

Chapter 6-A: LICENSURE BY ENDORSEMENT

Summary: This Chapter outlines the process to issue a license by endorsement to an applicant who presents proof of licensure by another jurisdiction of the United States as long as the other jurisdiction maintains substantially equivalent license requirements.

1. LICENSURE BY ENDORSEMENT

An individual applying for a license by endorsement must meet the following requirements.

1. License From Another U.S. Jurisdiction

An applicant licensed under another jurisdiction who seeks licensure in Maine pursuant to 10 M.R.S. § 8003-H must:

- A. Hold a valid, active counseling license issued by another jurisdiction of the United States that maintains substantially equivalent license requirements for the type of license sought;
- B. Submit a completed application form;
- C. Submit any fee as required by Chapter 10 of the rules of the Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation; and
- D. Submit the applicant's proposed disclosure statement, as described in Chapter 8-B, Section 2 of the board's rules.

2. Substantially Equivalent License Requirements

"Substantially equivalent license requirements" means that the jurisdiction maintains a pathway for initial licensure that at a minimum requires the education, examination and clinical experience as set forth in Sections 2(A)-(D).

A. Licensed Professional Counselor.

- i. Documented proof of a master's degree in counseling from an accredited institution consisting of at least 48 semester hours or quarter-hour equivalent that was either:

(a) from a program that was accredited at the time the degree was awarded;

or

(b) from a program consisting of an organized sequence of study that

includes curricular experiences and demonstrated knowledge that is substantially equivalent to the core areas of study as set forth in Chapter 2, section 2(1)(C) of board rules.

ii. Proof of a passing score on any of the following examinations: the National Counselor Examination (NCE), National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Examination (NCMHCE) or the Certified Rehabilitation Counselor Examination (CRCE); and

iii. Completion of supervised counseling experience which includes:

(a) direct counseling with individuals, couples, families or groups, and

(b) individual and group supervision.

B. Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor.

i. Documented proof of a master's degree in counseling from an accredited institution consisting of at least 60 semester hours or quarter-hour equivalent that was either:

(a) from a program that was accredited at the time the degree was awarded;

or

(b) from a program consisting of an organized sequence of study that includes curricular experiences and demonstrated knowledge that is substantially equivalent to the core areas of study described in board rules Chapter 3, Section 2(1)(B); and

ii. Proof of a passing score on the National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Examination (NCMHCE); and

iii. Completion of supervised clinical counseling experience which includes:

(a) direct clinical contact hours with individuals and groups; and

(b) individual and group supervision

C. Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist.

i. Documented proof of a master's degree in marital, couple, and family counseling/therapy from an accredited institution consisting of at least 60 semester hours or quarter-hour equivalent:

(a) from a program that was accredited as a marital, couple, and family counseling/therapy program at the time the degree was awarded; or

(b) from a marital, couple and family counseling/therapy program consisting of an organized sequence of study that includes curricular experiences and demonstrated knowledge that is substantially equivalent

to the core areas of study as set forth in Chapter 4, section 2(1)(C) of board rules.

ii. Proof of a passing score on the Marital and Family Therapy Examination, administered by the AMFTRB or its successor organization; and

iii. Completion of supervised clinical counseling experience which includes:

(a) direct clinical contact hours with couples and families, and

(b) individual and group supervision.

D. Licensed Pastoral Counselor.

i. Documented proof of a call to ministry;

ii. Documented proof of a master of divinity or a master's degree in pastoral counseling that consisted of a substantially equivalent core curriculum as set forth in Chapter 5, Section 3(2) of board rules;

ii. Proof of a passing score on the National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Examination (NCMHCE); and

iii. Completion of supervised clinical counseling experience in pastoral counseling which includes:

(a) direct clinical client contact, and

(b) individual and group supervision.

3. Proof of Good Standing in All Jurisdictions

An applicant must be in good standing in all jurisdictions in which the applicant holds or has held a license. For purposes of this subsection, "good standing" means that the applicant does not have a complaint, allegation or investigation pending, does not have a license that is suspended or subject to practice restrictions, and has never surrendered a license or had a license revoked.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 32 M.R.S. §§ 13853(2), 13858(8), 13857(2)(E); 10 M.R.S. § 8003-H

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