May 14, 2019

Dear Social Work Licensee:

The statutory requirements for licensure as a specialist clinical social worker (LCSW) have recently changed. Senate Bill 15 changed the hours of supervised clinical experience from 4000 total hours to 3000 total hours and the required supervision hours from 150 hours to 100 hours for new (non-reciprocity) LCSW applications only. These two changes are the only changes to the licensure requirements for the LCSW.

Any LCSW application received in the Board office on or after May 9, 2019 will be reviewed using the new licensure requirements. The requirements are:

- At least 3000 hours of supervised clinical experience. The minimum client contact hours requirement is unchanged. The law change only reduces the total of overall hours of supervised clinical experience from 4000 hours to 3000 hours.
- A minimum of 100 supervision meetings and at least 100 hours of supervision, with a minimum of 75 hours of individual supervision. The minimum number of required meetings is unchanged. The law change only applies to the supervision hours being reduced from 150 hours to 100 hours.
- Per your clinical supervisor, you have met the goals as defined in your training plan, and he/she would recommend you for clinical licensure at the time of your LCSW application.
- You meet all other regulatory LCSW licensure requirements to include the above noted changes.

The above changes automatically apply to anyone currently accruing hours under an approved training plan. No training plan amendment is required to initiate the above changes.

Any and all other changes to an approved training plan must be reported to the Board within 45 days of the change per current regulatory requirements.

For your reference the new required hours are broken down as follows:

3000 total hours of supervised clinical experience
2000 hours – Client Contact
1000 hours – Indirect client contact
100 hours of supervision (at least 75 hours must be individual supervision)

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2000 hours of “Clinical Contact”

- Contact with Clients

  - **At least 1500** of these 2000 hours MUST be **Direct Client Contact**:
    - Face to Face
    - Individual, Family or Group service to client system
    - Conducting Psychotherapy, Diagnosis (although the diagnosis does not have to be official) and Assessment

  - **Up to 500** of these 2000 hours **may** be from providing clinical social work practice services (excluding assessment and psychotherapy):
    - Client-centered advocacy
    - Consultation (collaborating with other providers in ways that enhance assessment and/or therapy)
    - Evaluation
    - Interventions directed to interpersonal interactions, intrapsychic dynamics and life support, and management issues (this is often psychoeducation)

  - Still needs to be contact with clients, but may also include phone calls

- All 2000 hours may come from direct client contact conducting assessments, diagnosis and treatment. Providing clinical social work practice services is not required.

Sincerely,

Max L. Foster, Jr.
Executive Director