

Chapter 62. Board of Professional Counselors.

(Words in **boldface and underlined** indicate language being added; words [CAPITALIZED AND BRACKETED] indicate language being deleted.)

12 AAC 62.130 is amended to read:

12 AAC 62.130. License by credentials. The board will issue a professional counselor license by credentials to an applicant who meets the requirements of AS 08.29.120, and of this section. An applicant for a license under this section must

- (1) submit a complete application, on a form provided by the department;
- (2) pay the applicable fees established in 12 AAC 02.325;
- (3) submit verification that the applicant holds a license to practice professional counseling in another jurisdiction, current as of the date of application;
- (4) submit documentation of the licensure requirements of the jurisdiction where the applicant holds a license to practice professional counseling;
- (5) submit verification of completion of 40 continuing education credits, including **at least 20 hours of the continuing education credits earned through attendance and completion of synchronous courses, seminars, and workshops as specified in 12 AAC 62.310(d), and** three of the continuing education credits in ethics within the previous two years immediately preceding application for licensure by credentials; the continuing education must comply with 12 AAC 62.320;
- (6) submit complete information regarding any disciplinary action or investigation taken or pending against the applicant, from all licensing jurisdictions where the applicant has ever held a professional counselor license; and
- (7) submit a report of state criminal justice information under AS 12.62.005 -

12.62.200, and if a state other than this state is the applicant's primary state of residence, an equivalent report issued by that other state. (Eff. 10/30/99, Register 152; am 1/29/2009, Register 189; am 9/20/2015, Register 215; am ___/___/_____, Register _____)

Authority: AS 08.29.020 AS 08.29.120 AS 08.29.400

12 AAC 62.200 is amended to read:

12 AAC 62.200. Approved counselor supervisor certification. (a) The board will certify as an approved counselor supervisor an applicant who meets the requirements of AS 08.29.210 and of this section. An applicant for certification under this section must

- (1) submit a complete application, on a form provided by the department;
- (2) submit the board-approved supervisor fee established in 12 AAC 02.325;
- (3) certify that the applicant adheres, and will continue to adhere, to the ethical guidelines adopted in (b) of this section;
- (4) submit documentation of having completed at least **45** [SIX] contact hours of continuing education related to supervision of **professional counselors** [MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS] within the two years preceding the date of application; **the 45 contact hours of continuing education must include at least 20 hours earned through attendance and completion of synchronous courses, seminars, and workshops; the 45 contact hours must be obtained through any of the following:**

(A) a three semester hours graduate course in clinical supervision;

(B) a National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC);

(C) an American Counseling Association (ACA);

(D) an American Mental Health Counselors Association (AMHCA);

or

(E) other courses related to professional counseling supervision may be presented to the board for pre-approval; and

(5) if the applicant is applying to be certified as an approved counselor supervisor from another jurisdiction, submit a copy of the applicant's license in that jurisdiction.

(b) The code of ethics for an approved counselor supervisor certified under this section is the *AMHCA Code of Ethics*, adopted by reference in 12 AAC 62.900. (Eff. 10/30/99, Register 152; am 1/28/2005, Register 173; am 12/29/2006, Register 180; am 7/12/2008, Register 187; am 1/14/2011, Register 197; am 9/20/2015, Register 215; am ____/____/_____, Register _____)

Authority: AS 08.29.020 AS 08.29.110 AS 08.29.210

12 AAC 62.220 is amended to read:

12 AAC 62.220. Supervised experience. (a) To be accepted by the board, supervised experience required under AS 08.29.110(a)(6) must include experience in those professional counseling skills included in the definition of "practice of professional counseling" in AS 08.29.490.

(b) **To** [BEFORE JULY 1, 2007, TO] meet the supervised experience requirements of AS 08.29.110(a)(6), the board will accept the hours of supervised experience, accumulated by an applicant for licensure, under the supervision of a person that **is** [HAS NOT BEEN] certified **before the supervision begins**, as an approved counselor supervisor under 12 AAC 62.200 [ONCE THAT PERSON IS CERTIFIED AS AN APPROVED COUNSELOR SUPERVISOR].

The board will also accept the hours of supervised experience, accumulated by an applicant for licensure, under the supervision of a person who has not been certified as an approved

counselor supervisor under 12 AAC 62.200 once that person becomes certified as an approved counselor supervisor by the board.

(c) **Repealed** / / _____ [BEGINNING JULY 1, 2007, TO MEET THE SUPERVISED EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS OF AS 08.29.110(a)(6), THE BOARD WILL ONLY ACCEPT THE HOURS OF SUPERVISED EXPERIENCE, ACCUMULATED BY AN APPLICANT FOR LICENSURE, UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF A PERSON THAT IS CERTIFIED, BEFORE THE SUPERVISION BEGINS, AS AN APPROVED COUNSELOR SUPERVISOR UNDER 12 AAC 62.200].

(d) **At** [EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN (e) OF THIS SECTION, AT] least 50 hours of the 100 hours of face-to-face supervised experience required under AS 08.29.110(a)(6) must be accumulated by an applicant in a one-on-one setting with a supervisor certified as an approved counselor supervisor under 12 AAC 62.200. An applicant may accumulate the remaining 50 hours of supervised experience in a one-on-one setting or a group setting with a supervisor certified as an approved counselor supervisor under 12 AAC 62.200. **An applicant must accumulate a minimum of one hour of supervision monthly.**

(e) **An** [BEFORE THE SUPERVISION BEGINS, AN] applicant [WHO PRACTICES IN A REMOTE LOCATION] may **receive** [SUBMIT A WRITTEN REQUEST TO THE BOARD TO ALLOW] supervision by telephonic or electronic means [IN LIEU OF THE FACE-TO-FACE SUPERVISION REQUIRED UNDER AS 08.29.110(a)(6). THE BOARD MAY APPROVE TELEPHONIC OR ELECTRONIC SUPERVISION IN LIEU OF FACE-TO-FACE SUPERVISION OF AN APPLICANT WHO PRACTICES IN A REMOTE LOCATION IF THE BOARD DETERMINES THAT

(1) APPROVED COUNSELOR SUPERVISORS ARE NOT PRACTICING AT,

OR WITHIN A REASONABLE DISTANCE OF, THAT LOCATION; OR

(2) THE APPROVED COUNSELOR SUPERVISORS PRACTICING AT THAT LOCATION CANNOT PROVIDE APPROPRIATE SUPERVISION BECAUSE OF THE SUPERVISOR'S RELATIONSHIP TO THE APPLICANT, A POSSIBLE CONFLICT OF INTEREST, OR OTHER GOOD CAUSE SHOWN].

(f) In this section, "face-to-face" is synonymous with means happening precisely at the same time during which the supervisor and supervisee are able to communicate in real time. (Eff. 10/30/99, Register 152; am 1/28/2005, Register 173; am ____/____/____, Register _____)

Authority: AS 08.29.020 AS 08.29.110 AS 08.29.210

12 AAC 62.900 is amended to read:

12 AAC 62.900. Code of Ethics. (a) The American Mental Health Counselors Association's *AMHCA Code of Ethics*, revised as of **2015, 2020** [2010], is adopted by reference as the code of ethics for professional counselors in the state. A professional counselor licensed in the state must adhere to the code of ethics.

(b) When using or administering assessment instruments described in AS 08.29.490(1)(C), a professional counselor shall comply with Section D: Assessment and Diagnosis of the *AMHCA Code of Ethics* adopted by reference in (a) of this section.

(c) Licensed professional counselors shall retain their clients' records post-termination for a minimum of seven years. (Eff. 10/30/99, Register 152; am 7/12/2008, Register 187; am 9/20/2015, Register 215; am ____/____/____, Register _____)

Authority: AS 08.29.020

Editor's note: A copy of the *AMHCA Code of Ethics*, adopted by reference in 12 AAC 62.900 is available for inspection at the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing, P.O. Box 110806, Juneau, AK 99811-0806, or may be obtained from the American Mental Health Counselors Association, **675 North Washington Street, Suite 470** [801 N. FAIRFAX STREET, STE. 304], Alexandria, VA 22314; telephone: (800) 326-2642; fax (703) 548-4775; Internet: <http://www.amhca.org>.

12 AAC 62.990(c) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

(6) "synchronous" means happening precisely at the same time. (Eff.

10/30/99, Register 152; am 1/28/2005, Register 173; am 11/10/2019, Register 232; am
____ / ____ / _____, Register _____)

Authority: AS 08.29.020