

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
HEALTH REGULATION AND LICENSING ADMINISTRATION**

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING  
AUTHORITY FOR GUIDANCE

October 9, 2020  
DATE OF POLICY

20-003  
POLICY NO.

**POLICY STATEMENT**

**INTERPRETATION OF LICENSE ENDORSEMENT REQUIREMENTS  
UNDER D.C. OFFICIAL CODE § 3-1207.10**

In accordance with its authority pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 3-1204.08(1), (2), and (3), the Board of Professional Counseling (Board) hereby adopts this policy interpreting the license endorsement provision enumerated at D.C. Official Code § 3-1207.10(c).

D.C. Official Code § 3-1207.10 provides:

(c) The Board of Professional Counseling shall license, by endorsement, a professional counselor who, in addition to meeting the requirements of § 3-1205.01 et seq., is currently licensed in another state and meets the American Association of State Counseling Boards Tier II requirements, which consist of:

(1) Completion of at least 60 hours of postgraduate education leading to a Master's degree in counseling or a related field obtained from an institution of higher education that is regionally accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the U.S. Department of Education;

(2) Supervision by another person, which shall consist of at least 2 years of post-Master's counseling experience with a minimum of 4,000 hours;

(3) Having 2,500 hours of direct client contact within the 4,000 hours;

(4) A minimum of 100 hours of clinical supervision, post-Master's, of which 50 hours may be in group supervision; and

(5) Five years of post-licensure experience in clinical counseling at the independent level.

Recognizing that some endorsement applicants may not be able to produce documentation verifying details of their post-graduate counseling practice or specific number of direct client

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contact or clinical supervision hours, the Board hereby adopts the interpretation and policy that an endorsement applicant who establishes that he or she meets the requirements of paragraphs 1 and 5 of this subsection shall be deemed to meet the requirements of subparagraphs 2, 3, and 4 as well. Accordingly, an endorsement applicant must provide documentation of possessing a Master's degree in counseling or a related field from an accredited institution and five (5) years of independent professional counseling practice with a licensure in good standing.

All inquiries pertaining to the practice of addiction counseling, including the CE requirements, may be directed to the Board's Health Licensing Specialist, Mr. David Walker, at 202-727-1611 or [david.walker2@dc.gov](mailto:david.walker2@dc.gov).