

Presented to the North Dakota Legislative Rules Committee
June 11, 2014

For consideration of:

97-02-01.1-08.

Continued professional education for licensed professional clinical counselors. In addition to the thirty hours required for renewal of the licensed professional counselor license, a licensed professional clinical counselor shall complete at least ten hours of continued professional education primarily focused on clinical counseling in the two years preceding The date of expiration of the license. The continued professional education shall relate to the licensed professional clinical counselor's intent to practice, and be preapproved by the board. A continued professional education hour is fifty minutes. Examples of items meeting continuing professional educational requirements include attending professional meetings, conferences, and workshops or taking graduate courses in clinical counseling.

Recommendation: Add the words "clinical supervision" in the last sentence.

Documentation:

Best Practices in Clinical Supervision

Adopted by the **Association of Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES)** Executive Council

April 22, 2011

12. Supervisor Preparation: Supervision Training and Supervision of Supervision

- a. The supervisor has received didactic instruction and experiential training in clinical supervision
- e. The supervisor's training includes appropriate application of teaching, counseling, and consulting skills in supervision
- g. The supervisor's training emphasizes the supervisory relationship as the primary vehicle for learning in supervision.
- m. The supervisor's training includes supervision of supervision based in some form of direct observation of his/her work with supervisees.
 - i. Supervision of supervision follows the guidelines of relevant accreditation standards and credentialing bodies.
 - ii. Supervision of supervision adheres to all relevant "best practices" identified in this document.

Supervision of School Counselors

Patricia Henderson

The purpose of clinical supervision is enhancement of counselors' professional skills and ethical functioning. The data sources which support clinical supervision include observations of counselors applying their professional skills and values. In the school setting, the typical opportunities for gathering data to support clinical supervision are available (e.g., live and/or recorded observations, case presentations, and consultations). Clinical supervisors must be counselors who are competent in the school counselor functions and in supervision practices.

The **American School Counseling Association's** National Model: A Framework for School Counseling" (ASCA, 2005),

School counselor directors/coordinators provide leadership at the district and state levels to ensure: "the availability of professional development, consultation and supervision relevant to school counseling."

North Dakota Board of Addiction Counselor Examiners CONTINUING EDUCATION GUIDELINES (Approved 10/10/2008)

A Licensed Addiction Counselor may be granted a maximum of 3 continuing education hours per two-year cycle for clinical supervision for those attending a trainee's oral examination.

Standards for supervision are also identified in the **American Counseling Association's** Code of Ethics. (ACA 2014)

Summary and justification for the change:

I found that continuing education hours for clinical supervision are granted in multiple states. This is because supervision is often viewed as the key factor in professional development.

I did not find one professional organization that opposed supervision for continuing education credit.

The value of supervision in the professional growth and development of counselors is recognized by the North Dakota Counseling Association, the North Dakota Association of Counselor Education and Supervision, the Council for the Accreditation of Counseling and Education Related Programs (CACREP), the North Dakota Board of Addiction Counselor Examiners, and the North Dakota Board of Counselor Examiners.

Counselors in our state will have a new incentive for participating in supervision because they will get continuing education credit. So when they pay the costs for clinical supervision, they also earn credit.

Counselors considering moving to North Dakota will know that our state values their success by establishing rules that allow them to earn credit while fulfilling supervision requirements.

The overall cost of professional development will be reduced by allowing practitioners to pay for supervision and get credit.

Supervisors will have more accountability since they will not only get paid for doing supervision, they be obligated to meet state and professional standards for continuing education.

Individuals seeking to become supervisors will be mandated to meet higher standards in their supervisor training and practice.

Clients and prospective clients can be more assured that the services they receive from counselors meet with the highest standards of counseling as supported by the counselor's continuing education and professional development especially supervision.

My conclusion:

Supervision is not a road block. It is a door opening to offer support, encouragement, knowledge and skills for professional counselors. It is a primary ingredient to professional development and a vital part of continuing education. Counselors and counselors who want to become supervisors should be given credit for meeting licensure or certification requirements and have a even greater benefit from their efforts.

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