

MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

ACT AMENDMENTS

2003 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Sponsor: D. Chris Buttars

This act modifies the Mental Health Professional Practice Act by allowing a certified social worker intern to provide mental health therapy under the supervision of a clinical social worker. The act provides for the issuance of temporary licenses to marriage and family therapists and professional counselors.

This act affects sections of Utah Code Annotated 1953 as follows:

AMENDS:

58-60-115, as enacted by Chapter 311, Laws of Utah 1998

58-60-204, as enacted by Chapter 32, Laws of Utah 1994

58-60-205, as last amended by Chapter 28, Laws of Utah 1995

ENACTS:

58-60-117, Utah Code Annotated 1953

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **58-60-115** is amended to read:

58-60-115. License by endorsement.

The division shall issue a license by endorsement under this chapter to a person who:

- (1) submits an application on a form provided by the division;
- (2) pays a fee determined by the department under Section 63-38-3.2;
- (3) provides documentation of current licensure in good standing in any state, district, or territory of the United States to practice in the profession in which licensure is being sought;
- (4) provides documentation of having been actively engaged in the legal practice of his profession, including, but not limited to, mental health therapy, for not less than 4,000 hours during the three years immediately preceding the date of application for licensure in Utah;
- (5) has passed the profession specific jurisprudence examination if required of a new applicant; and

(6) is of good moral character and professional standing, and has no disciplinary action pending or in effect against the applicant's license in any jurisdiction.

Section 2. Section **58-60-117** is enacted to read:

58-60-117. Externship licenses.

(1) The division shall issue a temporary license under Part 3 or 4 of this chapter to a person who:

(a) submits an application for licensure under Part 3 or 4;

(b) pays a fee determined by the department under Section 63-38-3.2;

(c) holds an earned doctoral degree or master's degree in a discipline that is a prerequisite for practice as a mental health therapist;

(d) has one or more deficiencies in course work, experience, training, or examination;

(e) provides mental health therapy as an employee of a public or private organization, which provides mental health therapy, while under the supervision of a person licensed under this chapter; and

(f) is of good moral character and has no disciplinary action pending or in effect against the applicant in connection with the practice of mental health therapy, in any jurisdiction.

(2) A temporary license issued under this section shall expire upon the earlier of:

(a) issuance of the license applied for; or

(b) one year from the date the temporary license was issued.

(3) The temporary license issued under this section is an externship license.

Section 3. Section **58-60-204** is amended to read:

58-60-204. License classifications.

The division shall issue licenses and certifications to individuals qualified under this part in the classifications:

(1) clinical social worker;

(2) certified social worker; ~~and~~

(3) certified social worker intern; and

~~(3)~~ (4) social service worker.

Section 4. Section **58-60-205** is amended to read:

58-60-205. Qualifications for licensure or certification as a clinical or certified social worker, certified social worker intern, and social service worker.

(1) An applicant for licensure as a clinical social worker shall:

- (a) submit an application on a form provided by the division;
- (b) pay a fee determined by the department under Section 63-38-3.2;
- (c) be of good moral character;
- (d) produce certified transcripts from an accredited institution of higher education

recognized by the division in collaboration with the board verifying satisfactory completion of an education and earned degree as follows:

(i) an earned master's degree in social work resulting from completion of an education program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education; or

(ii) an earned doctoral degree in social work that results from successful completion of a clinical concentration and practicum approved by the division and defined by rule under Section 58-1-203;

(e) have completed a minimum of 4,000 hours of clinical social work training as defined by division rule under Section 58-1-203 in not less than two years and under the supervision of a clinical social worker supervisor approved by the division in collaboration with the board;

(f) document successful completion of not less than 1,000 hours of supervised training in mental health therapy obtained after completion of the education requirement in Subsection (1)(d), which training may be included as part of the 4,000 hours of training in Subsection (1)(e), and of which documented evidence demonstrates not less than 100 of the hours were obtained under the direct personal face to face supervision of a clinical social worker approved by the division in collaboration with the board;

(g) have completed a case work, group work, or family treatment course sequence with a clinical practicum in content as defined by rule under Section 58-1-203; and

(h) pass the examination requirement established by rule under Section 58-1-203.

(2) An applicant for licensure as a certified social worker shall:

- (a) submit an application on a form provided by the division;
- (b) pay a fee determined by the department under Section 63-38-3.2;
- (c) be of good moral character;
- (d) produce certified transcripts from an accredited institution of higher education

recognized by the division in collaboration with the Social Worker Licensing Board verifying satisfactory completion of an education and an earned degree as follows:

- (i) a social work education program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education and an earned master's degree resulting from completion of that program; or
- (ii) an education program that contains approved clinical social work concentration and practicum in content as defined by rule under Section 58-1-203 and an earned doctorate resulting from completion of that program; and
- (e) pass the examination requirement established by rule under Section 58-1-203.

(3) (a) An applicant for certification as a certified social worker intern shall meet the requirements of Subsections (2)(a), (b), (c), and (d).

(b) Certification under Subsection (3)(a) is limited to the time necessary to pass the examination required under Subsection (2)(e) or six months, whichever occurs first.

(c) A certified social worker intern may provide mental health therapy under the general supervision of a clinical social worker.

~~[(3)]~~ (4) An applicant for licensure as a social service worker shall:

- (a) submit an application on a form provided by the division;
- (b) pay a fee determined by the department under Section 63-38-3.2;
- (c) be of good moral character;
- (d) produce certified transcripts from an accredited institution of higher education

recognized by the division in collaboration with the Social Worker Licensing Board verifying satisfactory completion of an earned degree resulting from education as follows:

- (i) a bachelor's degree in a social work program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education;
- (ii) a master's degree in a field approved by the division in collaboration with the social

worker board; or

(iii) a bachelor's degree in sociology, psychology, family sciences, or other field approved by the division in collaboration with the Social Worker Licensing Board and also documentation of 2,000 hours of supervised social work activity approved by the division in collaboration with the board, which is performed after completing bachelor's degree requirements under this Subsection (4);

(iv) a bachelor's degree in any field, if the applicant has completed:

(A) the equivalent of three credit hours of course work or other approved training in full-life human growth behavior, abnormal psychology, social work values and ethics, social welfare, or social welfare policy;

(B) an approved social work practice methods course; and

(C) one year of qualifying experience under the supervision of a licensed certified or clinical social worker, which experience is approved by the division in collaboration with the Social Worker Licensing Board, and which is performed after completion of the requirements to obtain the bachelor's degree required under this Subsection (4); or

(v) successful completion of the first academic year of a Council on Social Work Education approved master's of social work curriculum and practicum; and

(e) pass the examination requirement established by rule under Section 58-1-203.