printed in black ink, signed, accompanied by all documents required by the committee and the applicant pays the required application fee. The effective or starting date of supervision shall be the date the application is received in the committee’s office and contingent upon the committee’s approval. Following the review of the application for supervision by the committee, the applicant shall be informed in writing of the committee’s decision.

(B) The completed application for supervision or change of supervision including all supporting material required by the committee shall be received at least thirty (30) days before the meeting of the committee. Applications received less than thirty (30) days before the next regularly scheduled committee meeting may be reviewed at the committee’s discretion.

(3) To begin supervised counseling experience, the applicant shall have a master, specialist or doctoral degree in counseling or another mental health discipline as defined in 4 CSR 95-2.010(2) and have received graduate credit for at least three (3) semester hours or five (5) quarter hours in counseling theory as described in 4 CSR 95-2.010(4)(A) and at least two (2) semester hours or four (4) quarter hours in supervised practicum as described in 4 CSR 95-2.010(3)(B). The committee may approve the applicant for supervision while the applicant completes core course deficiencies. All core course deficiencies shall be completed prior to being eligible for provisional licensure or licensure as a professional counselor.

(4) An applicant approved for supervision or provisional licensure based upon a master’s degree pursuant to section 337.510.1(c), RSMo shall obtain in no more than sixty (60) calendar months:
(A) A minimum of three thousand (3,000) total hours of supervised counseling experience. Hours may be obtained on a part-time or full-time basis and the counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor may receive reimbursement from the employer or supervisor for provision of at least fifteen (15) hours of supervised counseling experience per week in order for the experience to be considered by the committee. If a counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor is unable to obtain at least fifteen (15) hours of supervised counseling experience per week in order for the experience to be considered by the committee, the committee shall determine if such hours can be acceptable for licensure.

(B) A minimum of twelve hundred (1,200) hours of supervised counseling experience shall be direct client contact.

1. For the purpose of these regulations, direct client contact shall be defined as face-to-face interaction between the client/patient or group and the counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor in the same room.

(C) A minimum of twelve hundred (1,200) hours of supervised counseling experience shall be direct client contact.

1. No more than three (3) counselors-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselors may receive reimbursement from the employer or supervisor for provision of at least fifteen (15) hours of supervised counseling experience per week in order for the experience to be considered by the committee. If a counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor is unable to obtain at least fifteen (15) hours per week, s/he must advise the committee in writing regarding the reason that such hours cannot be obtained. The committee shall determine if such hours can be acceptable for licensure.

(C) A minimum of six hundred (600) hours of supervised counseling experience shall be direct client contact.

(6) The counselor-in-training, provisional licensed professional counselor and registered supervisor shall either be employed at the same counseling setting or affiliated to the setting by contract. A counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor shall not operate a private practice. An applicant may register multiple counseling settings and register more than one (1) supervisor in compliance with 4 CSR 95-2.020 by submitting an application for registering or changing supervision and paying the applicable fee as defined in 4 CSR 95-1.020.

(A) A counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor may be employed at a licensee’s private practice. The counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor shall solicit therapeutic services according to the full order, control, oversight, and guidance of the registered supervisor.

(B) Payment for counseling services provided by a counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor shall be made to the supervisor registered and approved by the committee or organization employing or affiliated with the counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor.

(7) A counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor shall receive at least one (1) hour of face-to-face supervision per week from the registered supervisor. All face-to-face supervision shall be included in the total number of supervised experience hours required in this rule.

(A) A minimum of two (2) weeks of each month shall consist of one (1) hour of face-to-face supervision per week by the registered supervisor with the counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor; and

(B) A maximum of two (2) weeks each month may consist of one (1) hour per week of group face-to-face supervision facilitated by the registered supervisor and counselors-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselors.

1. No more than three (3) counselors-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselors may participate in a group supervision session.

2. When there are more than three (3) counselors-in-training, provisional licensed professional counselors, or other professionals present the hour shall count toward the three thousand (3,000) hours of supervision and shall not qualify for one (1) hour face-to-face individual or group supervision.

(C) The use of electronic communication is not acceptable for meeting the supervisory requirement of this rule unless the communication is contemporaneously or simultaneously visually and verbally interactive between the registered supervisor and counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor.

(8) The supervised counseling experience shall encompass those activities as defined within the scope of practice as defined in section 337.500(6) and (7), RSMo.

(A) The counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor shall provide services subject to the registered supervisor’s order, control, oversight, guidance, and full professional responsibility.

(B) The counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor shall continue to receive supervision until licensed as a professional counselor.

(9) A counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor shall not engage in marketing or advertising without including the name and license number of the registered supervisor approved by the committee.

(10) A counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor shall document all treatment records or reports by listing the name of the counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor and the applicable credentials; the name of the registered supervisor and the license number of the registered supervisor.

(A) A counselor-in-training may use the acronym CIT for counselor-in-training and a provisional licensed professional counselor may use PLPC. No other acronyms shall be acceptable for the counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor.

(B) An example format to be used in documenting treatment records and plans is as follows, Counselor Name, CIT, PLPC, under the supervision of Supervisor Name, license number 000000.

(C) If the registered supervisor is unable to sign the treatment records or reports, it shall be acceptable to provide a brief, written memorandum or note to the file that is signed by the registered supervisor indicating the information regarding the client has been discussed with the counselor-in-training or the provisional licensed professional counselor.
(11) A counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor shall comply with all laws and rules relating to the practice of counseling and shall apply for licensure within thirty (30) days of completing the supervised counseling experience. Any counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor who fails to apply within the thirty (30)-day time period is prohibited from practicing counseling. If additional time is required to submit an application, the applicant shall send a letter to the committee regarding the reason for additional time and the committee shall advise the counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor whether additional time is approved.

(A) A counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselors may submit an application for licensure up to thirty (30) days in advance of completing the required hours and months of supervision. Applications received more than sixty (60) days in advance of completion of the required hours and months of supervision shall be rejected by the committee as untimely.

(12) A counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor shall request and return a change of supervision form within fifteen (15) working days of changing a counseling setting or registered supervisor previously approved by the committee. The change of supervision form shall be accompanied by the required fee as outlined in 4 CSR 95-1.020(1)(C) and shall be considered effective upon receipt of the application in the committee office and contingent upon approval by the committee. If the application for a change in supervision is denied, the applicant shall be informed, in writing, of the reason(s) for the denial.

(13) An applicant may submit supervised experience obtained out of state from a licensed professional counselor, licensed psychologist, or psychiatrist for review by the committee.

(14) An applicant may submit supervised experience obtained in a state that does not have a counselor licensing law or from a state whose licensing laws are not substantially the same as those of this state for review by the committee.


4 CSR 95-2.021 Supervisors and Supervisory Responsibilities

**PURPOSE:** This rule provides guidelines to licensed practitioners concerning supervising a counselor-in-training or a provisional licensed professional counselor.

(1) For the purpose of these rules, a registered supervisor for a counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor in Missouri shall be currently licensed either as a professional counselor, psychologist or psychiatrist.

(A) An applicant for licensure or supervision may submit postgraduate supervised experience from another state for consideration by the committee. The supervisor must have been licensed during the time of supervision in the state where supervised experience occurred as a professional counselor, psychologist or psychiatrist. Credit will not be given if postgraduate supervised experience fails to comply with 4 CSR 95-2.020.

(2) In order to provide supervision for a counselor-in-training or a provisional licensed professional counselor, a registered supervisor shall document the following:

(A) Current licensure as a professional counselor, psychologist, or psychiatrist;

(B) A minimum of two (2) years experience as a licensed professional counselor, licensed psychologist, or psychiatrist in providing counseling pursuant to section 337.500(6) and (7), RSMo; and

(C) Training and experience in counseling and in supervisory activities involving counseling with a resume or vitae detailing course work, workshops, supervision training, and experience as a supervisor of professional counselors or other mental health disciplines.

(3) The registered supervisor shall evaluate and provide feedback to the counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor relating to 4 CSR 95-2.020.

(4) A registered supervisor may employ a counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor at the registered supervisor’s private practice and shall receive payment for therapeutic services provided by the counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor.

(5) The registered supervisor shall review and cosign all reports of the counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor including the registered supervisor’s license number with the signature. If the registered supervisor is unable to cosign the reports of the counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor, it shall be acceptable to provide a brief written memorandum or note to the file, signed by the registered supervisor documenting that the registered supervisor has reviewed the information.

(6) The registered supervisor shall certify that the counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor has complied with the requirements of supervised counseling experience on a form provided by the committee.

(7) A licensee providing supervision to a counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor shall not supervise more than three (3) counselors-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselors at one (1) time. Supervisors desiring to provide supervision for more than three (3) counselors-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselors at one (1) time shall provide a written request to the committee explaining the reason for providing supervision to more than three (3) counselors-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselors.

(8) A supervisor shall avoid conditions and multiple relationships with a counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor that impair the professional objectivity or increase the risk of exploitation.

(A) The supervisor of a counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor shall not engage in sexual intimacies with the counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor during the time of supervision for licensure.


4 CSR 95-2.030 Examinations

**PURPOSE:** This rule outlines the requirements and procedures for obtaining a professional counselor license by examination.
(1) An applicant for provisional licensure or licensure as a professional counselor shall pass the National Counselor Examination (NCE) or its successor examination as administered by the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) or its successor organization. The committee adopts the minimum criterion score established by the NBCC as the passing score. The candidate shall submit the examination fee and required documentation to the NBCC.

(2) The committee shall maintain the applicant’s examination answer sheet for one (1) year from the date the examination results were reported to the committee. After one (1) year, the answer sheet will be destroyed.


**4 CSR 95-2.040 Reexamination**

(Rescinded June 30, 2005)


**4 CSR 95-2.050 Renewal of License**

(Rescinded June 30, 2005)


**4 CSR 95-2.060 Name and Address Changes**

(Rescinded June 30, 2005)


**4 CSR 95-2.065 Application for Licensure**

**PURPOSE:** This rule outlines the procedure for application for licensure as a professional counselor.

(1) An application for licensure shall be made on a form(s) provided by the Missouri Division of Professional Registration or the Committee for Professional Counselors, PO Box 1335, Jefferson City, MO 65102–1335, and may be obtained by calling (573) 751-0018, sending a fax to (573) 751-0735, or sending an e-mail to profcounselor@pr.mo.gov. The TDD number is (800) 735-2996.

(2) An application shall not be considered as officially filed with the committee unless it is typewritten or printed in black ink, signed, notarized, accompanied by all documents required by the committee to include fingerprint cards and all applicable fees pursuant to 4 CSR 95-1.040(1)(A) and (F). The fee shall be in the form a cashier’s check, personal check, or money order.

(A) A counselor-in-training or provisional licensed professional counselor may submit an application for licensure up to thirty (30) days in advance of completing the required hours and months of supervision. Applications received more than sixty (60) days in advance of completion of the required hours and months of supervision shall be rejected by the committee as untimely.

(3) The completed application, including all supporting material required by the committee shall be received at least thirty (30) days before the next regularly scheduled meeting of the committee. Applications received less than thirty (30) days before the next regularly scheduled committee meeting may be reviewed at the committee’s discretion.

(4) The applicant shall be informed in writing of the committee’s decision regarding the application for licensure.


**4 CSR 95-2.070 Reciprocity**

(Rescinded June 30, 2005)


**4 CSR 95-2.080 Endorsement of Written Examination Score**

(Rescinded June 30, 2005)