

Chapter SFC 12

PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR SUPERVISED PRACTICE

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Note: Chapter SFC 12 was created as an emergency rule effective April 26, 1993.

SFC 12.01 Supervised practice requirement.

(1) SUPERVISION FOR CERTIFICATION ELIGIBILITY. An applicant for certification as a professional counselor under s. 457.12, Stats., shall complete a period of supervised practice to become eligible for the certificate. Supervision of the practice of professional counseling undertaken to meet the pre-certification requirement may be exercised by a person other than an employment supervisor. The supervisor may exercise discretion as to the frequency, duration, and intensity of the supervision sessions to meet an average of one hour supervised practice per week during the supervised practice period.

(a) An applicant who has received a master's degree shall complete the equivalent of 2 years of supervised full-time practice of professional counseling before the applicant is eligible for a certificate as a professional counselor.

(b) An applicant who has received a doctoral degree shall complete the equivalent of one year of supervised full-time practice of professional counseling before the applicant is eligible for a certificate as a professional counselor.

(2) SUPERVISION FOR PSYCHOTHERAPY PRACTICE QUALIFICATION. The supervised practice period required under sub. (1) shall be credited toward the completion of the supervised practice period required under s. SFC 13.01 if that practice includes psychotherapeutic services by delegation of a professional eligible to perform psychotherapy and provide supervision under s. SFC 12.03, but no professional counselor may perform psychotherapy independently and unsupervised with any client until the professional counselor has completed the equivalent of 2 years full-time supervised practice of professional counseling.

Note: A person who received a master's degree in professional counseling or a closely related field and who completed the equivalent of 2 years of full-time supervised practice of professional counseling to qualify for certification as a professional counselor may practice psychotherapy immediately upon certification as a professional counselor.

A person who received a doctoral degree in professional counseling or a closely related field and who completed the equivalent of one year of full-time supervised practice of professional counseling to qualify for certification as a professional counselor shall complete the equivalent of an additional one year full-time supervised practice of professional counseling before he or she may engage in psychotherapy with any client.

History: Cr. Register, November, 1993, No. 455, eff. 12-1-93, am. (1) (intro.), Register, November, 1994, No. 467, eff. 12-1-94.

SFC 12.02 Qualifications of practice supervisor.

(1) A person who supervises the practice of professional counseling shall have adequate training, knowledge and skill to competently render any professional counseling service that a supervisee undertakes. The supervisor may not permit a supervisee to engage in any professional counseling practice that the supervisor cannot competently perform. All supervisors shall be legally and ethically responsible for the supervised activities of the professional counselor supervisee. Supervisors shall be available or make appropriate provision for emergency consultation and intervention. Supervisors shall be able to interrupt or stop the supervisee from practicing in given cases, or recommend to the supervisee's employer that the employer interrupt or stop the supervisee from practicing in given cases, and to terminate the supervised relationship if necessary.

(2) Supervision of a period of supervised practice of professional counseling may be exercised by any of the following:

(a) A certified professional counselor.

(c) A certified independent clinical social worker.

(e) A licensed physician who has completed a residency in psychiatry.

(f) A licensed psychologist who is listed or eligible to be listed in the national register of health services providers in psychology.

(g) A registered nurse with a master's degree in psychiatric mental health nursing or community mental health nursing from a graduate school of nursing accredited by the national league for nursing, and who is listed or eligible to be listed in the national register of health services providers in psychology.

(h) Another qualified professional approved by the professional counselors section in advance of the supervision of the practice of professional counseling if the professional counselors section determines that supervision by a certified professional counselor is unobtainable or unreasonably restrictive of the delivery of professional counseling services to a particular population, or unduly interferes with training professional counselors in providing services to a particular population.

(3) It is the applicant's responsibility to satisfy the professional counselors section that the applicant's supervisor met all qualifications.

History: Cr. Register, November, 1993, No. 455, eff. 12-1-93; CR 01-026: am. (2), r. (2) (b) and (d), Register December 2001 No. 552, eff. 1-1-02.

SFC 12.03 Pre-certification supervised practice outcome requirement.

As a condition of successful completion of a period of supervised practice, the candidate for certification shall demonstrate competence to his or her practice supervisor in each of the following areas: counseling principles and techniques; case management; client assessment; ethics; and professional and community interaction. The candidate for certification shall also demonstrate competence to his or her practice supervisor in at least 3 of the following 7 areas: coordination and supervision of services; individual and group and family, or individual and group or family counseling techniques; assessment planning, administration and interpretation; service delivery systems and referral; counseling plan development; legal testimony; and consultation.

History: Cr. Register, November, 1993, No. 455, eff. 12-1-93.

SFC 12.04 Limitations on group supervision.

(1) If supervision is provided in group sessions, the group shall consist of no more than 6 persons receiving supervision for every one person providing supervision.

(2) If supervision is provided in group sessions, each person receiving supervision as part of the group session receives one hour credit for each hour that the group meets for supervision, but may not credit any time which is primarily social activity with the group or supervisor as part of a supervision session.

(3) A supervision session for a group or individual which is provided by more than one supervisor may not be credited for more than the actual time elapsed during the supervision session, not including social activities.

History: Cr. Register, November, 1993, No. 455, eff. 12-1-93.