DC HEALTH
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING

OPEN SESSION AGENDA

May 16, 2025
10:00 AM – 2:00PM

Virtual Meeting Notice
Currently, all board meetings will be held virtually during the declared public emergency. *Information on how to access the public portion of the meeting is listed below:*
Join by Web https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=mb7db2da02f1ac65acba8e248dc72d81a **Join by Phone** Call in Number: 1-650-479-3208 Call-in toll number (US/Canada) 1-202-860-2110 United States Toll (Washington D.C.) Access Code: 475 199 633

OPEN SESSION May 16, 2025

Call to Order:

OS-0516-01	**Roll Call:**	
OS-0516-02	**Approval of the Agenda** **Board Action:** Acceptance of the May 16, 2025 Open Session Agenda.	
OS-0516-03	**BOARD/DEPARTMENT'S REPORT** **A. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** • Operational Status Update • Licensure Census: • Legislative Updates: **B. BOARD ATTORNEY'S REPORT** **C. BOARD CHAIR'S REPORT**	
OS-0516-04	**Open Session Minutes** **Board Action:** Consideration of the Open Session minutes from April 18, 2025, Board Meeting.	
OS-0516-05	**Consent Agenda:** **Board Action:** Consideration of the applications approved for purposes of review and/or ratification of Board actions taken since the last Board meeting.	
OS-0516-06	**MFT Approved Supervisor to Become LGPC Supervisor** **Board:** The Board is to consider whether MFT approved supervisors can be eligible supervisors for LGPC based upon board members review of region educational programs. **Background:** A member of the public brought to the Board a request to consider MFT supervisors becoming LGPC supervisors. Currently in the LGPC Regulations, MFT's are not listed as approved supervisors for LGPCs. The MFT believes that the requirements for supervisor training for MFT aligns better for LGPC's than other allied health professions and it would	

	expand access to a broader range of supervisors for LGPCs in the District. It would provide one means of addressing the shortage of mental health professionals in the District. **Motion:** A motion was made by Victoria Sherk to table this matter to the May 16, 2025, board meeting after each board member complete a review of regional programs in counseling and marriage and family therapy at Trinity (Ms. Pope-Brown), Catholic University (Ms. Sherk), Howard (Ms. Golojuch), GW (Ms. Pope-Brown), Marymount (Ms. Golojuch) and University of Maryland (Ms. Sherk). Seconded by Laura Golojuch.	
OS-0516-07	**Updated Guidance on Remote Supervision** **Board Action**: The Board is to review the updated guidance on remote supervision. **Background**: This updated policy statement is replacing a current Policy Statement 21-001 dated July 9, 2021, that modifies the Board of Professional Counseling (Board)'s interpretation of "immediate supervision". Under the current policy, the District issues two (2) types of professional counseling licenses: Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) and Licensed Graduate Professional Counselor (LGPC). An LGPC is a provisional or transitional license for graduates of professional counseling accruing 3,500 hours of supervised practice experience to qualify for an LPC license. Two hundred (200) of those hours must be performed under immediate supervision, in which the supervisor must be physically present with the supervisee to discuss or observe the supervisee's practice. 17 DCMR § 6603.1(c). In addition, one hundred (100) of the required 200 hours must be obtained under immediate supervision of an LPC. 17 DCMR § 6603.1(c)(1). The supervisor providing immediate supervision under the current must meet the requirements for "immediate supervision" which is permitted real-time, synchronous communication between the supervisor and the supervisee using appropriate real-time technology such as telephone or audiovisual telecommunication. **The use of technology that does not involve real-time communication, such as e-mail or text messaging, while permissible as part of tele-practice and tele-supervision, does not constitute immediate supervision.** Under the updated remote supervision for "immediate supervision" the immediate supervision requirements permit real- time, synchronous communication between a supervisor and their Licensed Graduate	

	Professional Counselor (LGPC) supervisee through the use of appropriate technology, but **only if the supervisee, the supervisor, and the clients being observed or discussed are physically located in the same jurisdiction.**	
OS-0516-08	**Licensure by Endorsement** **Board Action:** The Board is to review the updated Licensure by Endorsement policy and determine if the policy update meets the Board's requirements for licensure. **Background:** The Health Occupations Revision General Amendment Act of 2024 recently revised the requirements for Licensed Professional Counselors (LPC) applicants seeking licensure-by-endorsement. The applicant must meet licensure requirements such as practicing 5 years or more fully licensed as an LPC in another jurisdiction can submit an attestation statement disclosing their nature of practice such as position held, total number of hours practice, location and detail of the nature of practice at each location. **Motion:** A motion was made by Victoria Sherk to include the suggestions made by the board members in the licensure by endorsement policy as discussed and table this matter for final review at the May 16, 2025, board meeting. Seconded by Laura Golojuch. **Vote:** Victoria Sherk, Rhonda Pope-Brown and Laura Golojuch voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.	
OS-0516-09	**Motion to Close** **Board Action:** To go into closed session to discuss confidential matters as permitted in DC Official Code § 2-575(b). **Background:** Pursuant to DC Official Code § 2-575(b), the Board will move into the Closed Executive Session portion of the meeting to discuss the following: 1. To consult with an attorney to obtain legal advice and	

	to preserve the attorney-client privilege between an attorney and a public body, or to approve settlement agreements pursuant to § 2-575(b)(4)(a). 2. Preparation, administration, or grading of scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examinations pursuant to section § 2-575(b)(6). 3. To discuss disciplinary matters pursuant to section § 2-575(b)(9). 4. To plan, discuss, or hear reports concerning ongoing or planned investigation of alleged criminal or civil misconduct or violations of law or regulations, if disclosure to the public would harm the investigation pursuant to section § 2- 575(b)(14).	

	THIS SECTION IS FYI ONLY **NO BOARD DECISION OR ACTION IS NEEDED**
OS-FY1	**Supervised Practice Form** **Update:** Pending the subcommittee meeting. **Background:** A supervised practice form is listed under section 9105.8 regarding the supervised experience requirement which requires the supervisor(s) to submit the completed form to the Board. The purpose of the graduate professional counseling license is to allow individual to practice under supervision of a licensed professional counselor. However, the regulations also indicate a supervisor, or supervisee shall submit a supervised practice form within 2 weeks of commencing supervision. In March 2022, the Board tabled to address the supervised practice form for the subcommittee.
OS-FY2	**Request for Nominations for 2025 AMFTRB Board of Directors Open Positions** Dear AMFTRB State Delegates and Executive Directors, AMFTRB's Election Committee is seeking nominations for the Board of Directors. The openings for the 2025 election are for President-Elect and Secretary. Both positions begin on January 1, 2026. The position of President Elect is for two years followed by two years as President, and one to two years as Past President. The position of Secretary is for two years. Responsibilities are as follows: A. President. The President shall be the Chief Officer of the Association and of the Board of Directors and shall perform such duties as are customary for presiding officers. Subject to the directives of the Board, the President may represent the Association, appoint committees and perform such other duties as required to carry out the policies and serve the purposes of the Association. The President shall serve as an ex-officio member of all committees except the Elections Committee. B. President-Elect. The President-Elect shall assist the President in the discharge of presidential duties; shall officiate for the President during his or her absence or incapacity or at the President's request; shall perform and be vested with all the powers and duties of the President in the case of disability or absence of the President, either at the President's request or by a two-thirds majority vote of the currently seated Board of Directors. Such a vote may be made through a telephone conference call, mail, facsimile, e-mail ballot, videoconference, meeting

or any combination of the foregoing methods. At the time of the decision, a date must be set for review of this decision; shall assume the office of President should a vacancy occur; shall monitor all meetings using the then current edition of Roberts' Rules of Order; shall review the Bylaws and make suggestions for changes (if any) during the second year of his or her term; and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board.

C. Secretary. The Secretary shall record minutes of all proceedings of the Association and of the Board; shall be responsible, in conjunction with the Executive Director, for maintaining a history of the Association; and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors.

The Board hopes to maintain a diverse composition in terms of region, state population, state board membership, education, gender, and ethnicity. Please consider nominating your AMFTRB delegate or alternate delegate.

To submit a nomination, either email Lois Paff Bergen at lois@amftrb.org the name and email address of your nominee or your nominee may complete the Candidate Survey. Nominations must be received before March 31st.

On behalf of the Elections Committee,
Lisa V. Merchant, PhD, LMFT (TX)
Chair Elections Committee

Elections Committee Members are David Fye (KS) and Chilah Brown (MN)

Lois Paff Bergen, PhD, LMFT
Executive Director AMFTRB
1843 Austin Bluffs Parkway
Colorado Springs, CO 80918
719-388-1615
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OS-FY3	**EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ENDORSEMENT APPLICATION (MFT)** **Board Action**: To discuss whether to adopt into policy for MFT applicants who have already taken and passed the nation exam in other jurisdiction in lieu of the AMFRTB National Exams for licensure by endorsement to the District of Columbia. Also, to discuss whether to adopt into policy whether to contact AMFTRB to enquire which other States have Exams that are comparable or equivalent to the AMFTRB National Exams for licensure in DC. **Background**: The current regulation under section 7706 indicates the waiver of examination and educational requirements for licensure. Certain applicants have been licensed in other for a longer duration. For example, over 10 years, and have the required practical experience most often are required to take the AMFTRB National Exams prior to licensure by endorsement in DC. Some states do have the examination waiver requirements for applicants applying by reciprocity provided they might have taken a state exam (example: California State Exams) which might be comparable to the National Exams. The Board to review section 7706 of the current regulations to identify if the requirements could be streamlined to facilitate the administrative, review, and approval process of applicants who fall under this category. Motion: A motion was made by Victoria Sherk to table the Examination requirements for endorsement applications in marriage and family therapy until the February 21, 2025, board meeting. Seconded By Rhonda Pope-Brown. Vote: Victoria Sherk voted in favor of the motion. Rhonda Pope-Brown voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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The next open session meeting is virtual June 20, 2025 at 10:00 am

This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at opengovoffice@dc.gov.