
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SOCIAL WORKERS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that social workers in
2 Hawaii who are working to complete their licensed clinical
3 social worker requirements must complete three thousand hours of
4 supervised work experience, one hundred hours of which must be
5 by direct face-to-face supervision. The legislature further
6 finds that certain social workers, particularly those living on
7 the less populated islands, in rural areas, and those employed
8 by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, may
9 experience challenges meeting the direct face-to-face
10 supervision requirement. This is especially true for social
11 workers in rural areas, as there are a limited number of rural
12 social workers who are qualified to provide supervision for
13 applicants for licensure as clinical social workers.

14 The legislature additionally finds that telehealth has
15 become standard practice in social work and the mental health
16 field and should be permitted as a means of meeting the
17 supervision requirements needed for licensure as a clinical
18 social worker.



1 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to clarify the
2 supervision requirements for licensure of clinical social
3 workers, including permitting the option to fulfill all or part
4 of the face-to-face supervision requirements through supervision
5 via a video conference service that is compliant with all
6 federal and state privacy, security, and confidentiality laws,
7 including the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability
8 Act of 1996.

9 SECTION 2. Section 467E-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
10 amended to read as follows:

11 "**§467E-7 Licensing requirements.** Every applicant for a
12 license as a social worker shall submit evidence satisfactory to
13 the director that the applicant meets the following
14 requirements:

15 (1) For the licensed bachelor social worker, the
16 applicant:

17 (A) Holds a bachelor's degree from a college or
18 university in a social work program accredited by
19 or deemed to be equivalent to a program
20 accredited by the Council on Social Work
21 Education; and



- 1 (B) Has passed the basic level national examination
2 given by the Association of Social Work Boards;
- 3 (2) For the licensed social worker, the applicant:
- 4 (A) Holds a master's degree from a college or
5 university in a social work program accredited by
6 or deemed to be equivalent to an accredited
7 program by the Council on Social Work Education
8 or a doctoral degree from a doctoral degree
9 program in social work accredited by the Western
10 Association of Schools and Colleges or a
11 comparable regional accreditation body; and
- 12 (B) Has passed the intermediate or higher level
13 national examination given by the Association of
14 Social Work Boards; and
- 15 (3) For the licensed clinical social worker, the
16 applicant:
- 17 (A) Has met the educational requirements in paragraph
18 (2);
- 19 (B) Has passed the clinical level national
20 examination given by the Association of Social
21 Work Boards; [and]



1 (C) Has provided evidence of successful completion of
2 at least three thousand hours of post masters
3 clinical social work experience under supervision
4 completed within no fewer than two years, but
5 within no more than five years. Clinical social
6 work experience shall include a minimum of two
7 thousand hours of assessment, clinical diagnosis,
8 and psychotherapy; no more than a maximum of nine
9 hundred hours of client-centered advocacy,
10 consultation, and evaluation; and at least one
11 hundred hours of [~~direct face-to-face~~]
12 supervision[~~-~~] as follows:

13 (i) At least sixty of the one hundred hours of
14 direct face-to-face supervision shall have
15 been individualized supervision [~~and the~~
16 ~~remaining~~]; and

17 (ii) Not more than forty hours of direct face-to-
18 face supervision may have been under small
19 group (up to six supervisees) supervision[~~-~~
20 ~~provided that:-~~].



1 An applicant who submits evidence of
2 certification as a qualified clinical social
3 worker or diplomate in clinical social work by
4 the National Association of Social Workers or as
5 a board certified diplomate by the American Board
6 of Examiners shall be deemed to have satisfied
7 the experience requirements of this subparagraph;

8 (D) For the purposes of subparagraph (C), shall have
9 had clinical supervision as follows:

10 (i) The supervisor shall have been a licensed
11 clinical social worker with at least four
12 thousand five hundred hours of post masters
13 clinical social work experience;

14 (ii) For the first five years after July 1, 2004,
15 the following individuals shall be deemed to
16 have satisfied the requirements of a
17 supervisor: a person with a master's degree
18 in social work with at least four thousand
19 five hundred hours post masters clinical
20 social work experience; an individual who
21 holds a diplomate in clinical social work or



1 a board certified diplomate certification;
 2 or a board certified psychiatrist,
 3 psychologist, advanced practice registered
 4 nurse who has a minimum of four thousand
 5 five hundred hours of post masters clinical
 6 experience in assessment, clinical
 7 diagnosis, and psychotherapy; and

8 (iii) Supervision shall have [~~occurred in an~~
 9 ~~agency setting that provides~~] included
 10 review of assessment, clinical diagnosis,
 11 and psychotherapy[-

12 ~~An applicant who submits evidence of~~
 13 ~~certification as a qualified clinical social~~
 14 ~~worker or diplomate in clinical social work by the~~
 15 ~~National Association of Social Workers or as a~~
 16 ~~board certified diplomate by the American Board~~
 17 ~~of Examiners shall be deemed to have satisfied~~
 18 ~~the experience requirements of this~~
 19 ~~subparagraph.]; and~~

20 (E) In collaboration with the supervisor, may elect
 21 to fulfill some or all of the supervision



1 requirements set forth in subparagraph (C)
2 through face-to-face supervision that is
3 conducted electronically through a video
4 conference service that is compliant with all
5 federal and state privacy, security, and
6 confidentiality laws, including the Health
7 Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of
8 1996. Prior to making such an election, it is
9 incumbent upon the applicant to review the laws
10 and rules of other jurisdictions to determine the
11 impact, if any, that electronic supervision may
12 have on license by endorsement in other states."

13 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
14 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

15 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Social Workers; Licensed Clinical Social Workers; Licensing Requirements; Supervision

Description:

Clarifies the supervision requirements for licensure of clinical social workers, including permitting the option to fulfill all or part of the face-to-face supervision requirements through supervision via a video conference service that is compliant with all federal and state privacy, security, and confidentiality laws, including the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996. (SD1)

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