

**GEORGIA COMPOSITE BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS,  
SOCIAL WORKERS AND MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS**  
Teleconference Meeting Minutes – October 15, 2014

The Georgia Composite Board of Professional Counselors, Social Workers and Marriage and Family Therapists met by teleconference on Wednesday, October 15, 2014 at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia with the following members present:

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Tommy Black, LPC, Chair  
Steve Livingston, MFT, Vice-Chair  
Arthur Williams, LPC  
Ben Marion, CSW  
Will Bacon, MFT  
Jack Perryman, LPC

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Robert King, CSW  
Tonya Barbee, CSW  
Richard Long, MFT

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT:**

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director, HC 1  
Hope Harrison, Board Support Specialist, HC 1  
Angela Harrison, Licensing Analyst, HC 1  
Amanda Allen, Licensing Analyst, HC

**ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE:**

Tricia Downing, Esq., Senior A.A.G.

**Tommy Black, Chair, established a quorum of the Board was present and called the Board meeting to order at 3:32 p.m.**

**Agenda:** No late agenda items added.

**Minutes:**

**Mr. Livingston motioned, Mr. Williams seconded and the Board voted to accept the recommendations for approval of the following meeting minutes made by the Board members during the October 10, 2014 Committee meeting. None opposed, motion carried.**

- September 12, 2014
- September 24, 2014

**Mr. Livingston motioned, Mr. Bacon seconded and the Board voted to accept the recommendations for approval of the following executive session meeting minutes made by the Board members during the October 10, 2014 Committee meeting. None opposed, motion carried.**

- September 12, 2014
- September 24, 2014

**Correspondence:**

- Rogenia Parker – Inquiring if job description that was submitted will meet the clinical experience criteria.
  - Response: Does not meet the requirements of graduate level supervision

- Elaine Barron – Form B; inquiring if experience hours are valid due to not being compensated for the hours.
  - Response: Clinical volunteer time cannot be counted toward direct work experience.
- Melanie Folgeman – Open records request
  - Response: Recommend denial

**Mr. Livingston motioned, Mr. Bacon seconded, and the Board voted to authorize the administrative staff to respond to all correspondence as recommended during the October 10, 2014 Board Committee meeting and presented to the Board shown above. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Petition for Variance/Waiver Requests:**

- Bond, Frances –135-9-.01 Continuing Education Requirements
  - Approved
- Butzon, April –Rule 135-9-.01 Continuing Education Requirements
  - Approved
- Frasier, Dana – Rule 135-5-.04 Clinical Social Workers
  - Denied
- Garey, Cathy – Rule 135-9-.01 Continuing Education Requirements
  - Approved
- Green, LaMonica – Rule 135-5-.02 Professional Counselors
  - Denied
- Wirth, Frances – Rule 135-9-.01 Continuing Education Requirements
  - Approved

**Mr. Perryman motioned, Mr. Bacon seconded, and the Board voted to accept the recommendations made during the October 10, 2014 Board Committee meeting for the Petitions for Variance/Waiver Request as shown above. None opposed, motion carried.**

**PSC Committee Applicant Appearance:**

- C.I. - LPC

**Mr. Williams motioned, Mr. Perryman seconded, and the Board voted to accept the recommendation of the Professional Standards Committee members who conducted the applicant appearance for C.I. during the October 10, 2014 Board Committee meeting to rescind the initial denial, approve the application and issue license. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Mr. Livingston motioned, Mr. Williams seconded, and the Board voted to accept the recommendations made during the October 10, 2014 Board Committee meeting of the Professional Practices Committee report as presented below. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Professional Practices Committee:**

**REFER TO INVESTIGATIONS:**

COMP150002 and COMP150014

**REFER TO AG'S OFFICE:**

COMP150031

**Recommend Closure:**

COMP110064, COMP120040, COMP140008, COMP140011, COMP140024, COMP140037, COMP140054, COMP140060, COMP140062, COMP140067, COMP140084, COMP140092, COMP150003, COMP150010, COMP150011, COMP150029 and COMP150035

**Applications:**

**Mr. Bacon motioned, Mr. Marion seconded, and the Board voted to accept the following recommendations on the applications as reviewed during the October 10, 2014 Board Committee meeting. None opposed, motion carried.**

**ASSOCIATE MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPISTS CONTRACT CHANGES:**

1. Parker, Tedra	Contract Changes approved
2. Potter, Anthony	Contract Changes approved
3. Reinerth, Scott	Contract Changes approved

**ASSOCIATE MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPIST BY EXAM:**

1. E.B.	Approved for exam
2. K.B.	Approved for exam
3. C.G.	Approved for exam
4. L.H.	Approved for exam
5. M.J.	Approved for exam
6. A.M.	Approved for exam
7. A.P.	Approved for exam
8. L.P.	Approved for exam
9. J.R.	Approved for exam
10. G.R.	Denied
11. J.S.	Approved for exam. Steve is recused from the review of this application file.
12. D.S.	Approved for exam

**ASSOCIATE MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPISTS BY EXAM WAIVER:**

1. H.G.	Pending additional information
2. R.P.	Pending additional information

**MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPIST BY EXAM:**

1. I.D.	Pending additional information
2. K.R.	Approved to sit for exam

**MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPIST BY EXAM WAIVER:**

1. Alvarez, Jennifer	Approved for licensure
2. N.O.	Pending additional information
3. Vann, Laura	Approved for licensure

**MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPISTS BY ENDORSEMENT:**

1. A.D.	Denied: Applicant need to re-submit an LMFT application for licensure by exam waiver
2. Danna, Nicole	Approved for licensure
3. Jackson, Ashley	Approved for licensure
4. Lopez-Currence, Maricel	Approved for licensure

**MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPISTS BY REINSTATEMENT:**

1. W.Q.	Pending additional information
---------	--------------------------------

**ASSOCIATE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR BY EXAM:**

1. M.A.A.	Pending additional information
2. B.A.	Pending additional information
3. D.R.A.	Denied
4. L.S.A.	Approved to sit for exam
5. K.B.	Pending additional information
6. A.B.	Approved to sit for exam
7. K.B.	Approved to sit for exam
8. M.B.	Approved to sit for exam
9. M.C.	Approved to sit for exam
10. B.C.	Approved to sit for exam
11. H.C.	Approved to sit for exam
12. M.C.	Approved to sit for exam
13. L.D.	Approved to sit for exam
14. A.D.	Pending additional information
15. M.D.	Pending additional information
16. L.E.	Approved to sit for exam

17. A.F.	Approved to sit for exam
18. H.H.	Pending additional information
19. C.H.T.	Approved to sit for exam
20. S.J.	Pending additional information
21. A.K.	Approved to sit for exam
22. A.M.	Approved to sit for exam
23. R.M.	Pending additional information
24. A.M.	Approved to sit for exam
25. L.M.	Approved to sit for exam
26. T.M.	Approved to sit for exam
27. J.M.	Approved to sit for exam
28. T.M.	Pending additional information
29. C.N.	Approved to sit for exam
30. D.P.	Pending additional information
31. A.P.	Pending additional information
32. A.R.	Approved to sit for exam
33. J.V.	Approved to sit for exam
34. N.W.	Approved to sit for exam
35. B.W.	Approved to sit for exam
36. S.W.R.	Approved to sit for exam
37. F.W.	Pending additional information
38. V.W.	Approved to sit for exam

**ASSOCIATE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR BY EXAM WAIVER:**

1. Ambler, Pamela	Approved for licensure
2. Anenih, Edith	Approved for licensure
3. Broadwater, Dalin	Approved for licensure
4. Clark, Kathy	Approved for licensure
5. Craft, Stephanie	Approved for licensure
6. Duke, Ashley	Approved for licensure
7. Edouard, Elizabeth	Approved for licensure
8. Fallen-Bobo, Miranda	Approved for licensure
9. Gilliard, Michael	Approved for licensure
10. D.G.	Board to Discuss
11. Hammond, Alysa	Approved for licensure
12. Jenkins, Tony	Approved for licensure
13. Johnson, Savanna	Approved for licensure
14. Jorgensen, Jessica	Approved for licensure
15. Keenan, Marlo	Approved for licensure
16. J.K.	Pending additional information **Arthur Williams Recused
17. Landreth, Pamela	Approved for licensure
18. Letbetter, Tammarra	Approved for licensure
19. Martin, Judy (2500377)	Approved for licensure

20. Martin, Kristi	Approved for licensure
21. McIntyre, Autumn	Approved for licensure
22. Mullinax, Alison	Approved for licensure
23. Norris, Elizabeth	Approved for licensure
24. Patel, Jaymina	Approved for licensure
25. Powell, Emily	Approved for licensure
26. Ramirez, Ofelia	Approved for licensure
27. Sanders, Christina	Approved for licensure
28. Sheerin, Ann	Approved for licensure
29. Sweeney, Joseph	Approved for licensure
30. T.T.	Pending additional information
31. Wells, Jennifer	Approved for licensure
32. F.W.	Pending additional information
33. Wolf, Edison	Approved for licensure

**ASSOCIATE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR CONTRACT AFFIDAVIT CHANGES:**

1. A.B.	Pending additional information
2. Brewer, April	Approved
3. Butler, Susan	Approved
4. Ely, Hillary	Approved
5. K.G.	Pending additional information
6. Headen, Stephanie	Approved
7. Marshall, Amy	Approved
8. McDaniel, Inez	Approved
9. Martin Yates	Approved
10. Otero, Enid	Approved
11. Pierce, Mary	Approved
12. Renfroe, Michael	Approved
13. Thomas, Pamela	Approved
14. Tindall, Richard	Approved
15. Ware, Merry	Approved
16. Wolfe, Amanda	Approved

**ASSOCIATE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR BY REINSTATEMENT:**

1. C.M.	Pending additional information
---------	--------------------------------

**LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR BY EXAM:**

1. A.A.	Approved to sit for exam
2. K.B.	Pending additional information
3. A.B.	Approved to sit for exam
4. N.C.	Approved to sit for exam
5. M.C.	Pending additional information

6. B.G.	Pending additional information
7. S.G.	Pending additional information
8. J.G.	Approved to sit for exam
9. S.H.	Pending additional information
10. C.H.	Denied
11. L.J.	Approved to sit for exam
12. L.K.	Pending additional information
13. D.K.	Pending additional information
14. C.L.	Pending additional information
15. M.M.	Approved to sit for exam.
16. C.M.	Denied
17. D.M.	Approved to sit for exam
18. D.M.	Pending additional information
19. D.P.T.	Approved to sit for exam
20. A.R.	Pending additional information
21. T.T.	Approved to sit for exam
22. N.W.	Pending additional information

**LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR BY EXAM WAIVER:**

1. Ansari, Sarah	Approved for licensure
2. Barnett, Pamela	Approved for licensure
3. Beavers, Andrew	Approved for licensure
4. Bentley, Alice	Approved for licensure
5. J.B.	Pending additional information
6. Bowen, Lorna	Approved for licensure
7. Brown, Denise	Approved for licensure
8. Brown-Allen, Clairice	Approved for licensure
9. Callahan, Tanesha	Approved for licensure
10. Conn, Laura	Approved for licensure
11. Cooper, Hardin	Approved for licensure
12. Cordts, Allison	Approved for licensure
13. Covert, Melanie	Approved for licensure
14. Cowan, Larina	Approved for licensure
15. A.C.	Pending additional information
16. B.D.	Pending additional information
17. B.E.	Pending additional information
18. D.F.	Pending additional information
19. Fannin, Kindrica	Approved for licensure
20. Freeman, Granville	Approved for licensure
21. Fulmer, Shari	Approved for licensure
22. J.G.	Pending additional information
23. Gilling, Leighton	Approved for licensure
24. Goodman, Karensa	Approved for licensure

25. Gore, Krystal	Approved for licensure
26. Gossett, Tiffany	Approved for licensure
27. Gray, Meleah	Approved for licensure
28. Haider-Bardill, Kenneth	Approved for licensure
29. Haralson, Constance	Approved for licensure
30. R.H.	Pending additional information
31. Isaacs, Charissa	Approved for licensure
32. Jackson, Chemara	Approved for licensure
33. J.J.	Pending additional information
34. D.J.C.	Pending additional information
35. Jewett, Alesha	Approved for licensure
36. Jones, Tawaina	Approved for licensure
37. Keller, Mary	Approved for licensure
38. Klueger, Brittney	Approved for licensure
39. V.K.	Pending additional information
40. Korb, Cheryl	Approved for licensure
41. Lee, Wei	Approved for licensure
42. Lord, Tracie	Approved for licensure
43. Maddox, Enricka	Approved for licensure
44. S.M.	Pending additional information
45. McGaughey, Julie	Approved for licensure
46. Mojica, April	Approved for licensure
47. L.M.	Pending additional information
48. Olearczyk, Maria	Approved for licensure
49. Ramsey, Victoria	Approved for licensure
50. Ratliff, RaShanna	Approved for licensure
51. Roberts, Adia	Approved for licensure
52. K.R.	Pending additional information
53. L.S.	Pending additional information
54. L.S.	Pending additional information
55. Sedgwick, Nile	Approved for licensure
56. Smythe, Mary	Approved for licensure
57. Starnes, Courtney	Approved for licensure
58. Sweeting, Tanya	Approved for licensure
59. Swinyard, Kelly	Approved for licensure
60. J.T.	Pending additional information
61. L.W.	Pending additional information
62. M.W.	Pending additional information
63. L.W.	Pending additional information
64. R.W.	Pending additional information
65. Wolf, Edison	Approved for licensure
66. Wright, Elizabeth	Approved for licensure
67. Wright, Sondra	Approved for licensure
68. Zviovich, Laura	Approved for licensure

**LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR BY ENDORSEMENT:**

1. Gyamfi, Helen	Approved for licensure
2. K.J.	Pending additional information
3. Limmer, Johanna	Approved for licensure
4. Moss, LaToya	Approved for licensure
5. W.O.	Pending additional information
6. J.P.	Pending additional information
7. Petaccio, Kelly	Approved for licensure
8. Roberts, Tonja	Approved for licensure
9. L.R.	Pending additional information
10. Trembly, Ara	Approved for licensure
11. Trujillo, Julie	Approved for licensure

**LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS INTERVIEW:**

1. M.D.	Pending additional information
2. S.G.	Pending additional information
3. M.M.	Approved to sit for exam
4. B.W.	Approved to sit for exam

**LPC REINSTATEMENTS:**

1. Broadnax, Jannie	Approved for reinstatement
2. Jacobs, Sandra	Approved for reinstatement
3. C.M.	Pending additional information
4. Taylor, Jeremiah	Approved for reinstatement

**FORM A REVIEW ONLY:**

1. Summers, Aliah	Approved
2. Murphy, Sally	Approved
3. A.S.	Pending

**CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER BY EXAM:**

1. R.A.	Approved to sit for exam
2. C.B.	Approved to sit for exam
3. C.B.	Approved to sit for exam
4. K.B.B.	Approved for licensure
5. M.B.	Approved to sit for exam
6. U.C.U.	Approved to sit for exam
7. D.C.	Approved to sit for exam
8. R.D.	Approved to sit for exam
9. M.E.	Approved to sit for exam
10. K.E.	Approved to sit for exam
11. E.E.	Approved to sit for exam

12. A.F.	Approved to sit for exam
13. A.H.	Approved to sit for exam
14. K.H.	Approved to sit for exam
15. M.I.C.	Approved to sit for exam
16. T.J.	Approved to sit for exam
17. K.J.	Approved to sit for exam
18. A.M.	Approved to sit for exam
19. M.M.	Approved to sit for exam
20. M.M.	Approved to sit for exam
21. C.N.	Approved to sit for exam
22. J.O.	Approved to sit for exam
23. A.P.	Approved to sit for exam
24. A.R.	Approved to sit for exam
25. D.S.	Approved to sit for exam
26. C.S.	Approved to sit for exam
27. C.S.	Approved to sit for exam
28. U.S.	Pending additional information
29. A.V.	Approved to sit for exam
30. J.W.	Pending additional information

**CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER BY EXAM WAIVER:**

1. Arnold, Reinette	Approved for licensure
2. Braun, Daniel	Approved for licensure
3. Breeding, Dana	Approved for licensure
4. Davis, Natonia	Approved for licensure
5. Graff, Nicole	Approved for licensure
6. Marsh, Ryan	Approved for licensure
7. Mize, Tiffany	Approved for licensure
8. L.M.G.	Pending additional information
9. N.O.	Pending additional information
10. Richardson, Moniek	Approved for licensure
11. Scott, Anaika	Approved for licensure

**CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER BY REACTIVATION:**

1. Helmsderfer, Kristy	Approved for reactivation
2. D.M.	Rescheduled for November meeting. Applicant has filed a petition
3. Stevenson, Karen	Approved for reactivation

**MASTER SOCIAL WORKER BY EXAM:**

1. A.A.	Approved to sit for exam
2. A.A.	Approved to sit for exam

3. H.B.	Approved to sit for exam
4. R.B.	Approved to sit for exam
5. S.B.	Approved to sit for exam
6. M.C.	Approved to sit for exam
7. A.C.	Approved to sit for exam
8. J.D.	Approved to sit for exam
9. S.F.	Approved to sit for exam
10. C.G.	Approved to sit for exam
11. C.G.	Approved to sit for exam
12. M.H.	Approved to sit for exam
13. M.H.	Approved to sit for exam
14. M.K.	Approved to sit for exam
15. S.K.	Approved to sit for exam
16. C.K.	Approved to sit for exam
17. N.L.	Approved to sit for exam
18. C.L.	Approved to sit for exam
19. C.L.	Approved to sit for exam
20. F.M.W.	Approved to sit for exam
21. B.M.	Approved to sit for exam
22. C.M.	Approved to sit for exam
23. L.M.	Approved to sit for exam
24. J.N.	Approved to sit for exam
25. E.N.	Approved to sit for exam
26. R.O.	Approved to sit for exam
27. A.P.G.	Approved to sit for exam
28. A.P.	Approved to sit for exam
29. J.P.	Approved to sit for exam
30. J.R.	Approved to sit for exam
31. C.R.	Schedule applicant interview
32. K.R.	Approved to sit for exam
33. A.R.	Approved to sit for exam
34. J.R.	Approved to sit for exam
35. K.S.	Approved to sit for exam
36. A.S.	Approved to sit for exam
37. C.U.	Approved to sit for exam
38. K.W.	Approved to sit for exam
39. M.W.	Approved to sit for exam
40. P.W.	Approved to sit for exam

**MASTER SOCIAL WORKER BY EXAM WAIVER:**

1. Anastasio, Jamie	Approved for licensure
2. Andreason, Lauren	Approved for licensure
3. Balfany, Diane	Approved for licensure

4. Barnard, Abbicumbie	Approved for licensure
5. Coronado, Ana	Approved for licensure
6. Dore, Patricia	Approved for licensure
7. Ellis, Rebecca	Approved for licensure
8. Griffin, Kimberly	Approved for licensure
9. Harvey, Kaylee	Approved for licensure
10. Mulford, Rebecca	Approved for licensure
11. Paul, Sheila	Approved for licensure
12. Passuth, Patricia	Approved for licensure
13. Sourk, Meredith	Approved for licensure
14. Taylor, Juria	Approved for licensure

**APPLICANT INTERVIEW:**

1. M.K.	Approved to sit for exam
2. B.W	Approved to sit for exam
3. S.G.	Pending Additional Information
4. M.M.	Approved to sit for exam
5. M.D.	Pending Additional Information

**MASTER SOCIAL WORKER BY REINSTATEMENT:**

1. N.A.	Refer to the AG's office for public reprimand and fine for ULP
2. V.W.	Approved to sit for exam

**Mr. Williams motioned, Mr. Perryman seconded and the Board voted to refer the following proposed rule amendments to 135-5-.01 APC and 135-5-.02 LPC to the Attorney General's office for a Memo of Statutory Authority. In addition, upon receipt of the memo, to post said rules for the required minimum of thirty (30) days for public viewing before scheduling and conducting a public Rules Hearing to adopt said rules at a subsequent scheduled meeting date. None opposed, motion carried.**

**• 135-5-.01 Associate Professional Counselors. Amended.**

Pursuant to the Official Code of Georgia Annotated 43-10A-11, the requirements for licensure and the restrictions on practice for Associate Professional Counselors are as follows:

(a) Definitions.

1. **“The Practice of Professional Counseling”** means practice in that specialty which utilizes counseling and psychotherapy to evaluate and treat emotional and mental problems and conditions, whether cognitive, behavioral, or affective. The practice is further defined in O.C.G.A. 43-10A-3(10).

2. **“Direction”** means the ongoing administrative overseeing by an employer or superior of a Professional Counselor's work by a director. The director shall be responsible for assuring the quality of the services rendered by that practitioner and shall ensure that

qualified supervision or intervention occurs in situations, which require expertise beyond that of the practitioner.

3. “**Director**” means the person who provides direction and who is either the employer of the person who receives direction or is the supervisor in the employment chain of command to the person who receives direction. ~~The Director must be located at the same site where the experience is being acquired.~~

4. “**Supervision**” means the clinical review, for the purpose of training or teaching, by a supervisor of a Professional Counselor’s interaction with their client(s). The purpose of supervision is to promote the development of the practitioner’s clinical skills. Supervision may include, without being limited to, the review of case presentations, audiotapes, videotapes, and direct observation of the practitioner’s clinical skills. Supervision does not require the supervisor to be ~~on-site present at the work site~~ with the supervisee but requires the supervision to be face-to-face. Supervision may be provided pro bono or for a fee. Both supervisors and supervisees are required to maintain a contemporaneous record of the date, duration, type (individual, paired, or group), and a brief summary of the pertinent activity for each supervision session to be submitted to the Board upon request. If there are any discrepancies in hours, contemporaneous documentation of supervision will be requested.

(i) **Individual Supervision** means one supervisor meeting with a maximum of two supervisees.

(ii) **Group Supervision** means one supervisor meeting with a maximum of six supervisees.

5. “**Supervisor**” means a licensed Professional Counselor, Clinical Social Worker, Marriage and Family Therapist, Psychologist, or Psychiatrist who complies with the ethical standards of practice of their profession with particular attention being paid to prohibited dual relationships. In addition,

(i) a supervisor who holds a master’s degree must have three (3) years of post-licensure experience; and

(ii) a supervisor who holds a specialist degree must have two (2) years of post-licensure experience; and

(iii) a supervisor who holds a doctoral degree must have one (1) year of post-licensure experience; and

(iv) for supervision entered into after **September 30, 2018**, a supervisor who is a Licensed Professional Counselor must hold either a National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC) Approved Clinical Supervisor credential or a Licensed Professional Counselors Association of Georgia (LPCAGA) Certified Professional Counselor Supervisor credential.

~~(i v)~~ v) however, the Board in its discretion may approve a supervisor whose experience is substantially similar to those stated herein.

~~(v vi)~~ vi) in a supervised practicum or internship which is part of the graduate degree program, either the course instructor of record or the on-site clinical instructor must be a qualified supervisor OR, in the education of rehabilitation counselors, may be a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor ~~OR, in an applied psychology program before January 1, 2004, may be a person with a master’s degree from an accredited educational institution in a program of applied psychology.~~

6. "**Directed Experience**" means time spent under direction engaging in the practice of Professional Counseling as defined in 135-5-.02(a). Non-compensated Volunteer experiences or services are not acceptable in defining the employment relationship for the purposes of obtainment of the required post-master's directed work experience.

7. "**Directed Experience Under Supervision Contract**" is a document, obtained from the Board, that defines the employment relationship for the purposes of obtaining the required post-masters directed experience under supervision. Non-compensated Volunteer experiences or services are not acceptable in defining the employment relationship for the purposes of obtainment of the required post-master's directed work experience.

8. "**Program Primarily Counseling in Content**" and "**Program in Applied Psychology**" means a course of study at an accredited educational institution consisting of a master's degree which includes, ~~either as part of the degree program or as additional course work completed prior to, during or after the degree program,~~ the following graduate level courses. After September 30, 2018 the degree program must be accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP), the Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE) or a regionally accredited program recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). The approved program must be substantially similar in coursework and content to a CACREP or CORE accredited program. An individual course may not be used to fulfill the requirement in more than one content area.

(i) **Counseling/Psychotherapy Theory**, which includes the principles, concepts, and practice of counseling/psychotherapy and the major models of counseling/psychotherapy.

(ii) **A Counseling or Applied Psychology Practicum or Internship** as part of the graduate degree program.

(iii) **Courses in six (6) of the following nine (9) content areas; after September 30, 2018, all 9 content areas of the following course work are required:**

(I) **Human Growth and Development**, which includes an understanding of the nature and needs of individuals at all developmental levels, personality theory, and learning theory, and which may provide a comprehensive overview of the factors, determinants, and stages that pertain to physical, emotional, intellectual, and social development and adaptation from infantile to geriatric stages.

(II) ~~Social and Cultural Foundations~~ **Multicultural Counseling or Diversity Training**, which includes an understanding of societal changes and trends, human roles, societal subgroups, diversity, social mores and interaction patterns, and differing lifestyles; and competency in counseling a diverse clientele. ~~OR Core Foundations, a course in one of the following categories: Social, Motivational and Personality Psychology; Learning and Cognition; History of Psychology; Biological Psychology; Industrial/Organizational Psychology; Cultural Diversity; or Humanistic/Phenomenological Psychology.~~

(III) **The Helping Relationship Counseling Techniques or Skills**, which includes an understanding of the philosophic bases of helping processes, helper self-understanding and self-development, and the facilitation of client change; OR **Advanced Psychotherapy/Intervention Theory**, which includes the in-depth study of the major theories, principles, methods and techniques of psychotherapy with individuals, groups or

families, focusing on the treatment or prevention of behavior disorders, adjustment problems, psychopathology, or other psychological disturbance.

(IV) **Group Dynamics and Group Counseling/Psychotherapy**, which includes an understanding of group development, dynamics, and counseling/psychotherapy theories; group leadership styles; group counseling/psychotherapy methods and skills; and other group approaches.

(V) **Lifestyle and Career Development**, which includes an understanding of career development theories; occupational educational information sources and systems; career and leisure counseling, guidance and education; lifestyle and career decision making; and career development program planning, resources, and evaluation.

(VI) **Appraisal/Assessment of Individuals**, which includes an understanding of psychometric theories and approaches to appraisal/assessment; validity and reliability; psychometric statistics; the selection, administration, scoring and interpretation of various assessment instruments; and the use of appraisal/assessment results in the counseling/psychotherapy process.

(VII) **Research Methods and Evaluation**, which includes an understanding of types of research, statistics, research report development, research implementation, program evaluation, needs assessment, and ethical and legal considerations in research; OR **Research Statistics**, which includes an understanding of the theory, analysis and interpretation of manual or computer generated statistical measures.

(VIII) **Professional Orientation and Ethics**, which includes an understanding of ethical and legal standards, professional roles, responsibilities, and functions; professional goals and objectives; professional organizations and associations; professional history and trends; ~~ethical and legal standards~~; professional preparation standards; and professional credentialing.

(IX) **Psychopathology**, which includes theories, research, descriptive characteristics, categories, dynamics, and etiology of mental, behavioral, cognitive and personality disorders- with a focus on utilization of the diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders (DSM) and/or International Classification of Diseases (ICD).

**(b) Requirements for Licensure.**

1. **Education.** The applicant must have earned a master's degree in a program primarily counseling in content or in a program of applied psychology, which degree includes a supervised practicum or internship of at least 300 hours which was part of the degree program, from an institution which, at the time the degree was awarded, was accredited by a regional body recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation. **After September 30, 2018, 600 practicum or internship hours will be required.** The degree program must be accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP), the Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE) or a regionally accredited program recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). The approved program must be substantially similar in coursework and content to a CACREP or CORE accredited program. The applicant must document graduate level coursework from such an accredited institution in order to demonstrate that the degree program is either primarily counseling in content or a program of applied psychology.

2. **Registration of a contract for obtaining post-master's directed experience under**

**supervision.** The applicant shall register with the Board an acceptable contract, the Directed Experience Under Supervision Contract, for obtaining the post-master's experience required for licensure as a Professional Counselor. The applicant is responsible for notifying the Board of any changes in the contract, by submitting a new contract within fourteen (14) days of the change. Non-compensated Volunteer experiences or services are not acceptable in defining the employment relationship for the purposes of obtainment of the required post-master's directed work experience.

3. **Examination.** The applicant must present evidence of a passing score of the required examination.

(c) **Restrictions on Practice.**

1. A person who holds a license as an Associate Professional Counselor may only use the title "Associate Professional Counselor."

2. A person who holds a license as an Associate Professional Counselor may engage in the practice of Professional Counseling, but only under direction and supervision, and only for a period not to exceed five years while obtaining the post-master's experience and supervision required for licensure as a Professional Counselor. Non-compensated Volunteer experiences or services are not acceptable in defining the employment relationship for the purposes of obtainment of the required post-master's directed work experience.

• **135-5-.02 Professional Counselors.**

Pursuant to Official Code of Georgia Annotated 43-10A-11 an applicant for a license in Professional Counseling must meet the following requirements.

(a) **Definitions.**

1. "**The Practice of Professional Counseling**" means practice in that specialty which utilizes counseling and psychotherapy to evaluate and treat emotional and mental problems and conditions, whether cognitive, behavioral, or affective. The practice is further defined in O.C.G.A. 43-10A-3(10).

2. "**Direction**" means the ongoing administrative overseeing by an employer or superior of a Professional Counselor's work by a director. The director shall be responsible for assuring the quality of the services rendered by that practitioner and shall ensure that qualified supervision or intervention occurs in situations which require expertise beyond that of the practitioner.

3. "**Director**" means the person who provides direction and who is either the employer of the person who receives direction or is the supervisor in the employment chain of command to the person who receives direction. ~~The Director must be located at the same site where the experience is being acquired.~~

4. "**Supervision**" means the clinical review, for the purpose of training or teaching, by a supervisor of a Professional Counselor's interaction with their client(s). The purpose of supervision is to promote the development of the practitioner's clinical skills. Supervision may include, without being limited to, the review of case presentations, audiotapes, videotapes, and direct observation of the practitioner's clinical skills. Supervision does not require the supervisor to be ~~on-site present at the work site~~ with the supervisee but requires the supervision to be face-to-face. Supervision may be provided pro bono or for a fee. Both supervisors and supervisees are required to maintain a contemporaneous record of the date, duration, type (individual, paired, or group), and a brief summary of the pertinent activity for each supervision session to be submitted to the Board upon

request. If there are any discrepancies in hours, contemporaneous documentation of supervision will be requested.

5. **“Supervisor”** means a licensed Professional Counselor, Clinical Social Worker, Marriage and Family Therapist, Psychologist, or Psychiatrist, who complies with the ethical standards of practice of their profession with particular attention being paid to prohibited dual relationships. In addition,

(i) a supervisor who holds a master’s degree must have three (3) years of post-licensure experience; and

(ii) a supervisor who holds a specialist degree must have two (2) years of post-licensure experience; and

(iii) a supervisor who holds a doctoral degree must have one (1) year of post-licensure experience; and

(iv) for supervision entered into after September 30, 2018, a supervisor who is a Licensed Professional Counselor must hold either a National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC) Approved Clinical Supervisor credential or a Licensed Professional Counselors Association of Georgia (LPCAGA) Certified Professional Counselor Supervisor credential.

~~(v)~~ v) However, the Board in its discretion may approve a supervisor whose experience is substantially similar to those stated herein.

~~(vi)~~ vi) In a supervised practicum or internship which is part of the graduate degree program, either the course instructor of record or the on-site clinical instructor must be a qualified supervisor OR, in the education of rehabilitation counselors, may be a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor OR, ~~in an applied psychology program before January 1, 2004, may be a person with a master’s degree from an accredited educational institution in a program of applied psychology.~~

6. **“Directed Experience”** means time spent under direction engaging in the practice of professional counseling as defined in Rule 135-5-.02(a). Non-compensated Volunteer experiences or services are not acceptable in defining the employment relationship for the purposes of obtainment of the required post-master’s directed work experience.

7. **“Years of Directed Experience”**

*(For the “Years of Directed Experience” rule in effect until September 30, 2018 when the following rule sections become effective, please go to [ww.sos.ga.gov/plb/counselors](http://www.sos.ga.gov/plb/counselors).)*

(i) "One year of Directed Experience" means a minimum of 600 hours of directed experience acquired within a period of not less than twelve months and not more than twenty months.

(ii) After September 30, 2018 “One year of Directed Experience” means a minimum of 1000 hours of directed experience acquired within a twelve (12) month period. The number of required years of Directed Experience is based on the applicant’s educational credentials as defined in Rule 135-5-.02(b, c, d, e and f).

(iii) After September 30, 2018, all Directed Experience must be obtained within the sixty (60) months prior to the date of application. Endorsement applications will be considered on a case by case basis at the discretion of the Board.

(iv) Non-compensated Volunteer experiences or services are not acceptable in defining the employment relationship for the purposes of obtainment of the required post-master’s directed work experience.

- (ii) ~~“Two years of Directed Experience” means a minimum of 1200 hours of directed experience under supervision acquired within a period of not less than twenty-four months and not more than 60 months.~~
- (iii) ~~“Three years of Directed Experience” means a minimum of 1800 hours of directed experience under supervision acquired within a period of not less than thirty-six months and not more than 60 months.~~
- (iv) ~~“Four years of Directed Experience” means a minimum of 2400 hours of directed experience under supervision acquired within a period of not less than forty-eight months and not more than 60 months.~~

#### 8. **“Years of Supervision”**

*(For the “Years of Supervision” rule in effect until September 30, 2018 when the following rule sections become effective, please go to [www.sos.ga.gov/plb/counselors](http://www.sos.ga.gov/plb/counselors).)*

(i) "One year of Supervision" means a minimum of 30 hours of supervision obtained during one year of Directed Experience as defined in Rule 135-5-.02(7).

(ii) After September 30, 2018, "One year of Supervision" means a minimum of thirty five (35) hours of supervision obtained during one twelve (12) month period of Directed Experience as defined in Rule 135-5-.02(7).

(iii) After September 30, 2018, all Supervision must be obtained within the sixty (60) months prior to the date of application. Endorsement applications will be considered on a case by case basis at the discretion of the Board.

(ii) ~~“Two years of Supervision” means a minimum of 60 hours of supervision obtained during two years of Directed Experience as defined in Rule 135-5-.02(7).~~

(iii) ~~“Three years of Supervision” means a minimum of 90 hours of supervision obtained during three years of Directed Experience as defined in Rule 135-5-.02(7).~~

(iv) ~~“Four years of Supervision” means a minimum of 120 hours of supervision obtained during four years of Directed Experience as defined in Rule 135-5-.02(7).~~

9. **“Work settings acceptable to the Board”** means a directed work settings in which the practice of Professional Counseling takes place and may include, but is not limited to, education, rehabilitation, career development, mental health, community, or industrial organizations. Practice without direction is not a work setting acceptable to the Board. Non-compensated Volunteer experiences or services are not acceptable in defining the employment relationship for the purposes of obtainment of the required post-master’s directed work experience.

10. **“Certified Rehabilitation Counselor”** means a person who is certified as a rehabilitation counselor by the Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification.

11. **“Program Primarily Counseling in Content”** and **“Program in Applied Psychology”** means a course of study at an accredited educational institution consisting of a master’s, specialist or doctoral degree which includes, ~~either~~ as part of the degree program ~~or as additional course work completed prior to, during or after the degree program,~~ the following graduate level courses. After September 30, 2018 the degree program must be accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP), the Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE) or a regionally accredited program recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). The approved program must be substantially similar in coursework and content to a CACREP or CORE accredited program. An individual course may not be used to fulfill the requirement in more than one content area.

(i) **Counseling/Psychotherapy Theory**, which includes the principles, concepts, and practice of counseling/psychotherapy and the major models of counseling/psychotherapy.  
(ii) **A Counseling or Applied Psychology Practicum or Internship** as part of the graduate degree program.

(iii) **Courses in six (6) of the following nine (9) content areas:**

After September 30, 2018, all 9 content areas of the following course work are required:

(I) **Human Growth and Development**, which includes an understanding of the nature and needs of individuals at all developmental levels, personality theory, and learning theory, and which may provide a comprehensive overview of the factors, determinants, and stages that pertain to physical, emotional, intellectual, and social development and adaptation from infantile to geriatric stages.

(II) ~~Social and Cultural Foundations~~ **Multicultural Counseling or Diversity Training**, which includes an understanding of societal changes and trends, human roles, societal subgroups, diversity, social mores and interaction patterns, and differing lifestyles and competency in counseling a diverse clientele. ; ~~OR Core Foundations, a course in one of the following categories: Social, Motivational and Personality Psychology; Learning and Cognition; History of Psychology; Biological Psychology; Industrial/Organizational Psychology; Cultural Diversity; or Humanistic/Phenomenological Psychology.~~

(III) ~~The Helping Relationship~~ **Counseling Techniques or Skills**, which includes an understanding of the philosophic bases of helping processes, helper self-understanding and self-development, and the facilitation of client change; OR **Advanced Psychotherapy/Intervention Theory**, which includes the in-depth study of the major theories, principles, methods and techniques of psychotherapy with individuals, groups or families, focusing on the treatment or prevention of behavior disorders, adjustment problems, psychopathology, or other psychological disturbance.

(IV) **Group Dynamics and Group Counseling/Psychotherapy**, which includes an understanding of group development, dynamics, and counseling/psychotherapy theories; group leadership styles; group counseling/psychotherapy methods and skills; and other group approaches.

(V) **Lifestyle and Career Development**, which includes an understanding of career development theories; occupational educational information sources and systems; career and leisure counseling, guidance and education; lifestyle and career decision making; and career development program planning, resources, and evaluation.

(VI) **Appraisal/Assessment of Individuals**, which includes an understanding of psychometric theories and approaches to appraisal/assessment; validity and reliability; psychometric statistics; the selection, administration, scoring and interpretation of various assessment instruments; and the use of appraisal/assessment results in the counseling/psychotherapy process.

(VII) **Research Methods and Evaluation**, which includes an understanding of types of research, statistics, research report development, research implementation, program evaluation, needs assessment, and ethical and legal considerations in research; OR **Research Statistics**, which includes an understanding of the theory, analysis and interpretation of manual or computer generated statistical measures.

(VIII) **Professional Orientation and Ethics**, which includes an understanding of ethical and legal standards, professional roles, responsibilities, and functions; professional goals

and objectives; professional organizations and associations; professional history and trends; ~~ethical and legal standards~~; professional preparation standards; and professional credentialing.

(IX) **Psychopathology**, which includes theories, research, descriptive characteristics, categories, dynamics, and etiology of mental, behavioral, cognitive and personality disorders, with a focus on utilization of the diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders (DSM) and/or International Classification of Diseases (ICD).

**(b) An applicant who holds a master's degree from a program primarily counseling in content must meet the following requirements for licensure as a Professional Counselor.**

1. **Education.** The applicant must have earned a master's degree from an institution which, at the time the degree was awarded, was accredited by a regional body recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). **After September 30, 2018 the degree program must be accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP), the Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE) or a regionally accredited program recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).** The approved program must be substantially similar in coursework and content to a CACREP or CORE accredited program. The applicant must document graduate level coursework from such an accredited institution in order to demonstrate that the degree program is primarily counseling in content and meets the requirements in Rule 135-5-.02(a)11.

2. A "Masters" degree must be so designated by the educational institution awarding the master's degree and indicated on the official transcript.

2 3. **Directed Experience under Supervision.** The applicant must present evidence of four (4) years of post-master's directed experience under supervision ~~{[see definitions at in Rule 135-5-.02(a)]}~~ in the practice of Professional Counseling in a work setting acceptable to the Board OR three (3) years of post-master's directed experience under supervision in the practice of Professional Counseling in a work setting acceptable to the Board and a supervised counseling practicum or internship of at least 300 hours which was part of the graduate degree program. **After September 30, 2018, 600 practicum or internship hours will be required.** A minimum of two (2) years of the supervision must be provided by a supervisor who is a licensed Professional Counselor and meets the requirements in Rule 135-5-.02(a)5, except that if the supervision was acquired prior to September 23, 1993, such supervision may have been provided by any qualified supervisor. Non-compensated Volunteer experiences or services are not acceptable in defining the employment relationship for the purposes of obtainment of the required post-master's directed work experience.

4. **Examination.** The applicant must present evidence of a passing score of the required examination.

**(c) An applicant who holds a specialist degree from a program primarily counseling in content must meet the following requirements for licensure as a Professional Counselor.**

1. **Education.** The applicant must have earned a specialist degree from an institution, which, at the time the degree was awarded, was accredited by a regional body recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation. **After September 30, 2018 the degree program must be accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Counseling and Related**

Educational Programs (CACREP), the Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE) or a regionally accredited program recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). The approved program must be substantially similar in coursework and content to a CACREP or CORE accredited program. The applicant must document graduate level coursework from such an accredited institution in order to demonstrate that the degree program is primarily counseling in content and meets the requirements in Rule 135-5-.02(a)11.

2. A “Specialist” degree must be so designated by the educational institution awarding the specialist degree and indicated on the official transcript.

**2 3. Directed Experience under Supervision.** The applicant must present evidence of two (2) years of post-master’s directed experience under supervision ([see definitions at in Rule 135-5-.02(a))] in the practice of Professional Counseling in a work setting acceptable to the Board and a supervised counseling practicum or internship of at least 300 hours which was part of the graduate degree program OR three (3) years of post-master’s directed experience under supervision in the practice of Professional Counseling in a work setting acceptable to the Board. **After September 30, 2018, 600 practicum or internship hours will be required.** A minimum of one (1) year of the supervision must be provided by a supervisor who is a licensed Professional Counselor and meets the requirements in Rule 135-5-.02(a)5, except that if the supervision was acquired prior to September 23, 1993, such supervision may have been provided by any qualified supervisor. Non-compensated Volunteer experiences or services are not acceptable in defining the employment relationship for the purposes of obtainment of the required post-master’s directed work experience.

4. **Examination.** The applicant must present evidence of a passing score of the required examination.

**(d) An applicant who holds a doctoral degree from a program primarily counseling in content must meet the following requirements for licensure as a Professional Counselor.**

1. **Education.** The applicant must have earned a doctoral degree from an institution which, at the time the degree was awarded, was accredited by a regional body recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation. **After September 30, 2018 the degree program must be accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP), the Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE) or a regionally accredited program recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). The approved program must be substantially similar in coursework and content to a CACREP or CORE accredited program.** The applicant must document graduate level coursework from such an accredited institution in order to demonstrate that the degree program is primarily counseling in content and meets the requirements in Rule 135-5-.02(a)11.

2. A “Doctoral” degree must be so designated by the educational institution awarding the doctoral degree and indicated on the official transcript.

**2 3. Directed Experience under Supervision.** The applicant must present evidence of one (1) year of supervised counseling internship of at least seven hundred fifty (750) hours during the doctorate degree program in a work setting acceptable to the Board OR one (1) year of post master’s directed experience under supervision ([see definitions at in Rule 135-5-.02(a))] in the practice of Professional Counseling in a work setting

acceptable to the Board. A minimum of half of the one year of supervision must be provided by a supervisor who is a licensed Professional Counselor and meets the requirements in Rule 135-5-.02(a)5, except that if the supervision was acquired prior to September 23, 1993, such supervision may have been provided by any qualified supervisor. Non-compensated Volunteer experiences or services are not acceptable in defining the employment relationship for the purposes of obtainment of the required post-master's directed work experience.

**4. Examination.** The applicant must present evidence of a passing score of the required examination.

**(e) An applicant who is a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor must meet the following requirements for licensure as a Professional Counselor.**

**1. Education.** The applicant must have earned a master's degree from a rehabilitation counseling program which, at the time the degree was awarded, was accredited by the Council on Rehabilitation Education OR a master's degree from an institution which, at the time the degree was awarded, was accredited by a regional body recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation with documented graduate level coursework demonstrating that the degree program is primarily counseling in content and meets the requirements in Rule 135-5-.02(a)11. After September 30, 2018 the degree program must be accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP), the Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE) or a regionally accredited program recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). The approved program must be substantially similar in coursework and content to a CACREP or CORE accredited program.

**2.** A "masters" degree must be so designated by the educational institution awarding the master's degree and indicated on the official transcript.

**3. Directed Experience under Supervision.** The applicant must present evidence of three (3) years of post-master's directed experience providing rehabilitation services in a rehabilitation setting acceptable to the Board under the supervision ([see definitions at in Rule 135-5-.02(a)]) of a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor or other qualified supervisor OR two (2) years of post-master's directed experience providing rehabilitation services in a rehabilitation setting acceptable to the Board under the supervision ([see definitions at in Rule 135-5-.02(a)]) of a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor or other qualified supervisor and a supervised counseling practicum or internship of at least 300 hours which was part of the graduate degree program. **After September 30, 2018, 600 practicum or internship hours will be required.** A minimum of one (1) year of the supervision must be provided by a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor or a supervisor who is a licensed Professional Counselor and meets the requirements in Rule 135-5-.02(a)5. Non-compensated Volunteer experiences or services are not acceptable in defining the employment relationship for the purposes of obtainment of the required post-master's directed work experience.

**4. Certification.** The applicant must hold the Certified Rehabilitation Counselor designation.

**5. Examination.** The applicant must present evidence of a passing score of the required examination.

**(f) An applicant who holds a master's degree in psychology must meet the following requirements for licensure as a Professional Counselor.**

1. **Education.** The applicant must have earned a master's degree in a program of applied psychology from an institution, which, at the time the degree was awarded, was accredited by a regional body recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation. After September 30, 2018 the degree program must be accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP), the Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE) or a regionally accredited program recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). The approved program must be substantially similar in coursework and content to a CACREP or CORE accredited program. The applicant must document graduate level coursework from such an accredited institution in order to demonstrate that the degree program is a program of applied psychology. The degree program must meet the requirements in Rule 135-5-.02(a)11.

2. A "Masters" degree must be so designated by the educational institution awarding the master's degree and indicated on the official transcript.

2 3. Directed Experience under Supervision. The applicant must present evidence of four (4) years of post-master's directed experience under supervision {[see definitions at in Rule 135-5-.02(a)]} in the practice of Professional Counseling in a work setting acceptable to the Board OR three (3) years of post-master's directed experience under supervision in the practice of Professional Counseling in a work setting acceptable to the Board and a supervised counseling or applied psychology practicum or internship of at least 300 hours which was part of the graduate degree program. A minimum of two (2) years of the supervision must be provided by a supervisor who is a licensed Professional Counselor who meets the requirements in Rule 135-5-.02(a)5, or a licensed Psychologist, except that if the supervision was acquired prior to January 1, 2004, such supervision may have been provided by a person with a master's degree from an accredited educational institution in a program of applied psychology. Non-compensated Volunteer experiences or services are not acceptable in defining the employment relationship for the purposes of obtainment of the required post-master's directed work experience.

4. **Examination.** The applicant must present evidence of a passing score of the required examination.

~~(g) An applicant who holds a current license as an Associate Professional Counselor shall not be required to re-take the written examination following Board approval of their application for licensure as a Professional Counselor.~~

#### O.C.G.A. 43-10A-6

ED Zimmerman presented to the Board during the October 10, 2014 meeting the following suggestions for changes to the practice act in an effort to expedite the licensure application process administratively between meetings. Represented to the full Board during today's Conference Call meeting. No actions taken; the Board's legal representative is reviewing the suggested amendments/additions and will report back to the Board at a later date of her findings.

**O.C.G.A. § 43-10A-6.** Separate standards committees for professional counseling specialty, social work specialty, and marriage and family therapy specialty

(a) Those members of the board from the professional counseling specialty, the social work specialty, and the marriage and family therapy specialty shall constitute a separate standards

committee for their respective specialty. Each standards committee by majority vote shall ~~adopt policies to allow for the administrative approve approval or disapprove disapproval of applications for licensure the granting of all licenses in that specialty.~~ Each committee will approve the examination required of applicants for licensure in that committee's specialty and provide for the grading of that examination, and provide for other matters relating to licensure in that specialty.

(b) ~~No decision of a standards committee shall become effective until approved by the board.~~ The board may initiate or otherwise act regarding any matter in which a standards committee is authorized to act. No decision of the board regarding a particular specialty shall become effective without the approval of at least two of the members of the standards committee for that specialty.

(c) Meetings of a standards committee shall be reimbursed on the same basis as board meetings.

**With no additional Board business requiring discussion, Mr. Marion motioned, Mr. Livingston seconded, and the Board voted to adjourn today's teleconference meeting at 3:50 p.m.**

Minutes recorded by:

Stacey Mitchell, Board Support Specialist, HC1

Minutes reviewed and edited by:

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director, HC 1

**Tommy Black**

Tommy Black, LPC, Chair



Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director HC1

These minutes were approved on: November 17, 2014