

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 55th Legislature (2016)

3 SENATE BILL 1471

By: Brecheen

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to the Licensed Alcohol and Drug
8 Counselors Act; amending 59 O.S. 2011, Section 1876,
9 as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 367, O.S.L.
10 2014 (59 O.S. Supp. 2015, Section 1876), which
11 relates to licensure standards; deleting certain
12 reference to United States Department of Education;
13 authorizing Oklahoma Board of Licensed Alcohol and
14 Drug Counselors to recognize certain institutions for
15 certain purpose; directing promulgation of rules;
16 providing for codification; and providing an
17 effective date.

18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

19 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 2011, Section 1876, as
20 last amended by Section 1, Chapter 367, O.S.L. 2014 (59 O.S. Supp.
21 2015, Section 1876), is amended to read as follows:

22 Section 1876. A. Unless exempt pursuant to Section 1872 of
23 this title, any person wishing to practice alcohol and drug
24 counseling in this state shall obtain a certificate or license to
25 practice pursuant to the provisions of the Licensed Alcohol and Drug
26 Counselors Act.

27 B. An application for a certificate or license to practice as a
28 certified or licensed alcohol and drug counselor shall be made to

1 the Oklahoma Board of Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors in
2 writing. Such application shall be on a form and in a manner
3 prescribed by the Board. The application shall be accompanied by
4 the fee required by the Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors Act,
5 which shall be retained by the Board and not returned to the
6 applicant.

7 C. Each applicant for a certificate or license to practice as a
8 certified or licensed alcohol and drug counselor shall:

9 1. Be possessed of good moral character;

10 2. Pass an examination based on standards established by the
11 International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium, any
12 successor organization to the International Certification and
13 Reciprocity Consortium or another national or international
14 organization recognized by the Board to have similar standards equal
15 to or higher than the International Certification and Reciprocity
16 Consortium;

17 3. Be at least twenty-one (21) years of age;

18 4. Not have engaged in, nor be engaged in, any practice or
19 conduct which would be grounds for denying, revoking or suspending a
20 license pursuant to the provisions of the Licensed Alcohol and Drug
21 Counselors Act; and

22 5. Otherwise comply with the rules promulgated by the Board
23 pursuant to the provisions of the Licensed Alcohol and Drug
24 Counselors Act.

1 D. In addition to the qualifications specified by the
2 provisions of subsection C of this section, an applicant for a
3 license to practice as a licensed alcohol and drug counselor shall:

4 1. Have at least a master's degree in alcohol and substance
5 abuse counseling or other clinical counseling field recognized by
6 the Oklahoma Board of Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors that
7 includes, at a minimum, the following knowledge areas and graduate
8 credit hours from a college or university accredited by an agency
9 recognized by the ~~United States Department of Education~~ Board:

10 a. three courses in foundational knowledge, including one
11 course in alcohol and drug addiction, one course in
12 drug and alcohol counseling theory, and one course in
13 the pharmacology of drugs and abuse,

14 b. three courses in assessment and treatment of
15 behavioral health problems, which may include group
16 dynamics, individual and family counseling skills,
17 specific counseling approaches, assessment methods,
18 community resources and referral, or other courses
19 primarily related to the assessment and treatment of
20 behavioral health problems,

21 c. one course in human development,

22 d. one course in psychopathology,

23 e. one course in multicultural and cultural competency
24 issues,

- f. one course in family systems theory,
- g. one course in addiction in the family theory,
- h. one course in addiction in the family counseling,
- i. one course in ethics, which includes established ethical conduct for alcohol and drug counselors,
- j. one course in research methods, and
- k. one three-hour practicum/internship in the field of drug and alcohol counseling of at least three hundred (300) clock hours.

All courses shall be graduate level courses and shall be three (3) semester hours or four (4) quarter credit hours which shall include a minimum of forty-five (45) class hours for each course;

2. Have successfully completed at least one (1) year of full-time supervised work experience providing behavioral health services. For the purpose of the Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors Act, one (1) year of full-time work experience shall mean two thousand (2,000) hours of work experience, of which at least one thousand (1,000) hours shall consist of direct client contact; or

3. Be a licensed mental health professional as defined in Section 1-103 of Title 43A of the Oklahoma Statutes and have completed a minimum of fifteen (15) hours in master's level substance abuse specific coursework, including, but not limited to, chemical addiction, counseling, alcohol/drug counseling theory, pharmacology of drugs and abuse, assessment and treatment of alcohol

1 and drug problems, theories in family addiction, and/or family
2 addiction counseling.

3 E. The scope of practice of a licensed alcohol and drug
4 counselor who meets the educational requirements set forth in
5 paragraph 1 of subsection D of this section may include the
6 assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of mental health disorders.
7 Licensees who have been determined by the Board to meet these
8 requirements shall have the designation "licensed alcohol and drug
9 counselor/mental health" or "LADC/MH" noted on their license and
10 wallet card.

11 F. The scope of practice of a licensed alcohol and drug
12 counselor who made application for license or who was licensed prior
13 to the effective date of the educational requirements set forth in
14 paragraph 1 of subsection D of this section shall not include the
15 assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of mental health disorders
16 unless:

17 1. The licensed alcohol and drug counselor holds a master's
18 degree that meets the educational requirements for licensure in the
19 following behavioral health professions:

- 20 a. licensed professional counselor as defined in Section
21 1902 of this title,
- 22 b. licensed clinical social worker as defined in Section
23 1250.1 of this title,

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1 c. licensed marital and family therapist as defined in
2 Section 1925.2 of this title, or

3 d. licensed behavioral practitioner as defined in Section
4 1931 of this title; or

5 2. The licensed alcohol and drug counselor holds a valid Co-
6 Occurring Disorders Certification based on standards established by
7 the International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium, any
8 successor organization to the International Certification and
9 Reciprocity Consortium, or any other national or international
10 organization recognized by the Board to have similar standards equal
11 to or higher than the International Certification and Reciprocity
12 Consortium.

13 G. In addition to the qualifications specified in subsection C
14 of this section, each applicant for a certificate to practice as a
15 certified alcohol and drug counselor shall have:

16 1. At a minimum, a bachelor's degree in a behavioral science
17 field that is recognized by the Oklahoma Board of Licensed Alcohol
18 and Drug Counselors as appropriate to practice as a certified drug
19 and alcohol counselor in this state;

20 2. Successfully completed at least two (2) years of full-time
21 supervised work experience. For the purpose of the Licensed Alcohol
22 and Drug Counselors Act, "two years of full-time work experience"
23 shall be defined as four thousand (4,000) hours of work experience
24 of which at least two thousand (2,000) hours shall consist of

1 providing alcohol and drug counseling services to an individual
2 and/or the individual's family;

3 3. Successfully completed at least two hundred seventy (270)
4 clock hours of education related to alcohol and drug counseling
5 subjects, theory, practice or research;

6 4. Successfully completed, as part of or in addition to the
7 education requirements established in paragraph 3 of this
8 subsection, a minimum of forty-five (45) clock hours of specialized
9 training approved by the Board in identifying co-occurring disorders
10 and making appropriate referrals for treatment of co-occurring
11 disorders; and

12 5. Successfully completed at least three hundred (300) hours of
13 supervised practicum experience in the field of drug and alcohol
14 counseling.

15 H. Any licensed or certified alcohol and drug counselor wishing
16 to be certified for co-occurring disorders in this state may obtain
17 such certification pursuant to the provisions of the Licensed
18 Alcohol and Drug Counselors Act.

19 I. An application by a licensed or certified alcohol and drug
20 counselor for certification for co-occurring disorders shall be made
21 to the Oklahoma Board of Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors in
22 writing. Such application shall be on a form and in a manner
23 prescribed by the Board. The application shall be accompanied by
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1 the fee required by Section 1884 of this title, which shall be
2 retained by the Board and not returned to the applicant.

3 J. Each applicant for certification for co-occurring disorders
4 shall:

5 1. Be possessed of good moral character;

6 2. Be a licensed or certified alcohol and drug counselor in
7 good standing with the Board;

8 3. Meet the requirements promulgated by the Board to establish
9 the applicant's competency to include treatment of co-occurring
10 disorders within his or her scope of practice;

11 4. Be at least twenty-one (21) years of age;

12 5. Not have engaged in, nor be engaged in, any practice or
13 conduct which would be grounds for denying, revoking or suspending a
14 license pursuant to the provisions of the Licensed Alcohol and Drug
15 Counselors Act; and

16 6. Otherwise comply with the rules promulgated by the Board
17 pursuant to the provisions of the Licensed Alcohol and Drug
18 Counselors Act.

19 K. Applicants with degrees from schools outside the United
20 States may qualify with Board approval by providing the Board with
21 an acceptable comprehensive evaluation of the degree performed by a
22 foreign credential evaluation service that is acceptable to the
23 Board, and any other requirement the Board deems necessary.

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SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1876.1 of Title 59, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The Oklahoma Board of Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors shall promulgate rules to implement the provisions of this act.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2016.

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