

102-3-4b. Application for licensure based on reciprocity.

(a) Each individual who wishes to be licensed as a professional counselor or a clinical professional counselor based on reciprocity, as provided by K.S.A. 65-5807 and amendments thereto, shall submit an application for licensure in accordance with the provisions of this regulation.

(b) Each applicant for licensure as a professional counselor shall request the application forms for licensure by reciprocity from the board. Each applicant shall ensure that the application materials are submitted to the board as follows:

(1) The applicant shall submit the completed application form and shall submit payment in full of the application for a license fee, as provided in K.A.R. 102-3-2.

(2) The applicant shall forward to the licensing agency for the jurisdiction in which the applicant is currently licensed, certified, or registered as a professional counselor a form provided by the board on which the licensing agency is to provide the following documentation:

(A) Verification that the applicant currently holds a valid license, registration, or certification to practice professional counseling issued by the licensing agency;

(B) the date on which the applicant was initially licensed, registered, or certified as a professional counselor by the licensing agency and a complete history of each subsequent renewal, reinstatement, and lapse in licensure, registration, or certification. If an applicant is seeking licensure based on reciprocity under the provisions of paragraph (a)(2) of K.S.A. 65-5807 and amendments thereto, the applicant shall ensure that documentation covering the five continuous years of licensure, registration, or certification as a professional counselor that immediately precede the date of the application is submitted to the board by the licensing agency for each jurisdiction in which the applicant was licensed, registered, or certified during that five-year period;

(C) a complete history of any disciplinary action of a serious nature brought by the licensing agency against the applicant. For purposes of this regulation, "disciplinary action of a serious nature" means the revocation or suspension of a license, registration, or certification issued by the licensing board or the voluntary surrender of a license, registration, or certification in lieu of the completion of an investigation or final disciplinary action; and

(D) either verification that the standards for licensure, certification, or registration as a professional counselor in that jurisdiction are substantially equivalent to the standards in Kansas or verification that the applicant has earned a master's degree in professional counseling, the date on which the applicant earned the degree, and the name of the university or college granting the degree. The completed form shall be returned to the board by the licensing agency and shall not be forwarded to the applicant.

(3) If the applicant is seeking licensure based on reciprocity under the provisions of paragraph (a)(2) of K.S.A. 65-5807, and amendments thereto, rather than on the basis that the standards for licensure, registration, or certification are substantially equivalent to the standards for licensure as a professional counselor in Kansas, the applicant shall ensure that following additional documentation is submitted:

(A) An attestation by the applicant that the applicant engaged in the professional practice of professional counseling an average of at least 15 hours per week for nine months during each of the five years immediately preceding the date of application for licensure based on reciprocity; and

(B) if the licensing agency does not provide verification that the applicant holds a master's degree in professional counseling, an original transcript sent directly from the university or college granting the degree that identifies all applicable graduate coursework and the date on which the applicant was granted a master's degree in professional counseling.

(c) In addition to complying with the requirements of subsection (b), each applicant for licensure as a clinical professional counselor shall demonstrate competence to diagnose and treat mental disorders by submitting at least two of the following three forms of documentation:

(1)(A) A transcript sent directly from a regionally accredited university or college documenting satisfactory completion of 15 graduate credit hours supporting diagnosis or treatment of mental disorders, including the following coursework:

(i) Two graduate semester hours of discrete coursework in ethics;

(ii) two graduate semester hours of discrete coursework in psychopathology and diagnostic assessment, including the study of the latest edition of the “diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders” and of assessment instruments that support diagnosis; and

(iii) coursework that addresses interdisciplinary referrals, interdisciplinary collaborations, and treatment approaches; or

(B) verification from either the licensing agency or the testing service that the applicant passed a national clinical examination approved by the board, including the applicant's score on the exam and the passing score established for the exam;

(2) one or both of the following types of documentation, which shall cover periods of time totaling at least three years:

(A) An attestation by a supervisor or other designated representative of the applicant's employer that the applicant has at least three years of clinical practice, including at least eight hours of client contact per week during nine months or more of each year, in a community mental health center or its affiliate, a state mental hospital, or another employment setting in which the applicant engaged in clinical practice that included diagnosis or treatment of mental disorders; or

(B) an attestation by the applicant that the applicant engaged in a minimum of three years of independent clinical practice that included diagnosis or treatment of mental disorders, as well as supporting documentation in the form of a published job description, a description of the applicant's practice in a public information brochure, a description of services in an informed consent document, or other similar published statements demonstrating that the applicant has engaged in independent clinical practice for a minimum of three years; or

(3) an attestation that the applicant has demonstrated competence in diagnosis or treatment of mental disorders and that is signed by a professional licensed to practice medicine and surgery, or by a professional licensed psychologist, a licensed specialist clinical social worker, or another professional licensed to diagnose and treat mental disorders in independent practice.

(Authorized by K.S.A. 65-5807, as amended by 2003 HB 2234, Sec. 2, and K.S.A. 74-7507; implementing K.S.A. 65-5807, as amended by 2003 HB 2234, Sec. 2, K.S.A. 65-5808 and 65-5809; effective T-102-7-1-03, July 1, 2003; effective Oct. 31, 2003.)