

Rules & Regulations Update

Mississippi State Board of Examiners for Licensed
Professional Counselors

November 7, 2014

Chapter 1 – General Provisions

- Statutory Authority
- Non-Discrimination
- Purpose
- Definitions

Chapter 1 – General Provisions

- Changed Definition
 - Probationary Status, Restriction Status
- Deleted Definitions
 - Qualified Supervision
 - Voluntary Audit

Chapter 1 – General Provisions

- Added Definitions
 - Active Status, Inactive Status, Lapsed Status, Retired Status, Revoked Status, Surrendered Status (Disciplinary Action), Surrendered Status (Voluntarily)
 - Board Qualified Supervisor, Individual Supervision
 - Direct Service, Total Hours

Chapter 1 – General Provisions

- Board Qualified Supervisor - A Mississippi LPC who has completed the Board requirements and been approved to provide supervision to an Applicant as his or her Clinical Supervisor. A BQS is one who monitors the performance of an applicant by providing documented one to one and/or group face-to-face consultation, guidance, and instruction with respect to the clinical skills and competencies of the supervised individual. A BQS is required to be trained in Clinical Applicant supervision, have the required experience, and have been approved by the Board as a BQS. (as referenced in Rule 4.4(A))

Chapter 1 – General Provisions

- Individual Supervision - “Face-to-face” supervision in the physical presence of the individuals involved in the supervisory relationship during one on one supervision.

Chapter 1 – General Provisions

- Added Definitions
 - Active Status, Inactive Status, Lapsed Status, Retired Status, Revoked Status, Surrendered Status (Disciplinary Action), Surrendered Status (Voluntarily)
 - Board Qualified Supervisor, Individual Supervision
 - Direct Service, Total Hours

Chapter 2 - Fees

- Fee Schedule
- General Provisions
- Reapplication and Lapsed License Fee and Process

Chapter 2 - Fees

| | | |
|----|---|-----------|
| A. | Application for Licensure Fee | \$ 100.00 |
| B. | Biennial License Renewal Fee- (subject to annual change-reflected in annual renewal notice) | \$ 121.00 |
| C. | Application for Board Qualified Supervisor Fee | \$ 50.00 |
| D. | Biennial Board Qualified Supervisor Renewal Fee | \$ 50.00 |
| E. | File Transfer Fee (copy & mail) | \$ 40.00 |
| F. | Replacement Wall Certificate/Renewal Card Fee | \$ 30.00 |
| G. | Name Change Fee | \$ 30.00 |
| H. | Per Page Copying Fee | \$ 1.00 |
| I. | Reapplication Fee | \$ 100.00 |
| J. | Failure to Notify of Change of Address Fee | \$ 50.00 |
| K. | License Verification Fee | \$ 50.00 |

Chapter 2 - Fees

- Clarification of the Reapplication Fee.
 - LPCs returning after lapsed license.
 - Reapplication required after 365 days.
 - Reapplication required after 2nd failure of national exam.
- Clarification of procedures of Lapsed Status (failure to pay fees timely).
- Removal of fee and procedure for distributing labels.

Chapter 3 - Organization

- Mississippi State Board of Examiners for Licensed Professional Counselors
- Board Operations
- Open Meetings Law and Open Records Policy
- Oral Proceedings on Proposed Rules
- Declaratory Opinions

Chapter 3 – Organization

- No substantive changes
- Cleared typos and misspellings
- Updated address

Chapter 4 – Licensure Requirements

- General Requirements
- Education Requirements
- Experience Requirements
- Mississippi Qualified Supervisor Requirements
- Supervision Criteria
- Examination Requirements
- Agreement of Reciprocity

Chapter 4 – Licensure Requirements

- General Requirements
 - No substantive changes
 - No waiver for any type of Child Abuse or Abuse of a Vulnerable Adult convictions.
- Educational Requirements
 - Split Skills and Theories into two separate content areas.
 - Updated names of content areas.

Chapter 4 – Licensure Requirements

- Experience Requirements
 - Setting for accumulation of experiences clarified: In order to receive supervision by a BQS and obtain required experience for licensure, applicants who have completed the education requirements for licensure may practice in a clinical setting that is governed by federal, State, county or municipality. Where this is not the case, the Applicant may practice under the employment of a Licensed Professional Counselor.
 - Clarification of number of supervisees – Total of ten (10).
 - Editorial clarity.
 - Effective July 1, 2015, supervised experience is accepted for the previous seven (7) years only.

Chapter 4 – Licensure Requirements

- Mississippi Qualified Supervisor Requirements
 - LPC must have five years experience practicing mental health counseling in various settings with a minimum of two of those years as an LPC.
 - Supervisors may have up to 10 supervisees.
 - Editorial Clarifications
- Supervision Criteria
 - No Change

Chapter 4 – Licensure Requirements

- Examination Requirements
 - Changes made to reflect that the Board will accept both the NCE and the NCMHCE, but beginning July 1, 2015, the Board will only approve candidates to sit for the NCMHCE.
 - Changed language to reflect the fact that NBCC administers these exams, not the LPC Board.
 - Editorial changes for clarity.
- Agreement of Reciprocity
 - Removed Tier I & Tier II language.

Chapter 5 – Application Procedures

- Phases of the Application Process
- Administrative Appeal
- Reapplication/Reinstatement
- Licensure Categories

Chapter 5 – Application Procedures

- All applications phases edited to reflect updated communications and online reality.
- Applicant Phase
 - NCE passed prior to July 1, 2015 will be accepted.
 - Jurisprudence exam is required for licensure.
- Continued Review Phase (New)
- Denial of Licensure (reflects MS Code)

Chapter 5 – Application Procedures

- Administrative Appeal
 - Updated with more specific rules for requesting an appeal
- Lapsed Status
 - Clarified procedure for returning from lapsed status after failure to pay biennial fees.
- Licensure Categories
 - Active Status, Inactive Status, Lapsed Status, Restricted Status, Retired Status, Revoked Status, Suspended Status, Surrendered Status, Voluntarily Surrendered Status, Memorial Status

Chapter 6 – License Renewal, Directory, and Duplicate/Replacement Wall Certificates

- Biennial Renewal
- Continuing Education Requirements
- ~~The State of Mississippi Directory of LPCs~~
- Replacement Wall Certificate/Renewal Card

Chapter 6 – License Renewal, Directory, and Replacement Wall Certificates/Renewal Cards

- Language reflects change to a biennial renewal period.
- Biennial Renewal
 - Clarified Lapsed Status – 90 day limit, LPC Board will review status afterwards.
- Continuing Education Requirements
 - Elimination of the Voluntary Audit.
 - Failure of compliance with audit in three months will result in Suspended Status.

Chapter 7 – Professional Responsibilities

- Standards of Practice
- Exemption from Licensure
- Representation as “Licensed Professional Counselor” by an Unlicensed Person.
- Injunction to prohibition of unlicensed practice of the profession of counseling.
 - This is the only change/addition to Chapter 7 – Based on the MS Code.

Chapter 8 – Complaints, Disciplinary Hearings, Sanctions, Appeal

- Grounds for Disciplinary Action
- Complaint Procedures
- Sanctions
- Disciplinary Appeal
- Reinstatement following Disciplinary Action
- No Substantive Changes – Editorial Only.

Chapter 9 – Online Application Process

- Updated application process to reflect the new development of an online system.

Reviewers Needed

- We need volunteers!!!
 - Three to five BQs to agree to review the rough draft.
 - Note errors, confusing phrases, redundancies, etc.
 - Attend next LPC Board meeting to report findings.

Remaining Steps in Update

- Feedback from public
- LPC Board meeting November 20-21.
 - Receive from BQS committee recommendations
 - Begin completion of final draft
- Submission to SOS Office
 - Time for public comment
 - Board approves final draft
- Revised R&R go into effect on or before July 1, 2015.