



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

**Health Regulation and Licensing  
Administration**

**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING  
OPEN SESSION MEETING AGENDA**

**March 12, 2021**

**10:00 am to 2:00 pm**

**Virtual Meeting Notice**

*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all board meetings will be held virtually during the declared public health 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)

Access Code: 475 199 633

**OPEN SESSION MARCH 12, 2021**

OS-0321-01	<b>CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL</b>	
OS-0321-02	<b>APPROVAL OF THE OPEN SESSION AGENDA</b>	
OS-0321-03	<b>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT</b>	
OS-0321-04	<b>BOARD ATTORNEY’S REPORT</b>	
OS-0321-05	<b>CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT</b>	
OS-0321-06	<p><b>MINUTES</b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> Consideration of the Open Session Minutes from the February 12, 2021 meeting.</p>	
OS-0321-07	<p><b>SCOPE OF PRACTICE REVISION</b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> Review and discuss whether to update current scope of practice.</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b> While updates to the Health Occupational and Revisions Act (HORA) are taking place, the Board can update its scope of practice. The following is the current scope of practice for counseling and addiction counseling:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Practice of professional counseling</b> means engaging in counseling or psychotherapy activities, including cognitive behavioral therapy or other modality, with or without compensation, to facilitate human development and to identify and remediate mental, emotional, or behavioral conditions and associated difficulties that interfere with mental health and wellness. The practice of professional counseling includes: the processes of conducting interviews, tests, and other forms of assessment for the purpose of diagnosing individuals, families, and groups, as outlined in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Disorders or other appropriate classification schemes, and determining treatment goals and objectives; and assisting individuals, families, and groups through a professional relationship to achieve long-term effective mental, emotional, physical, spiritual, social, educational, or career development and adjustment.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Practice of addiction counseling</b> means providing services, with or without compensation, based on theory and methods of counseling, psychotherapy, and addictionology to persons who are experiencing cognitive, affective, or behavioral psycho-social dysfunction as a direct or indirect result of addiction, chemical dependency, abuse of chemical substances, or related disorders. The practice of addiction counseling includes: Addiction prevention; Crisis intervention; Diagnosis; Referral; Direct treatment; Follow-up, which is rendered to individuals, families, groups, organizations, schools, and communities adversely affected by addictions or related disorders; the education and training of persons in the field of addiction counseling.</li> </ul>	
OS-0321-08	<p><b>ASSESSMENT FEE SCHEDULE</b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> Review and determine whether to approve the assessment fee schedule.</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b> To assist the Board with its work, Board Staff drafted an assessment fee schedule for the Board to review. The schedule features the Board’s most frequently assessed matters.</p>	
OS-0321-09	<p><b>REMOTE SUPERVISION GUIDANCE</b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> Decide whether to extend the expired remote supervision guidance previously issued by the Board.</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b> In June 2020, the Board issued Policy Statement 20-001: Guidance on Remote Supervision during COVID-19 Emergency. The policy was applicable to professional counseling practice and supervision between February 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020. Accordingly, LGPCs who were accruing practice experience to qualify for an LPC license during the time would have met the relevant regulatory requirement based on tele-supervision outlined in this policy guidance.</p>	

OS-0321-10	<p><b>QUESTION ON WHO CAN DIAGNOSIS AND/OR DEVELOP TREATMENT PLANS</b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> The Board is to discuss the question and provided feedback.</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b> "Is either diagnosis or treatment planning reserved to independent practitioners only? Or, may supervised professionals also perform same? If the supervisees cannot perform them, how do they learn?"</p>	
OS-0321-11	<p><b>LPC TITLE USAGE</b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> Determine whether an LPC can advertise as a "LPC Supervisor".</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b> An LPC submitted the following question to the Board for review:</p> <p><i>Am I able to advertise myself as an LPC Supervisor for the District of Columbia and is there any paperwork my resident needs to submit to the board if they select me?</i></p>	
OS-0321-12	<p><b>DISCUSSION – ETHICAL CONCERNS WITH DC SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMS’ RIGHTS AMENDMENT ACT OF 2019</b></p> <p><b><u>Discussion:</u></b> Discuss the potential impact the law will have on licensees and determine whether to take any action(s).</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b> The DC Sexual Assault Victims’ Rights Amendment Act of 2019 included the right to an advocate for 13 to 17-year-old youth in DC who have experienced sexual assault. For youth in this age range who were specifically impacted by peer-on-peer or stranger assault, the right to an advocate comes with an exemption to mandated reporting. Licensees would like to ensure that this exemption to mandated reporting under the law for these specific kinds of cases would not present a problematic ethical concern in the eyes of the Board.</p> <p>The Board discussed this matter during the November and December 2020 meetings.</p>	

OS-0321-13	<p><b>MOTION TO CLOSE</b></p> <p><b><u>Board Action:</u></b> To go into closed session to discuss confidential matters as permitted in DC Official Code § 2-575(b).</p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b> Upon conclusion of the open session meeting pursuant to the DC Official Code 2-575(b) and for the purposes set forth therein, the Board will move into the closed executive session portion of the meeting to consult with the Board attorney, discuss disciplinary matters and hear reports concerning violations of the law or regulations.</p>	
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**The next open session meeting scheduled for March 12, 2021 at 10:00am.**

**The Open Meetings Act governs this meeting. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at [opengovoffice@dc.gov](mailto:opengovoffice@dc.gov).**

OSFYI-0321-01	<p><b>TELEHEALTH</b></p> <p><b><u>Background:</u></b> DC Health has created an inter-professional workgroup comprised of the Board Chairs from different licensure boards. The group was established to generate ideas on solving health matters from a multi-discipline approach. The Workgroup has decided to focus its efforts on the development of legislation to address telehealth. A subcommittee will be formed with representation from each health professional board.</p>	
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