

Subchapter 15. Issuance and Maintenance of License

310:400-15-3 [AMENDED]

310:400-15-4 [AMENDED]

SUMMARY:

310:400-1-3 The current Rule provides definitions. The proposal provides additional definitions and clarification. The effect of the Rule will provide clarification regarding the definitions for home-study or technology-assisted distance learning, technology-assisted therapy, and on-site supervisor. 310:400-5-3 The current Rule describes professional competence and integrity. The proposed Rule establishes requirements for LMFT's who provide technology-assisted therapy services. The effect of the Rule will increase the ability for citizens in Oklahoma to receive therapy services via technology, especially in rural parts of the state. The proposed Rule also establishes a prohibition for non-licensed individuals to practice privately or independently or open a facility with the intent of providing private or independent therapy practice. The effect of the Rule will ensure that non-licensed individuals are not opening their own therapy practices or practicing independently. 310:400-7-2 The current Rule describes the Evaluation of Supervised Experience document. The proposed Rule changes the documentation of percentages of time spent in counseling activities to the number of supervised hours spent with different population. The effect of the Rule will allow for documentation of hours spent with clients. 310:400-7-2.1 The current rule describes reapplication procedures. The proposed Rule establishes procedures for re-application following permanent expiration of licensure and voided application. The effect of the Rule will clarify the requirements for re-application. The proposed Rule also establishes re-application requirements for approved supervisors whose status has been revoked by administrative action. The effect of the Rule will ensure that approved supervisors have been rehabilitated before supervising licensure candidates. 310:400-9-4 The current Rule requires notification be sent to applicant of test eligibility 60 days before the exam. The proposed Rule requires notification be sent to applicant 60 days after the Department receives the completed application. The effect of the Rule will allow the Department to schedule the exams in a timely fashion. The proposed Rule also establishes a timeline for the Department to schedule the oral examination as well as a timeline for the applicant to pass the oral exam. The effect of the Rule will ensure that LMFT applicants are familiar with the Oklahoma LMFT Act and psychopathology as they begin accruing supervised experience. The proposed Rule also establishes a time limit to pass the national examination before the application is voided and establishes requirements to re-apply for licensure. The effect of the Rule will ensure that licensure applicants complete the examination requirements within the allotted time period. 310:400-9-7 The current language establishes penalties for licensure applicants who fail to apply for the exams. The proposed Rule deletes the current language since it has been added to another section. The effect of the Rule will provide consistency in the rule language. 310:400-11-3 The current

Rule describes supervisor qualifications. The proposed Rule establishes requirements for approved supervisors to meet the therapy supervision continuing education requirement. The proposed Rule also establishes requirements for approved supervisors to place their supervisor status on inactive or retired status and to re-activate their approved status. The proposed Rule also establishes a time limit for re-application of a revoked approved supervisor status. The effect of the Rule provides clarification regarding the continuing education requirements for approved supervisors and provides approved supervisors a mechanism to retire, inactivate, and re-activate their status. 310:400-11-4 The current Rule establishes requirements regarding the duration of supervised experience. The proposed Rule requires the accrual of 250 relational hours as a part of the supervised experience and establishes a four-week time period to complete a designated number of hours. The effect of the Rule will ensure that marital and family licensure candidates are gaining supervised experience with members of a relational system. 310:400-11-5 The current Rule establishes requirements for documentation of supervised experience. The proposed Rule requires the evaluation form to be complete before being accepted by the Department. The effect of the Rule will ensure that all requirements are complete before documentation is submitted for review. 310:400-13-2 The current Rule requires an examination processing fee paid by the applicant if the national examination was taken prior to application in Oklahoma. The proposed Rule eliminates the processing fee. The effect of the Rule will allow the licensure applicant to bypass paying fee since there is no charge to the Department to collect the test scores. 310:400-15-3 The current Rule requires the license verification card to be displayed on the original license. The proposed Rule establishes a requirement for the LMFT to also carry a current verification card on their person anytime therapy services are being provided. The effect of the Rule ensures the current status of licensees when therapy services are being provided. 310:400-15-4 The current Rule establishes acceptable continuing education. The proposed Rule clarifies presenter qualifications and context of programs, including home study and technology-assisted distance learning. The effect of the Rule will provide clarity regarding presenters and context of continuing education programs and allow acceptance of home study and technology-assisted distance learning programs.

AUTHORITY:

Oklahoma State Board of Health; 59 O.S. 2001, Section 1925.5(A)

COMMENT PERIOD:

February 2, 2009 through March 12, 2009. Interested persons may discuss informally the proposed rules with Nena West, Director, Professional Counselor Licensing Division; or may before March 12, 2009, submit written comment to Nena West, Director, Oklahoma State Department of Health, 1000 N.E. 10th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73117-1299; or may at the hearing ask to present written or oral views.