

Subject: Georgia Counseling Compact Implementation Status/Update

Becoming an active state in the Counseling Compact requires significant planning and careful implementation. Georgia is working diligently to ensure that counselors and the public have a seamless, secure, and reliable experience once the Compact is live.

Georgia is currently completing important steps, which may include:

- **Adopting rules and setting fees** to ensure clarity and consistency.
- **Implementing FBI-authorized criminal background checks** to protect clients and maintain public trust.
- **Preparing IT systems** so they can share accurate data in the required format.
- **Assigning and training staff** to provide strong customer support.
- **Conducting thorough testing** of data uploads and validation processes to ensure accuracy.
- **Creating an application process** for counselors who wish to convert a privilege into a home state license.

At this time, Georgia anticipates being able to actively participate in the compact later in the year. Status updates will be provided as they are available.

Although not all states are yet active, progress is underway across the country. Each step completed brings the Compact closer to full implementation, which will expand opportunities for counselors, improve access to counseling services, and help address workforce shortages nationwide. Updates about the Compact, including new states becoming active, can be found at <https://counselingcompact.gov/news/>.

Thank you,

Georgia Composite Board of Professional Counselors, Social Workers, and Marriage and Family Therapists