

**BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES REGULATORY BOARD
ADDICTION COUNSELING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2022**

Approved Minutes

- I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chair Deb Stidham at 11:00 a.m.

Advisory Committee Members in Attendance: Advisory Committee members who participated by Zoom were Deb Stidham, Jacqueline Lightcap, Christina Boyd, Jason Hess, Shane Hudson, Chad Jacobs, Mike James, Charity Kossin, and Dulcinea Rakestraw. Lisa Carter was absent.

BSRB Staff in Attendance: David Fye, Leslie Allen, and Sami Barksdale were present by Zoom.

Visitors: None.

- II. Review and Approval for the Agenda:** Christina Boyd moved to approve the agenda with no changes. Charity Kossin seconded. The motion passed.
- III. Review and Approval of Minutes from Meeting on September 16, 2022.** Deb Stidham, Advisory Committee Chair, moved to approve the minutes with two typographical corrections. Christina Boyd seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- IV. Executive Director Report:** David Fye, Executive Director for the Behavioral Sciences Regulatory (BSRB), provided updates on Board action at the Board's annual off-site planning meeting on October 24, 2022.
- V. Old Business**
- A. Discussion on New License Types.** The Chair of the Advisory Committee discussed a proposal for two new possible types of addiction counseling licenses.

The first new type of license would be a Graduate Student Temporary Licensed Master's Addiction Counselor (LMAC) license for individuals who have completed at least a bachelor's degree in addiction counseling or a related field and are enrolled in a master's program in addiction counseling or a related field. The proposal would be that the temporary license would last for two years, but could be renewed once for an additional two year period. Members of the Advisory Committee expressed strong support for development of this type of license, though some questions were asked about the impact on an individual working full-time while pursuing courses towards a master's degree. Also, the Advisory Committee discussed hearing that KDADS has recently had discussions on development of a counselor-in-training program and the Chair of the Board noted she would investigate this topic further following the meeting. Advisory Committee members discussed that it may be helpful to add

language to the unprofessional conduct regulations on licensees who practice outside of these conditions or parameters.

The second new type of license would be a Student Temporary Licensed Addiction Counselor (LAC) license for individuals who have completed a bachelor's degree in addiction counseling or a related field who are pursuing licensure with a plan to complete the required addiction counseling courses within 24 months. The proposal would be that the temporary license would last for one year, but could be renewed once for an additional year. Advisory Committee members discussed whether to accept completion of an associate's degree (or equivalent hours), rather than completion of a bachelor's degree. It was noted that accepting an associate's degree may impact the estimated length for holding this new temporary license, as more time may be necessary to complete remaining courses. Advisory Committee members expressed support for further development of this type of license.

VI. New Business

A. Discussion on Current Educational License Requirements. Advisory Committee members discussed that some addiction counseling education requirements in regulation are somewhat unique compared to other states and may make it difficult for individuals to become licensed in Kansas if individuals received their education in another state.

Advisory Committee members discussed current educational requirements in K.A.R. 102-7-3, reviewing existing course requirements and discussing whether to recommend changes to the Board. In K.A.R. 102-7-3(c)(2), methods of individual counseling, Advisory Committee members were supportive of modifying existing language so that other types of individual counseling courses could satisfy this requirement. It was noted that modifications to this regulation may be helpful when evaluating applicants from schools in Arizona or California, based on courses offered in those states. In K.A.R. 102-7-3(c)(5), coursework in co-occurring disorders, it was noted that language could be modified include courses such as abnormal psychology, by changing the existing phrasing. Mike James indicated that he would work on draft language on this topic and would provide that language to the Chair of the Advisory Committee and the Executive Director so it could be discussed at the next Advisory Committee meeting.

In K.A.R. 102-7-3(c)(8), family and community studies, the Advisory Committee discussed the possible option of striking the reference to "the impact of addiction on the family and society; and the development of culturally informed skills utilized in the treatment and recovery process." It was noted that striking this language may open this topic to counting courses offered by other professions. Mike James noted he would research syllabi from schools offering courses in this area and he would provide that information back at the next Advisory Committee meeting.

The Advisory Committee discussed the current language on practicum requirements, noting that the existing language is somewhat specific to substance use disorder. Leslie Allen, Assistant Director and Licensing Manager for the BSRB, noted that the regulations currently require completion of a practicum from the institution where the majority of the coursework was received or the program where the individual received their addiction counseling coursework. Some out-of-state programs do not offer a practicum meeting this requirement or may offer practicums that do not reach the number of hours required for practicums in the regulations. Advisory Committee members expressed support for offering flexibility in this area, including possibly allowing individuals to satisfy this requirement with experience in lieu of meeting certain requirements, which could be attained while an individual was working under one of the newly proposed temporary license types. Advisory Committee members discussed whether the total of 400 practicum hours should be decreased and agreed to continue discussing this topic further at the next Advisory Committee meeting.

B. Discussion on Proposal to Modify License Reinstatement Fee. The Chair of the Advisory Committee noted the BSRB has been considering a new proposal directed at individuals who were previously licensed by the BSRB, but have allowed their licenses to lapse for at least a year. Currently, individuals in this category would need to attain all continuing education hours for the prior license prior before their license could be reinstated and they would be required to pay double the license fee, due to the requirement that they would need to pay the license fee plus a reinstatement fee equaling the same amount. Under this new proposal, these individuals would be able to request a temporary license which would last for 6 months, so that they could begin working while satisfying the continuing education requirement and the fee to reinstate would be reduced to only the license fee. Advisory Committee members expressed support for this proposed change.

VII. Next Meeting. Advisory Committee members expressed a desire for a three-hour meeting, to ensure there is sufficient time to discuss all items at the meeting. The meeting was scheduled for Friday, December 16, 2022, from 10am until 1pm.

VIII. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned.