

## **Title 30: Professions and Occupations**

### **Part 2201: Licensed Professional Counselors, Board of Examiners of**

#### **Part 2201. CHAPTER 1. General Provisions**

*Rule 1.4: Definitions.*

**Note: The terms counseling and psychotherapy are used interchangeably throughout this document.**

- O. **Distance Professional Services:** Counseling, consulting, and clinical supervision services provided by an LPC (as referenced in Rule 7.5) in one location to a recipient of services in another location by means of secure electronic communication ensuring HIPAA compliance in either asynchronous or face-to-face synchronous methods and, as appropriate, verbal telephone communications.

Source: *Miss Code Ann.* § 73-30-3 & 73-30-7 (6) (Rev. 2018)

#### **Part 2201. CHAPTER 4. Licensure Requirements**

*Rule 4.3: Requirements to Become a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC)*

- B. Supervision Requirements: An Applicant for full licensure must document the following supervised experience requirements prior to applying for licensure. The supervisor must be a Board approved qualified supervisor (LPC-S). The art of supervision is defined as assisting the counselor in developing expertise in methods of the professional mental health counseling practice and in developing self-appraisal and professional development strategies.
  - 1. A total of three thousand (3,000) supervised hours in not less than eighteen (18) months of counseling in a clinical setting post master's degree (as referenced in 1.4) comprised of the following:
    - a. A maximum of forty (40) supervised hours may be obtained per workweek.
    - b. A maximum of twenty-five (25) hours of direct service may be obtained per work week.
    - c. A minimum of one thousand two hundred (1,200) supervised hours must be in Direct Services with clients and/or psychotherapy service to clients. Direct Services are

only face-to-face counseling including individual counseling, couples/family counseling, group counseling, and testing and assessment.

- d. One hundred (100) hours of individual face-to-face supervision are required. The Board will accept supervision hours meeting the following maximum ratios: one (1) supervision hour to forty (40) hours of services provided OR one (1) hour of supervision to twenty-five (25) hours of Direct Services. In a typical 40-hour workweek, a maximum of twenty-five (25) hours of Direct Services will be accepted. For persons working part-time, supervision should occur no less frequently than every other week.
  - e. Group supervision will be acceptable for not more than fifty (50) hours of the required one hundred (100) hours of individual supervision. Two (2) hours of group supervision is equivalent to one (1) hour of individual supervision. Total hours of group supervision should be reported in full and will then be divided by two (2) by the Board at review time.
  - f. Individual supervision provided by multiple supervisors regarding the same direct client service hours at the same site during the same time frame will not be accepted.
2. In order to receive supervision by a Board qualified supervisor with the LPC-S credential and obtain required experience for licensure, Licensees who have completed the requirements for licensure may practice in a clinical setting that is governed by federal, state, county, or municipality. Where this is not the case, a Licensee may practice under the supervision of an LPC-S in a setting where an LPC is immediately available on site. In this situation, an affiliation agreement between the Licensee and the practice shall be submitted to the Board, which indicates the immediate availability of an onsite LPC and that the Licensee shall not practice independently or hold oneself out as a counselor in independent practice.
  3. Individual and Group Supervision provided by way of Distance Professional Services by an LPC-S is subject to the following criteria:
    - a. LPC-S must be qualified to provide Distance Professional Services according to Rule 7.5.
    - b. Distance supervision sessions must be provided by secure means of synchronous video conferencing only. Supervision by telephone, email, chat, or other forms of communication must be reserved to only emergency communications.
    - c. The Supervision Contract submitted to the Board must include information explaining the use and limits of distance supervision, specify the qualifications of the LPC-S to provide distance supervision, and establish procedures for managing the failure of the video communication system.
  4. Effective July 1, 2015, Applicants shall present supervised experience obtained within the last seven (7) years.

5. Supervision Verification forms must be submitted in sealed, signed envelopes in the application packet or through the online process available.
6. Supervision hours shall be submitted via the Board's online Supervision Reporting Log. Supervisees are still responsible for keeping a backup copy of logs. Supervision content notes shall be kept individually by Supervisor.
7. Every LPC-S shall submit an online evaluation of the P-LPC as part of the P-LPCs Annual Renewal.
8. The P-LPC must remain under supervision until the LPC is issued.

Source: *Miss Code Ann.* § 73-30-7 (6) & 73-30-9 (Rev. 2018)

## **Part 2201. CHAPTER 7. Professional Responsibilities**

### *Rule 7.5: Practice of Distance Professional Services*

Any person providing counseling or supervision services through the means of Distance Professional Services (Telemental Health) must meet the following requirements:

1. Be an Active Status P-LPC, LPC, or LPC-S in Mississippi.
2. Hold a license in good standing in the location of the recipient receiving services.
3. Submit to the Board verification of training (including synchronous or asynchronous audio/video webinars) in TeleMental Health counseling by completing one of the following:
  - a. Show completion of the Board Certified-TeleMental Health (BC-TMH) credential from the Center for Credentialing and Education, Inc. (CCE), an affiliate of the National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC), or an equivalent credential as recognized by CCE.
  - b. Professional training. The professional training must be a minimum of nine (9) clock hours. All professional training must include:
    - i. HIPAA compliance for Telemental Health
    - ii. Ethical and legal issues in Telemental Health, including confidentiality/privacy issues
    - iii. Crisis planning & protocols in Telemental Health
    - iv. Choosing and using technology in Telemental Health
    - v. Orienting clients to Telemental Health
    - vi. Telemental health settings and care coordination

vii. Appropriateness of Telemental Health

Professional training can be gained by either:

- (1) Graduate-Level Academic Training (as documented on the syllabus) or
- (2) Continuing Education training course (as documented by certificate).

- c. P-LPCs can practice TeleMental Health counseling with the approval from his/her LPC-S, who must be designated by the Board to be a Distance Professional Services provider.
4. At the time of license renewal, LPC's must document 2 hours of continuing education in Telemental Health counseling and P-LPCs must document 1 hour of continuing education in Telemental Health counseling. These continuing education hours are included as part of the required continuing education requirements for renewal.
  5. No licensing fee will be assessed for the Distance Professional Services provider designation.