

“Group supervision” means the ongoing process of supervising no more than six mental health counselors at one time in a group setting by a qualified supervisor.

“Independent practice of counseling” means providing counseling services in a private-for-profit setting by a licensed professional counselor or a licensed associate counselor working under the direct supervision of a qualified supervisor consistent with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 13:34-10.3.

“One calendar year” means a maximum of 1,500 hours of supervised counseling experience over a period of 52 weeks, which is considered full-time or no less than 750 hours of supervised counseling experience in each of two 52-week periods for a total of 1,500 hours of supervised counseling experience, which is considered part-time. No more than 30 hours of supervised counseling experience shall be obtained in any one week. No more than 125 hours of supervised counseling experience shall be earned in any one month.

“Professional counseling experience” means the rendering of professional counseling services while under the direct supervision of a qualified supervisor.

“Professional counseling services” means the application of mental health and human development principles in order to facilitate human development and adjustment throughout the lifespan; clinically assess and evaluate mental, emotional and associated distresses, which interfere with mental health and development; conduct assessments and evaluations for the purpose of establishing goals and objectives; and plan, implement and evaluate counseling interventions.

“Qualified supervisor” means an individual who holds a clinical license to provide mental health counseling services for a minimum of two years in the state where the services are being provided, and who has:

1. A clinical supervisor’s certificate from the National Board for Certified Counselors Center for Credentialing and Education or its successor or the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy or its successor; or

2. Completed a minimum of three graduate credits in clinical supervision from a regionally accredited institution of higher education.

A “qualified supervisor” shall satisfy all requirements set forth in N.J.A.C. 13:34-13.1.

“Supervision” or “supervised” means the weekly interaction with a qualified supervisor who monitors the performance of the licensed associate counselor and provides weekly, documented, face-to-face consultation, guidance and instruction with respect to the counseling skills and competencies of the licensed associate counselor, which includes at least 50 hours of face-to-face supervision per one calendar year, at the rate of one hour per week, of which not more than 10 hours may be group supervision.

Amended by R.2004 d.158, effective April 19, 2004.
See: 35 N.J.R. 5228(a), 36 N.J.R. 1943(a).

In “Counseling”, rewrote 2.

Amended by R.2009 d.301, effective October 5, 2009.

See: 41 N.J.R. 1946(a), 41 N.J.R. 3813(a).

In paragraph 3 of definition “Counseling procedures”, substituted “client(s)” for “consultee(s)”; in paragraph 4 of definition “Counseling procedures”, substituted “client” for “counselee” twice; and added definitions “Direct supervision”, “Group supervision”, “Independent practice of counseling”, “One calendar year”, “Professional counseling experience”, “Professional counseling services”, “Qualified supervisor” and “Supervision”.

13:34-10.3 Scope of practice; professional counselor and associate counselor

(a) The scope of practice of a licensed professional counselor includes, but is not limited to, counseling, counseling interventions, appraisal and assessment, consulting, referral and research activities, as defined in N.J.A.C. 13:34-10.2.

(b) The scope of practice of a licensed associate counselor includes, but is not limited to, counseling, counseling interventions, appraisal and assessment, consulting, referral and research activities, as defined in N.J.A.C. 13:34-10.2, under direct supervision pursuant to the provisions of N.J.A.C. 13:34-13. A licensed associate counselor may only engage in the independent practice of counseling under the direct supervision of a qualified supervisor, consistent with the requirements of this section.

(c) An independent practice shall be owned and operated by a licensed professional counselor or a licensed healthcare professional that holds a clinical license to provide mental health counseling services.

Amended by R.2009 d.301, effective October 5, 2009.

See: 41 N.J.R. 1946(a), 41 N.J.R. 3813(a).

In (b), inserted “direct” and rewrote the last sentence; and added (c).

SUBCHAPTER 11. PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS AND ASSOCIATE COUNSELORS: APPLICATION PROCEDURE; DEFINITIONS

13:34-11.1 (Reserved)

Repeal and New Rule, R.2004 d.158, effective April 19, 2004.

See: 35 N.J.R. 5228(a), 36 N.J.R. 1943(a).

Section was “Application procedure: professional counselor”.

Repealed by R.2009 d.301, effective October 5, 2009.

See: 41 N.J.R. 1946(a), 41 N.J.R. 3813(a).

Section was “Definitions”.

13:34-11.2 Professional counselor: application and educational requirements

(a) An applicant for licensure as a professional counselor shall submit the following to the Committee:

1. A completed application form, which contains information concerning the applicant’s educational and experiential background;

2. The application fee set forth in N.J.A.C. 13:34-17.1;

3. An official transcript(s) clearly indicating that the applicant has completed a minimum of 60 graduate semester hours and has obtained a master's degree or a doctorate in counseling in a planned educational program designed to prepare students for the professional practice of counseling from a regionally accredited institution of higher education. The degree and official transcript(s) shall clearly indicate that:

i. The degree awarded is a master's degree or doctorate in counseling. The word "Counseling" or the word "Counselor" shall appear in the title of the graduate degree awarded and the institution offering the degree shall state in the catalog or in another format acceptable to the Committee that the purpose of the graduate degree is to prepare students for the professional practice of counseling; and

ii. The applicant has completed a minimum of 60 graduate semester hours of which 45 graduate semester hours shall be distributed in at least eight of the following areas:

(1) Counseling theory and practice, which includes the study of basic theories, principles and techniques of counseling and their application to professional counseling settings;

(2) The helping relationship, which includes studies that provide a broad understanding of philosophic bases of helping processes, basic and advanced helping skills, consultation theories and their applications, client and helper self-understanding and self-development and facilitation or client change;

(3) Human growth and development and maladaptive behavior, which includes studies that provide a broad understanding of the nature and needs of individuals at all developmental levels, normal and abnormal behavior, personality theory, life-span theory, and learning theory within cultural contexts;

(4) Lifestyle and career development, which include studies that provide a broad understanding of career development theories, occupational and educational information sources and systems, career and leisure counseling, guidance and education, lifestyle and career decision-making, career development program planning, resources, and career option identification;

(5) Group dynamics, processes, counseling and consulting, which include studies that provide a broad understanding of group development dynamics, group counseling theories, group leadership styles, basic and advanced group counseling methods and skills, and other group approaches;

(6) Appraisal of individuals, which includes studies that provide a broad understanding of group and

individual educational and psychometric theories and approaches to appraisal, data and information gathering methods, validity and reliability, psychometric statistics, factors that influence appraisals, use of appraisal results in helping process and the specific ability to administer and interpret tests and inventories to assess abilities and interests and identify career options;

(7) Social and cultural foundations, which include studies that provide a broad understanding of societal changes and trends, human roles, societal subgroups, social mores and interaction patterns, multicultural and pluralistic trends, differing lifestyles, and major societal concerns including stress, person abuse, substance abuse, discrimination and methods of alleviating these concerns;

(8) Research and evaluation, which include studies that provide a broad understanding of types of research, basic statistics, research-report development, research implementation, program evaluation, needs assessment, publication of research information and ethical and legal considerations; and

(9) The counseling profession, which includes studies that provide a broad understanding of professional roles and functions, professional goals and objectives, professional organizations and associations, professional history and trends, ethical and legal standards, professional preparation standards and professional credentialing.

(b) On or after October 5, 2012, in order to be eligible for licensure, an applicant shall submit an official transcript(s) clearly indicating that the applicant has obtained a master's degree or doctorate from a counseling degree program accredited, at the time of the applicant's graduation, by the Council on the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Programs (CACREP) or its successor.

Repeal and New Rule, R.2004 d.158, effective April 19, 2004.
See: 35 N.J.R. 5228(a), 36 N.J.R. 1943(a).

Section was "Application procedure: associate counselor".
Amended by R.2009 d.301, effective October 5, 2009.
See: 41 N.J.R. 1946(a), 41 N.J.R. 3813(a).

Rewrote the introductory paragraph of (a)3, (a)3i and the introductory paragraph of (a)3ii; in (a)3ii(2), deleted a comma following "self-development" and substituted "client" for "consultee"; and added (b).

13:34-11.3 Professional counselor: experience requirements

(a) In addition to the requirements listed in N.J.A.C. 13:34-11.2, an applicant for licensure as a professional counselor shall submit to the Committee documentation indicating that the applicant has met the supervised professional counseling experience requirements for licensure as set forth below:

1. Three calendar years of supervised professional counseling experience in a professional counseling setting,

only one calendar year of which may be obtained prior to the granting of the master's degree. Two calendar years of supervised professional counseling experience shall have been obtained following licensure as an associate counselor. Hours of supervised professional counseling experience obtained during college or university graduate level practicums or internships may be counted toward satisfying a portion of the supervised counseling experience requirement provided the courses labeled practicums or internships are not also used to satisfy the 45 hours distributed in the eight areas of the educational requirements for licensure as set forth in N.J.A.C. 13:34-11.2; or

2. Two calendar years of supervised professional counseling experience as a licensed associate counselor in a professional counseling setting, provided that the applicant has earned, subsequent to completing the 60 graduate semester hours to include a master's degree, an additional 30 graduate semester hours clearly related to counseling as contained in N.J.A.C. 13:34-11.2(a)3ii(1) through (9). Hours of supervised professional counseling experience obtained during college or university graduate level practicums may be counted toward satisfying a portion of the supervised professional counseling experience requirement provided the courses labeled graduate level practicums or internships are not also used to satisfy the 45 hours distributed in the eight areas of the educational requirements for licensure as set forth in N.J.A.C. 13:34-11.2. No more than one calendar year of supervised professional counseling experience may be obtained prior to the completion of the 60 graduate semester hours.

(b) An applicant for licensure may take up to a maximum of six years to satisfy the supervised professional counseling experience requirement within the definitions stated in N.J.A.C. 13:34-10.2. Professional counseling experience submitted to the Committee that occurs before the date of the application may be accepted toward the fulfillment of the experience requirement if the experience meets the criteria stated above, including supervision by a qualified supervisor.

Repeal and New Rule, R.2004 d.158, effective April 19, 2004.

See: 35 N.J.R. 5228(a), 36 N.J.R. 1943(a).

Section was "Educational requirements".

Amended by R.2009 d.301, effective October 5, 2009.

See: 41 N.J.R. 1946(a), 41 N.J.R. 3813(a).

In (a)1 and (a)2, inserted "45 hours distributed in the eight areas of the"; in (a)1, inserted the second sentence; in (a)2, inserted "as a licensed associate counselor" and "60 graduate semester hours to include a" and substituted "completion of the 60 graduate semester hours" for "granting of the master's degree"; and in (b), updated the N.J.A.C. reference, substituted "that" for "which" and inserted a comma following "above".

13:34-11.4 Professional counselor: examination requirements

(a) An applicant for licensure as a professional counselor shall submit to the Committee, in addition to the requirements stated in N.J.A.C. 13:34-11.2 and 11.3, proof that the applicant has successfully passed the National Counselor Examination (NCE) or its successor, administered by the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) or its successor.

(b) The applicant shall only be admitted to the NCE upon receipt of written permission from the Committee following the Committee's review of the applicant's coursework, unless the NCE is taken as part of the applicant's graduate degree program or in another state pursuant to that state's examination requirements.

New Rule, R.2004 d.158, effective April 19, 2004.

See: 35 N.J.R. 5228(a), 36 N.J.R. 1943(a).

Amended by R.2009 d.301, effective October 5, 2009.

See: 41 N.J.R. 1946(a), 41 N.J.R. 3813(a).

Inserted designation (a); in (a), inserted "(NCE) or its successor,"; and added (b).

13:34-11.5 Associate counselor: application and educational requirements

(a) An applicant for licensure as an associate counselor shall submit to the Committee:

1. A completed application form which contains information concerning the applicant's educational and experiential background;
2. The application fee set forth in N.J.A.C. 13:34-17.1;
3. An official transcript(s) clearly indicating that the applicant has completed a minimum of 60 graduate semester hours and has obtained a master's degree or doctorate in counseling in a planned educational program designed to prepare students for the professional practice of counseling from a regionally accredited institution of higher education. The degree and official transcript(s) shall clearly indicate that:
 - i. The degree awarded is a master's degree or doctorate in counseling. The word "Counseling" or the word "Counselor" shall appear in the title of the graduate degree submitted and the institution offering the degree shall state in the catalog or in another format acceptable to the Committee that the purpose of the graduate degree is to prepare students for the professional practice of counseling; and
 - ii. The applicant has completed a minimum of 60 graduate semester hours of which 45 graduate semester hours are distributed in at least eight of the following areas:
 - (1) Counseling theory and practice, which includes the study of basic theories, principles and techniques of counseling and their application to professional counseling settings;
 - (2) The helping relationship, which includes studies that provide a broad understanding of philosophic bases of helping processes, basic and advanced helping skills, consultation theories and their applications, client and helper self-understanding and self-development and facilitation or client change;
 - (3) Human growth and development and maladaptive behavior, which includes studies that provide

a broad understanding of the nature and needs of individuals at all developmental levels, normal and abnormal behavior, personality theory, life-span theory, and learning theory within cultural contexts;

(4) Lifestyle and career development, which include studies that provide a broad understanding of career development theories, occupational and educational information sources and systems, career and leisure counseling, guidance and education, lifestyle and career decision-making, career development program planning, resources, and career option identification;

(5) Group dynamics, processes, counseling and consulting, which include studies that provide a broad understanding of group development dynamics, group counseling theories, group leadership styles, basic and advanced group counseling methods and skills, and other group approaches;

(6) Appraisal of individuals, which includes studies that provide a broad understanding of group and individual educational and psychometric theories and approaches to appraisal, data and information gathering methods, validity and reliability, psychometric statistics, factors that influence appraisals, use of appraisal results in helping process and the specific ability to administer and interpret tests and inventories to assess abilities and interests and identify career options;

(7) Social and cultural foundations, which include studies that provide a broad understanding of societal changes and trends, human roles, societal subgroups, social mores and interaction patterns, multicultural and pluralistic trends, differing lifestyles, and major societal concerns including stress, person abuse, substance abuse, discrimination and methods of alleviating these concerns;

(8) Research and evaluation, which include studies that provide a broad understanding of types of research, basic statistics, research-report development, research implementation, program evaluation, needs assessment, publication of research information and ethical and legal considerations; and

(9) The counseling profession, which includes studies that provide a broad understanding of professional roles and functions, professional goals and objectives, professional organizations and associations, professional history and trends, ethical and legal standards, professional preparation standards and professional credentialing.

(b) On or after October 5, 2012, in order to be eligible for licensure, an applicant shall submit an official transcript(s) clearly indicating that the applicant has obtained a master's degree or doctorate from a counseling degree program accredited, at the time of the applicant's graduation, by the

Council on the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Programs (CACREP) or its successor.

New Rule, R.2004 d.158, effective April 19, 2004.

See: 35 N.J.R. 5228(a), 36 N.J.R. 1943(a).

Amended by R.2009 d.301, effective October 5, 2009.

See: 41 N.J.R. 1946(a), 41 N.J.R. 3813(a).

Rewrote the introductory paragraph of (a)3, (a)3i and the introductory paragraph of (a)3ii; in (a)3ii(2), deleted a comma following "self-development" and substituted "client" for "consultee"; and added (b).

13:34-11.6 Associate counselor: examination requirements

(a) In addition to the requirements listed in N.J.A.C. 13:34-11.5, an applicant for licensure as an associate counselor shall submit proof to the Committee that the applicant has successfully passed the National Counselor Examination (NCE), or its successor, administered by the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) or its successor.

(b) The applicant shall only be admitted to the NCE upon receipt of written permission from the Committee following the Committee's review of the applicant's coursework, unless the NCE is taken as part of the applicant's graduate degree program or in another state pursuant to that state's examination requirements.

New Rule, R.2004 d.158, effective April 19, 2004.

See: 35 N.J.R. 5228(a), 36 N.J.R. 1943(a).

Amended by R.2009 d.301, effective October 5, 2009.

See: 41 N.J.R. 1946(a), 41 N.J.R. 3813(a).

Inserted designation (a); in (a), substituted "Committee" for "Board" and "Counselor" for "Counselors" and inserted "(NCE), or its successor,"; and added (b).

13:34-11.7 Payment of licensing fee; abandonment of application

(a) An applicant for licensure shall submit the licensing fee set forth in N.J.A.C. 13:34-17.1 upon receipt of notification from the Committee that his or her application for licensure has been approved. Failure to submit the licensing fee within six months following the date of notification from the Committee shall result in the application for licensure being deemed abandoned.

(b) An applicant for licensure whose application has been deemed abandoned pursuant to (a) above shall submit a new application for licensure to the Committee and shall comply with all application requirements in this subchapter.

New Rule, R.2009 d.301, effective October 5, 2009.

See: 41 N.J.R. 1946(a), 41 N.J.R. 3813(a).

SUBCHAPTER 12. PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS: LICENSURE BY ENDORSEMENT

13:34-12.1 Licensure by endorsement

(a) Applicants licensed to practice professional counseling by a professional counseling licensing board in the United