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## PERMANENT ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

### BLPCT 2-2023

CHAPTER 833

MENTAL HEALTH REGULATORY AGENCY

OREGON BOARD OF LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS AND THERAPISTS

**FILED**

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ARCHIVES DIVISION  
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& LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

FILING CAPTION: Amendments to the LPC and LMFT supervised clinical experience requirements for licensure.

EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2023

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#### RULES:

833-030-0021, 833-040-0021, 833-050-0071

AMEND: 833-030-0021

RULE TITLE: Experience Requirements for Licensure as a Professional Counselor

NOTICE FILED DATE: 12/28/2022

RULE SUMMARY: This amendment reduces the supervised clinical experience requirement for professional counselor licensure by 500 hours, from a minimum of 2,400 hours to 1,900 hours supervised direct client contact hours of counseling. Since 400 hours may be completed pre-degree, it is noted that this results in a requirement for a minimum 1,500 hours that must be post-degree. It reduces the post-licensure clinical experience that reciprocity applicants may substitute for the required hours of supervised direct client contact by 500 hours, from 500 to 1,000, which is proportional to the reduction in total hours required for licensure. It also removes the five-year total experience threshold and allows reciprocity applicants with less than five years of post-licensure experience to substitute at a rate of 100 hours per year.

#### RULE TEXT:

- (1) To qualify for licensure as a professional counselor under ORS 675.715(1)(c) and 675.720, an applicant must have completed at least three years, defined as 36 months, of supervised clinical counseling experience.
- (2) To qualify for licensure through the associate registration method, supervised clinical experience must meet the requirements of OAR chapter 833, divisions 50 and 130.
- (3) To qualify for licensure through direct or reciprocity method, supervised clinical experience must have consisted of no less than 1,900 supervised direct client contact hours of counseling. The supervised clinical counseling experience must have included any combination of the following:
  - (a) Post-graduate degree supervised experience completed in Oregon prior to June 30, 2002;
  - (b) Post-graduate degree supervised experience completed in another jurisdiction pursuant to the jurisdiction's laws and rules;
  - (c) Experience completed while a registered associate (or formerly "registered intern") with the Board; or
  - (d) Up to one year of full-time supervised clinical experience and 400 hours of supervised direct client contact

completed during the clinical portion of the qualifying graduate degree program.

(4) For reciprocity method applicants only, up to five years of post-license clinical experience may substitute for a maximum of 500 hours of required supervised direct client contact, credited at a rate of 100 hours per full year (12 months) of experience.

(5) For direct and reciprocity methods, the experience must be a formal arrangement under the supervision of a person who holds a graduate-level state-issued license or registration, as a professional counselor or equivalent as determined by the Board such as a clinical psychologist, clinical social worker, or marriage and family therapist.

STATUTORY/OTHER AUTHORITY: ORS 675.785 - 675.835, 676.160 - 676.180

STATUTES/OTHER IMPLEMENTED: ORS 675.785 - 675.835

AMEND: 833-040-0021

RULE TITLE: Experience Requirements for Licensure as a Marriage and Family Therapist

NOTICE FILED DATE: 12/28/2022

RULE SUMMARY: This amendment reduces the supervised clinical experience requirement for marriage and family therapist licensure by 500 hours, from a minimum of 2,400 hours to 1,900 hours supervised direct client contact hours of therapy. Since 400 hours may be completed pre-degree, it is noted that this results in a requirement for a minimum 1,500 hours that must be post-degree. It removes some older obsolete rule language and cleans up the current language. It reduces the minimum requirement of supervised direct client contact hours working with couples and families by 250 hours, from 1,000 to 750 hours. Since 400 of these hours may be completed pre-degree, it is noted that this results in a requirement for a minimum 350 couple and family hours to be completed post-degree. This amendment reduces the post-licensure clinical experience that reciprocity applicants may substitute for the required hours of supervised direct client contact by 500 hours, from 500 to 1,000, which is proportional to the reduction in total hours required for licensure. It also removes the five-year total experience threshold and allows reciprocity applicants with less than five years of post-licensure experience to substitute at a rate of 100 hours per year.

RULE TEXT:

- (1) To qualify for licensure as a marriage and family therapist under ORS 675.715(1)(c) and 675.720, an applicant must have completed at least three years, defined as 36 months, of supervised clinical experience.
- (2) To qualify for licensure through the associate registration method, supervised clinical experience must meet the requirements of OAR chapter 833, divisions 50 and 130.
- (3) To qualify for licensure through direct or reciprocity method, supervised clinical experience must have consisted of no less than 1,900 supervised direct client contact hours of therapy with at least 750 of those hours working with couples and families. The supervised clinical therapy must have included any combination of the following:
  - (a) Post-graduate degree supervised experience completed in Oregon prior to June 30, 2002;
  - (b) Post-graduate degree supervised experience completed in another jurisdiction pursuant to the jurisdiction's laws and rules;
  - (c) Experience completed while a registered associate (or formerly "registered intern") with the Board; or
  - (d) Up to one year of full-time supervised clinical experience and 400 hours of supervised direct client contact completed during the clinical portion of the qualifying graduate degree program.
- (4) For reciprocity method applicants only, up to five years of post-license clinical experience may substitute for a maximum of 500 hours of required supervised direct client contact, credited at a rate of 100 hours per full year (12 months) of experience.
- (5) For direct and reciprocity methods, the experience must be a formal arrangement under the supervision of a person who is trained specifically in the systemic approach to couples and family therapy and holds a graduate-level state-issued license or registration, as a marriage and family therapist or equivalent as determined by the Board such as a clinical psychologist, clinical social worker, or professional counselor.

STATUTORY/OTHER AUTHORITY: ORS 675.785 - 675.835, 676.160 - 676.180

STATUTES/OTHER IMPLEMENTED: ORS 675.785 - 675.835

AMEND: 833-050-0071

RULE TITLE: Direct Client Contact

NOTICE FILED DATE: 12/28/2022

RULE SUMMARY: Consistent with the amendments to LPC and LMFT clinical experience requirements, this proposal reduces the requirement for registered associates' supervised direct client contact by 500 hours, from 2,400 to 1,900 hours, and reduces the LMFT applicant requirement of supervised direct client contact hours working with couples and families by 250 hours, from 1,000 to 750 hours. Since 400 hours may be completed pre-degree, it is noted that this results in a requirement for a minimum 1,500 direct client contact hours (including a minimum 350 couple and family hours for LMFT applicants) that must be post-degree. This amendment also removes a requirement that registered associates must complete at least 1,000 of the required hours of direct client contact while in a Board-approved associate registration plan.

RULE TEXT:

(1) Registered associates must complete at least three years, defined as 36 months, of supervised clinical experience which must include no less than 1,900 hours of supervised direct client contact to qualify for licensure.

(2) Registered associates may count direct client contact hours acquired outside an associate registration plan only as follows:

(a) Up to one year of full-time supervised clinical experience and 400 direct client contact hours accrued as part of a graduate degree internship;

(b) Post-graduate degree supervised direct client contact hours completed in Oregon prior to June 30, 2002; and

(c) Post-graduate degree supervised direct client contact hours completed in another jurisdiction pursuant to the jurisdiction's laws and rules that meet the direct application method experience requirements.

(3) Applicants for LMFT must accrue 1,900 hours of supervised direct client contact with at least 750 of those hours working with couples and families to qualify for licensure.

(4) Applications for dual licensure as professional counselor and marriage and family therapist must meet the requirements for both licenses.

(5) Direct client contact must be face to face with a client or clients and/or contact via electronic communication consistent with OAR 833 division 90.

(6) Registered associates must receive and document supervision for and report all direct client contact hours at places of practice listed as part of their Board-approved plan.

STATUTORY/OTHER AUTHORITY: ORS 675.785 - 675.835, 676.160 - 676.180

STATUTES/OTHER IMPLEMENTED: ORS 675.785 - 675.835