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PERMANENT ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

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CHAPTER 833

MENTAL HEALTH REGULATORY AGENCY

OREGON BOARD OF LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS AND THERAPISTS

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ARCHIVES DIVISION
SECRETARY OF STATE
& LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

FILING CAPTION: Amendment to experience requirements for regionally accredited programs.

EFFECTIVE DATE: 12/10/2024

AGENCY APPROVED DATE: 12/06/2024

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RULES:

833-030-0011, 833-040-0011

AMEND: 833-030-0011

RULE TITLE: Educational Requirements for Licensure as a Professional Counselor

NOTICE FILED DATE: 08/22/2024

RULE SUMMARY: Removes total clock hour requirement for supervised practicum or experience completed as part of regionally accredited institution as required for professional counselor licensure, but retains direct client contact hours requirement. Amends methods of remediating deficiencies in such experience.

RULE TEXT:

To qualify for licensure as a professional counselor under ORS 675.715(1)(b), an applicant must hold a graduate degree from one of the following:

- (1) A counseling program approved by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) as of the date the degree was conferred;
- (2) A counseling program approved by the Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE) as of the date the degree was conferred;
- (3) A program at an institution of higher learning that was accredited by a regional accrediting agency as of the date the degree was conferred; or
- (4) A foreign program that has been evaluated by a credentialing body recognized by the Board. Submission of foreign degree evaluation and cost of the foreign degree qualification determination are the responsibility of the applicant.
- (5) A graduate degree under sections (1) or (2) must have included at least two semester credit hours or three credit quarter hours of coursework in the diagnosis of mental disorders.
- (6) A graduate degree under sections (3) or (4) must have included all of the following requirements:
 - (a) At least two years in duration, including at least:
 - (A) 48 semester credit hours or 72 quarter hours for graduate degrees granted before October 1, 2014; or
 - (B) 60 semester credit hours or 90 quarter credit hours for graduate degrees granted on or after October 1, 2014.

- (b) At least two semester credit hours or three credit quarter hours in each of the following coursework:
 - (A) Counseling Theory;
 - (B) Human Growth and Development;
 - (C) Social and Cultural Foundations;
 - (D) The Helping Relationship;
 - (E) Group Dynamics Processing and Counseling;
 - (F) Lifestyle and Career Development;
 - (G) Diagnosis of mental disorders;
 - (H) Research and Evaluation; and
 - (I) Professional Orientation (Ethics).
- (c) At least 16 semester hours or 24 quarter hours of supporting coursework for specialty areas; and
- (d) A supervised clinical practicum or internship experience that:
 - (A) Included at least 240 direct client contact clock hours for graduate degrees granted before October 1, 2014;
 - (B) Included at least 280 direct client contact clock hours for graduate degrees granted on or after October 1, 2014;
 - (C) Had supervisory staff with a minimum of a master's degree in the program emphasis and with pertinent professional experience;
 - (D) Made provision for faculty monitoring of operations;
 - (E) Kept records of student-client contact hours including summary of student progress by the supervisor;
 - (F) Had a written agreement with the program and student specifying learning objectives; and
 - (G) Had a mechanism for program evaluation.
- (e) Deficiencies in the credit hour requirements of sections (a), (b) or (c) may be remedied by completing graduate level coursework in the deficient area(s) at a regionally accredited institution.
- (f) For reciprocity applicants only, three years or more of active licensure to practice professional counseling in another U.S. state may substitute the requirements of Sections (a) through (d) above.
- (g) Deficiencies in the supervised experience requirement of section (d) may be remedied by completion of:
 - (A) Post-degree clinical experience completed in a Board-approved associate registration pursuant to OAR Chapter 833, Division 50, credited on an hour-for-hour basis for up to the full 280 required hours of direct client contact. This remedial experience is in addition to, and not a substitute for, the experience requirements (clock hours and duration) set forth in OAR 833-030-0021 or OAR 833-050-0071; or
 - (B) At least five years of active licensure issued by another state credentialing entity to practice professional counseling.

STATUTORY/OTHER AUTHORITY: ORS 675.715 - 675.835

STATUTES/OTHER IMPLEMENTED: ORS 675.715 - 675.835

AMEND: 833-040-0011

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

NOTICE FILED DATE: 08/22/2024

RULE SUMMARY: Removes total clock hour requirement for supervised practicum or experience completed as part of regionally accredited institution as required for marriage and family therapist licensure, but retains direct client contact hours requirement. Amends methods of remediating deficiencies in such experience.

RULE TEXT:

To qualify for licensure as a marriage and family therapist under ORS 675.715(1)(b), an applicant must hold a graduate degree from one of the following:

- (1) A marriage and family therapy program approved by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE) or a marital and family therapy program fully accredited by the Counsel for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP);
- (2) A program at an institution of higher learning that was accredited by a regional accrediting agency as of the date the degree was conferred; or
- (3) A foreign program that has been evaluated by a credentialing body recognized by the Board. Submission of foreign degree evaluation and cost of the foreign degree qualification determination are the responsibility of the applicant.
- (4) A graduate degree under section (1) must have included at least two semester credit hours or three credit quarter hours of coursework in the diagnosis of mental disorders.
- (5) A graduate degree under sections (2) or (3) must have included all of the following requirements:
 - (a) For graduate degrees granted before October 1, 2014:
 - (A) At least two years in duration, including at least 48 semester credit hours or 72 quarter credit hours;
 - (B) At minimum, the following coursework:
 - (i) Human Development- four semester hours or six quarter hours;
 - (ii) Marital and Family Theoretical Foundation Studies- two semester hours or three quarter hours;
 - (iii) Marital and Family Therapy Diagnosis and Assessment, Treatment, Principles and Techniques Studies- eight semester hours or 12 quarter hours;
 - (iv) Professional Studies- two semester hours or three quarter hours;
 - (v) Research Methods or Statistics- two semester hours or three quarter hours;
 - (vi) Supporting Coursework Focusing on the Systems Paradigm for Specialty Areas- 16 semester hours or 24 quarter hours; and
 - (C) A supervised clinical practicum or internship experience of at least 240 direct client contact clock hours.
 - (b) For graduate degrees granted on or after October 1, 2014:
 - (A) At least two years in duration, including at least 60 semester hours or 90 quarter hours of graduate-level credit;
 - (B) At minimum, the following graduate-level coursework:
 - (i) Individual and Family Development- four semester hours or six quarter hours;
 - (ii) Couple and Family Theoretical Foundation Studies- six semester hours or nine quarter hours;
 - (iii) Couple and Family Therapy, Treatment, and Techniques Studies- six semester hours or nine quarter hours;
 - (iv) Diagnosis of mental disorders- two semester hours or three quarter hours;
 - (v) Diversity studies that include issues related to diversity, power and privilege- two semester hours or three quarter hours;
 - (vi) Ethical and Professional Studies- two semester hours or three quarter hours;
 - (vii) Research Methods or Statistics- two semester hours or three quarter hours;
 - (viii) Supporting coursework focusing on counseling and/or systems approaches- 36 semester hours or 54 quarter hours; and
 - (C) A supervised clinical practicum or internship experience of at least 280 hours of direct client contact.
- (c) The program's clinical practicum or internship experience must have:

- (A) Had supervisory staff with a minimum of a master's degree in the program emphasis and with pertinent professional experience;
 - (B) Made provision for faculty monitoring of operations;
 - (C) Kept records of student-client contact hours including summary of student progress by the supervisor;
 - (D) Had a written agreement with the program and student specifying learning objectives; and
 - (E) Had a mechanism for program evaluation.
- (d) Deficiencies in the credit hour requirements of sections (a) or (b) may be remedied by completing graduate level coursework in the deficient area(s) at a regionally accredited institution.
- (e) Deficiencies in the supervised experience requirement of section (c) may be remedied by completion of:
- (A) Post-degree clinical experience completed in a Board-approved associate registration pursuant to OAR Chapter 833, Division 50, credited on an hour-for-hour basis for up to the full 280 required hours of direct client contact, with at least 40% of the deficient hours working with couples and families in the same session. This remedial experience is in addition to, and not a substitute for, the experience requirements (clock hours and duration) set forth in OAR 833-040-0021 or OAR 833-050-0071; or
 - (B) At least five years of active licensure issued by another state credentialing entity to practice marriage and family therapy.
 - (f) For reciprocity applicants only, three years or more of active licensure to practice marriage and family therapy in another U.S. state may substitute for the requirements of Sections (a) through (c) above.

STATUTORY/OTHER AUTHORITY: ORS 675.715 - 675.835

STATUTES/OTHER IMPLEMENTED: ORS 675.715 - 675.835