

CHAPTER 312**(HB 474)**

AN ACT relating to professional counselors.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

Section 1. KRS 335.500 is amended to read as follows:

As used in KRS 335.500 to 335.599, unless the context requires otherwise:

- (1) "Board" means the Kentucky Board of Certification for Professional Counselors;
- (2) "Certified professional counselor" means a person who has completed a master's or doctoral degree in counseling from an accredited educational institution, and is certified by the board;
- (3) ***"Certified professional counselor associate" means an individual who has a minimum of four hundred (400) hours of experience under the supervision of an approved supervisor and has met the requirements for certification under subsection (1)(a) to (d) of Section 2 of this Act;***
- (4) "Certificate holder" means a professional counselor who is certified under the provisions of KRS 335.500 to 335.599;
- (5)~~(4)~~ "Approved supervisor" means a person who has been approved by the board to supervise and is qualified under Kentucky law as a licensed psychiatrist, licensed or certified psychologist, licensed clinical social worker, certified professional counselor, nurse with a master's degree and psychiatric certification, certified marriage and family therapist, or certified professional art therapist. The board may approve as supervisor a person from another state with a substantially equivalent certificate or license who is in good standing with the certifying or licensing state and meets, at a minimum, the requirements set out in KRS 335.525; and
- (6)~~(5)~~ "Relative" means a person's father, mother, brother, sister, husband, wife, son, daughter, aunt, uncle, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, grandparent, grandchild, stepparent, or stepchild.

Section 2. KRS 335.525 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) The board shall issue a "professional counselor" certificate to an applicant who:
 - (a) Has paid the application fee and the appropriate examination fee to the board;
 - (b) Is of good moral character;
 - (c) Has received a master's or doctoral degree in counseling from a regionally-accredited institution;
 - (d) Has completed a minimum of sixty (60) graduate semester hours in the following:
 1. The helping relationship, including counseling theory and practice;
 2. Human growth and development;
 3. Lifestyle and career development;
 4. Group dynamics, process, counseling, and consulting;
 5. Assessment, appraisal, and testing of individuals;

6. Social and cultural foundations, including multicultural issues;
 7. Principles of etiology, diagnosis, treatment planning, and prevention of mental and emotional disorders and dysfunctional behavior;
 8. Research and evaluation; and
 9. Professional orientation and ethics;
- (e) Has completed a minimum of three thousand (3,000) hours of experience in the practice of counseling, two thousand (2,000) hours of which must have been obtained since obtaining the master's degree and must be under approved supervision~~[-The experience shall have been performed under the general supervision of an approved supervisor]~~ and shall include, but not be limited to, a minimum of one thousand two hundred (1,200) hours of direct counseling with individuals, couples, families, or groups and a minimum of one hundred (100) hours of individual, face-to-face weekly clinical supervision with an approved supervisor. Up to one thousand (1,000) hours of the supervised experience may be obtained from a supervised practicum or internship. ***After January 1, 2001, the board shall issue certificates only to applicants who have obtained all three thousand (3000) hours of experience since obtaining the master's degree. All***~~*After January 1, 1998, all previously uncertified]*~~ applicants shall complete an organized practicum or internship consisting of at least four hundred (400) hours; and
- (f) Has achieved passing scores on all portions of the examinations required by the board.
- (2) ***The board may issue a professional counselor associate certificate to an applicant as provided under Section 1 of this Act. An associate may apply for professional counselor certification upon completion of the hours of experience required under paragraph (e) of subsection (1) of this section.***
- (3) The application fee for certification and the examination fee shall be established pursuant to administrative regulation promulgated by the board.

Approved April 4, 2000

