

GUIDELINES FOR COUNSELOR CERTIFICATION WITHIN DHCC

An applicant for certification to practice as a “**Counselor**” in the DHCC must meet the following requirements:

Category: Counselor

- 1) Master’s Degree in the specific branch of counseling or a related profession such as psychology, social work, or psychological medicine.
- 2) At least two (2) years of work experience in the specific branch of counseling
- 3) Current certification, registration, or license with a national board
- 4) A certificate of good standing from each country where the applicant has held or currently holds a license to practice.
- 5) Demonstrated good moral character essential for safe and competent practice as attested to by references from educational institutions and previous positions of employment
- 6) English proficiency programs, if the language of instruction is not in English
- 7) Favorable references

Sub Category: Addiction Counselor

- 1) Master’s Degree, consisting of 60 semester hours of graduate study in alcohol and drug studies, psychology, sociology, social work, counseling or a related field, and, 270 contact hours of specific chemical dependency and counseling courses.
- 2) 1000 clock hours of supervised chemical dependency counseling experience in a clinical dependency treatment program and followed by successful passing of a competency examination
- 3) Two (2) years or 3000 clock hours of supervised clinical experience beyond the master’s degree level, with 1000 of those hours spent in direct face to face counseling and followed by successful passing of an officially recognized exam
- 4) Requirements “2” through “7” as stated in “Counselor” Category

Sub Category: Career Counselor

- 1) Master’s Degree, consisting of 60 semester hours of graduate study of which 45 graduate semester hours should be distributed in at least eight of the following areas (*Counseling theory and practice, helping relationship, human growth and development and maladaptive behavior, lifestyle and career development, group dynamics, counseling and consulting, appraisal of individuals, social and cultural foundations, research and evaluation and the counseling profession*).
- 2) 300 clock hours of supervised practicum experience primarily in counseling of which at least 100 hours must be of direct client counseling contact and followed by successful passing of a Comprehensive Examination.
- 3) Two (2) years or 3000 clock hours of supervised experience beyond the master’s degree level under the direction of a board approved supervisor, with 1000 hours spent in direct face to face counseling and followed by successful passing of an officially recognized exam

- 4) Requirements “2” through “7” as stated in the “Counselor” Category

Couples and Family Counselor

- 1) Master’s Degree, consisting of 67-69 semester hours of graduate study.
- 2) 600 clock hours of supervised practicum experience primarily in counseling and followed by successful passing of a Comprehensive Examination
- 3) Completion of the specific coursework in Marital, Couple & Family Counseling/Therapy (to include courses such as sex therapy, human development and psychopathology).
- 4) Two (2) years or 3000 clock hours of supervised clinical experience beyond the master’s degree level under the direction of a board approved supervisor, with at least 1000 hours of those hours spent in direct face to face counseling, and followed by successful passing of a national licensure or certification examination.
- 5) Requirements “2” through “7” as stated in the “Counselor” Category

Rehabilitation Counselor

- 1) Master’s Degree, consisting of 60 semester hours of graduate study
- 2) Supervised practicum experience and a minimum of 600 hours of supervised internship experience
- 3) Two (2) years or 3000 clock hours of supervised professional counseling practice including at least 1000 hours of face-to-face client contact and followed by successful passing of a national licensure or certification examination.
- 4) Requirements “2” through “7” as stated in the “Counselor” Category

School Counselor

- 1) Master’s Degree, consisting of 48 semester hours of graduate study in school counseling.
- 2) Supervised practicum experience and a minimum of 600 hours of supervised internship experience with school-aged children
- 3) Two (2) years or 3000 clock hours post degree supervised professional counseling practice of successful teaching and counseling experience which maybe concurrent or under a standard teaching certificate of provisional or professional teacher license, with at least 1000 of those hours spent in direct face to face counseling and followed by successful passing of a national licensure or certification examination.
- 4) Requirements “2” through “7” as stated in the “Counselor” Category

For further information on the licensing procedure please contact:

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