

1 **Time-Limited Waiver for Substance Abuse Treatment Practitioner Licensure**

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4 18 VAC 115-60-55. Time-limited waiver of certain licensure requirements.

5
6 Until (insert date for one year following effective date of regulation) individuals who do
7 not meet the licensure requirements set forth in 18 VAC 115-60-50, 18 VAC 115-60-60,
8 18 VAC 115-60-70, 18 VAC 115-60-80, and 18 VAC 115-60-90 may be eligible for
9 licensure if they submit a completed application, processing fee, and provide evidence
10 that they meet the following criteria:

11 ~~1. A current Virginia board certification as a substance abuse counselor in good~~
12 ~~standing;~~

13 ~~2~~ 1]. A passing score on a board-approved examination;

14 ~~3~~ 2. A minimum of three] comprehensive reports from[~~: a minimum of three~~

15 a. At least two] licensed mental health professionals, [~~of which one of whom]~~
16 must be licensed in Virginia, that affirm competence in all areas outlined in 18
17 VAC 115-60-80C(1) and attest to the applicant's ability to practice
18 autonomously; and

19 [b. One or more clinical supervisors who have provided supervision, as
20 defined in 18 VAC 115-60-10, of the applicant for a total of one year within
21 the applicant's most recent five years of practice. If supervision was provided
22 in an exempt setting, the report may be submitted by an unlicensed mental
23 health professional; and

24 4 3]. One of the following:

1 a. Five years full-time experience in substance abuse treatment plus a
2 master's degree in a mental health field from a regionally accredited
3 institution of higher learning with a total of 36 graduate hours covering
4 mental health content to include three graduate semester hours or 4.5
5 graduate quarter hours in each area of the following:

6 1. Counseling and psychotherapy techniques;

7 2. Appraisal, evaluation and diagnostic procedures;

8 3. Abnormal behavior and psychopathology;

9 4. Group counseling and psychotherapy, theories and techniques;

10 and

11 5. Research.

12 The remaining graduate semester hours shall include content in the
13 following areas:

14 1. Assessment, appraisal, evaluation and diagnosis specific to
15 substance abuse;

16 2. Treatment planning models, client case management,
17 interventions and treatments to include relapse prevention,
18 referral process, step models and documentation process;

19 3. Understanding addictions: The biochemical, socio-cultural and
20 psychological factors of substance use and abuse;

21 4. Addictions and special populations, including, but not limited
22 to, adolescents, women, ethnic groups and the elderly;

23 5. Client and community education; or

1 b. Ten years full-time experience in substance abuse treatment plus a
2 bachelor's degree from a regionally- accredited institution of higher
3 learning, plus 30 graduate hours covering mental health content to
4 include three graduate semester hours or 4.5 graduate quarter hours in
5 each area of the following:

- 6 1. Counseling and psychotherapy techniques;
- 7 2. Appraisal, evaluation and diagnostic procedures;
- 8 3. Abnormal behavior and psychopathology;
- 9 4. Group counseling and psychotherapy, theories and techniques;
- 10 and
- 11 5. Research.

12 The remaining graduate hours; shall include content in the following
13 areas:

- 14 1. Assessment, appraisal, evaluation and diagnosis specific to
15 substance abuse;
- 16 2. Treatment planning models, client case management,
17 interventions and treatments to include relapse prevention,
18 referral process, step models and documentation process;
- 19 3. Understanding addictions: The biochemical, socio-cultural and
20 psychological factors of substance use and abuse;
- 21 4. Addictions and special populations, including, but not limited
22 to, adolescents, women, ethnic groups and the elderly;
- 23 5. Client and community education.

Certification

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I certify that this regulation is full, true, and correctly dated.

Evelyn B. Brown
Executive Director
Virginia Board of Counseling

Date: _____