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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WEST VIRGINIA

**WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE
KEN HECHLER
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW DIVISION**

Form #4 ■

NOTICE OF RULE MODIFICATION OF A PROPOSED RULE

AGENCY: West Virginia Board of Examiners in Counseling TITLE NUMBER: 27

CITE AUTHORITY: 30-31-5 and 30-31-7a

AMENDMENT TO AN EXISTING RULE: YES NO

IF YES, SERIES NUMBER OF RULE BEING AMENDED: _____

TITLE OF RULE BEING AMENDED: _____

IF NO, SERIES NUMBER OF RULE BEING PROPOSED: 4

TITLE OF RULE BEING PROPOSED: Restricted Practice Licensure for Addictions Counselors

THE ABOVE PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE RULES, FOLLOWING REVIEW BY THE LEGISLATIVE RULE MAKING REVIEW COMMITTEE, IS HEREBY MODIFIED AS A RESULT OF REVIEW AND COMMENT BY THE LEGISLATIVE RULE MAKING REVIEW COMMITTEE. THE ATTACHED MODIFICATIONS ARE FILED WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Authorized Signature

**TITLE 27
LEGISLATIVE RULE
BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN COUNSELING**

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**SERIES 4
RESTRICTED PRACTICE LICENSURE FOR ADDICTIONS COUNSELORS**

OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE

§27-4-1. General.

1.1. Scope. -- This rule establishes requirements related to the practice of substance abuse counseling procedures or addictions counseling procedures under supervision in a supervised setting, as required by W. Va. Code §30-31-7a.

1.2. Authority. -- W. Va. Code §§30-31-5 and 30-31-7a.

1.3. Filing Date. --

1.4. Effective Date. --

§27-4-2. Definitions.

2.1. "Approved professional supervisor" means any Licensed Professional Counselor, or other qualified supervisor, as determined by the Board, who has been licensed for two (2) years and who has five (5) years counseling experience. The professional supervisor shall document to the Board that he or she has completed training in counseling supervision that includes content and experiences relevant to the supervision of counselors. The professional supervisor shall provide the Board with a statement detailing their counseling philosophy, supervision experience and counseling experience. The professional supervisor shall demonstrate skills necessary to address the core areas of practice such as counseling theories, counseling techniques, human growth and development, social and cultural foundations, individual appraisal, professional and ethical responsibilities.

2.2. "Certified addictions counselor" means a person who has met the work

experience requirements, has attained a passing score, and has been certified as an addictions counselor by the International Certification Reciprocity Consortium/Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse (ICRC/AODA) or its successor organization.

2.3. "Restricted practice license" means a license issued to a person who has met all of the requirements for licensure set forth in W. Va. Code §30-31-7, other than the requirement of holding a master's or doctorate degree, and who has met all of the requirements of this rule. A person practicing under a restricted practice license may practice only under supervision in a supervised setting, as set forth in this rule.

2.4. "Supervised professional experience" means counseling services provided in an appropriate setting, under the direction of an approved professional supervisor. The supervised professional experience shall include, but is not limited to, demonstration of counseling skills, management skills, high professional and ethical standards, and personal characteristics appropriate to the counseling relationship.

§27-4-3. Application of Rule.

This legislative rule applies to all persons practicing or making application to practice as addictions counselors under a restricted practice license.

§27-4-4. Requirements for Application to Practice Under a Restricted Practice License.

4.1. Persons that desire to practice under a restricted practice license shall make application to the board, on forms supplied by

the board, within two (2) years of the date of passage of this rule.

4.2 Applicants shall submit the completed application form to the board, together with written documentation as cited in W. Va. Code §30-31-7a.

§27-4-5. Supervision, Education and Review.

5.1. Addiction counselors practicing under a restricted practice license shall be supervised by an approved professional supervisor who is approved by and registered with the board prior to the filing of the application for the restricted practice license.

5.2. The approved professional supervisor shall be available, either on the premises or by telephone, at all times during which the addictions counselor practicing under a restricted practice license is counseling a client or clients.

5.3. The addictions counselor practicing under a restricted practice license shall maintain a record of the hours spent in supervision, on a form provided by the board, and shall indicate the number of hours spent in examination of selected client records and the number of hours spent in education and review sessions. The supervision record shall be made available to the board during the counselor's annual review and at any other time the board may request.

5.4. The addictions counselor practicing under a restricted practice license shall complete a minimum of six hours of approved graduate coursework per year, and shall submit transcripts of the completed coursework to the board during the counselor's annual review and at any other time the board may request.

5.5. The addictions counselor practicing under a restricted practice license shall follow the education requirements set forth in this section. Approved coursework from an accredited institution offering a master's or doctoral degree in counseling shall be accepted. Institutional accreditation shall be the Council on Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP), the National

Council on Accreditation for Teacher Education (NCATE), the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCACS), the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), or a comparable accrediting body. Acceptable graduate degrees include a specialization in community agency counseling, mental health counseling, and addictions or substance abuse counseling. Similar degrees that include the word "counseling" and include the core of coursework representative of professional counseling programs at the time of its completion may be accepted but are subject to review; or

5.5.a. Coursework from an accredited institution offering a master's or doctoral degree in a field closely related to counseling shall be accepted. The accepted accrediting bodies are cited in subsection 5.5 of this rule. The graduate degree shall include graduate core coursework, either as part of the degree or after the award of the degree, in each of the following areas or their equivalent, as determined by the Board:

(1). Counseling theories: includes a study of basic theories and principles of counseling and philosophic basis of the helping relationship;

(2). Counseling techniques: includes individual counseling practices, methods, facilitative skills, and the application of these skills;

(3). Human growth and development: includes the nature and needs of individuals at all developmental levels, following psychological, sociological and physiological approaches. Also includes human behavior (normal and abnormal), personality theory, learning theory, dynamics of stress, and medical/functional implications of disability;

(4). Social and cultural foundations: includes studies of social change, ethnic groups, subcultures, mores, urban and rural societies, population patterns, use of leisure time, work, and differing life patterns;

(5). Individual appraisal: includes individual differences, methods of data gathering and interpretation, individual and group testing, and case study;

(6). Professional responsibilities: includes goals and objectives of professional counseling organizations, codes of ethics, legal considerations, standards of preparation, certification and licensing, advocacy, confidentiality, and the role identity of counselors;

(7). Supervised practicum: includes the provision of counseling to bona fide clients and groups seeking services from counselors under the direction of a graduate faculty member who is a licensed professional counselor or related mental health professional, and shall include critiquing of counseling either observed or recorded on audio or video tape; and,

(8). Supervised internship: includes actual on-the-job experience in professional counseling under the tutelage of an on-site supervisor who is a licensed professional counselor or related mental health professional; and,

5.5.b. In addition to subdivision 5.5a. of this rule, an applicant working towards a master's or doctoral degree in a field closely related to counseling shall present at least one graduate course in five of the following eight areas:

(1). Addictions counseling;

(2). Crisis intervention;

(3). Group dynamics, processes, counseling and consulting: includes theories, practices, methods, dynamics, facilitative skills, and supervised practice;

(4). Life-style and career development: includes vocational-choice theory, relationship between career choice and life-style, occupational and educational information, career

decision-making processes, career development exploration and placement techniques;

(5). Marriage, couples, and/or family counseling/therapy;

(6). Research and evaluation: includes statistics, research design, research proposals and evaluation;

(7). Principles of etiology, diagnosis, treatment planning, and prevention of mental and emotional disorders and dysfunctional behavior; or,

(8). Community resources and rehabilitation services; includes development and implementation of community resource references and materials for client referral.

5.6. The Board shall review, at least annually, the educational and professional progress of each addictions counselor practicing under a restricted practice license. The restricted practice licensee shall file the required documents needed for the annual review and pay the appropriate fee to the Board's office on a date designated by the Board.

5.7. The addictions counselor practicing under a restricted practice license shall be referred to as a Restricted Practice Licensed Counselor.