

# Summary of Criteria for LPC, LPC-A, LPC-S, LCAS, CCS and ACS

## Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC)

### Graduate Degree, Course Work and Counseling Experience (Fee is \$100)

- Graduate degree in a mental health discipline and 3,000 hours (1 ½ years) post master's supervised counseling experience.
- If enrolled prior to July 1, 2009 applicants will need 48 Semester Hours or 72 Quarter Hours
- If enrolled prior to July 1, 2013 but after June 30, 2009 applicants will need 54 Semester Hours or 81 Quarter Hours
- If enrolled after June 30, 2013 applicants will need 60 Semester Hours or 90 Quarter Hours
- Experience must be gained at a rate of not less than 8 hours or more than 40 hrs/week.
- Course work in:

Orientation to the Counseling Profession	Counseling Theories & Techniques
Research	Appraisal
Career, Vocational, Lifestyle Development	Group Work
Human Growth & Development	Practicum/Internship (including 17 hrs of graduate counseling supervision)
Social & Cultural Foundations	

### Exams

- NCE (NBCC) or CRC (CRCC) or NCMHCE Exam.
- Jurisprudence exam (Ethical & legal aspects governing LPC credential) (begins 7-1-11).

### Qualified LPC Supervisors

- LPC-S or LPC board approved as qualified clinical supervisor. Includes related licensed mental health professionals (LMFT/ LCSW/ LPsychologist/ LPsychiatrist/ Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners/ Others as determined by the LPC board) and a minimum of 5 years of counseling experience (at least 2 years post-LPC).
- Graduate course (3 semester hours) in clinical supervision or 45 hours of continuing education in clinical supervision.

### Supervision Hours Needed

- 100 hours of clinical supervision.
  - 75 -100 hours of the 100 hours can be in individual supervision.
  - 25 of the 100 hours can be in group supervision (limit of 12 supervisees in group).
- Supervision hours must be accumulated at a rate of not less than 1 hour of clinical supervision per 40 hours of experience.
- Supervision shall be based on direct (live) observation, co-therapy, audio and video recordings or live supervision.
- 3000 hours supervised professional practice. 2000 hours must be direct counseling.

### Professional Setting

- A professional setting is one in which actual counseling occurs (i.e. counseling services are offered to an identified clientele on a regular basis).

### Renewal

- 40 hours of board approved credits (i.e. LPC, NCC or CRC approved) continuing education, including 3 contact hours of ethics, every 2 years. Renewal fee \$100.

See North Carolina LPC Board website for more information at <http://www.ncblpc.org>.

## **Licensed Professional Counselor Associate (LPC-A)**

This is an independent license with restrictions. Fee is \$100.

- An LPCA shall only provide counseling while under the supervision of a qualified clinical supervisor with an approved supervision contract.
- Must receive approval of supervision contract prior to rendering counseling services
- One contract required per supervisor.
- Notification must be given within 2 weeks of termination of or a change in supervision contract
- Final Report to be filed at conclusion of supervision.
- If not receiving supervision, it shall be the responsibility of the Licensed Professional Counselor Associate to report such to the Board.

### **Educational Requirements**

- Graduate degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education.
- Graduate courses covering nine content areas described in LPC section.
- Must cover at least a combined total of 17 hours of graduate counseling supervision.
- Must consist of a combined minimum of 300 hours of supervised graduate counseling experience at a rate of not less than one hour of clinical supervision per 40 hours of graduate counseling experience.
- At least 60 percent of this counseling experience shall be direct graduate counseling experience.

### **Exams**

- See LPC section.

### **Professional Disclosure Statement**

- See LPC section.

### **Clinical Supervision**

- See LPC section

### **Direct Counseling Experience**

- Consists of live contact with individuals, groups, and families through counseling as defined in G.S. 90-330(a)(3)a thru b:
- a. Counseling. – Assisting individuals, groups, and families through the counseling relationship by evaluating and treating mental disorders and other conditions through the use of a combination of clinical mental health and human development principles, methods, diagnostic procedures, treatment plans, and other psychotherapeutic techniques, to develop an understanding of personal problems, to define goals, and to plan action reflecting the client's interests, abilities, aptitudes, and mental health needs as these are related to personal-social-emotional concerns, educational progress, and occupations and careers.
- b. Appraisal Activities. – Administering and interpreting tests for assessment of personal characteristics.

### **Qualified Supervisors**

- See LPC section.
- Quarterly and one final summary supervision reports.

*See North Carolina LPC Board website for more information at <http://www.ncblpc.org>.*

## **Licensed Professional Counselor Supervisor (LPC-S)**

This is a credential added to the LPC.

### **Education**

- Clinical Supervision Training shall provide an understanding of the purposes, theoretical frameworks, and models of clinical supervision as well as the roles and relationships related to clinical supervision; shall include legal, ethical, and multicultural issues associated with clinical supervision.
- Three (3) semester graduate credits from a regionally accredited institution of higher education or forty-five (45) hours of approved continuing education from approved provider.

### **Professional Disclosure Statement**

- Must be provided to clients prior to rendering supervision services.
- A signed copy must be retained in supervisee records.
- Must include all items listed in Rule .0801 – Instructions and requirements can be found under the Professional Disclosure Statement Section of the Board website.

### **Professional Counseling Experience**

- At least 5 years full-time licensed professional counseling experience with 2,500 direct client contact hours
- At least 8 years part-time licensed professional counseling experience with 2,500 direct client contact hours
- Not less than 5 years but no more than 8 years combined of full/part-time licensed professional counseling experience with 2,500 direct client contact hours

### **Renewal**

- 50 contact hours of continuing education, including 3 hours of ethics and 10 hours of counseling supervision hours, every 2 years. Renewal fee \$100.
- Jurisprudence (ethical & legal aspects of LPC) exam (after July 1, 2011).

### **Types of Continuing Education Activities**

- A structured education activity for which the licensee was a learner (may be used to fulfill ethics requirement)
- Academic credit granted from a regionally accredited institution of higher education for work done in a counseling or counseling related subject (may be used to fulfill ethics requirement)
- Publication activities are limited to articles written by the licensee and published in peer reviewed journals, editing of a chapter in a book based on counseling or counseling related material, or authoring or co-authoring a published book on counseling or counseling related material (max reported contact hours within a renewal period = 10)
- Academic credit granted from a regionally accredited institution of higher education for work done toward the completion of a dissertation (max reported contact hours within a renewal period = 10)
- Clinical supervision, as defined by Rule 0.208, which was received by the licensee during the renewal period (max reported contact hours within a renewal period = 10)
- Leadership positions: Officer of state, regional, or national counseling organization; editor or editorial board member of a professional counseling journal; active member of a state, regional, or national counseling committee producing a substantial written product; chair of a major state, regional or national counseling conference or convention (max reported contact hours within a renewal period = 10)
- Presentation activities or workshops for which the licensee was a presenter (max reported contact hours within a renewal period = 5)

*See North Carolina LPC Board website for more information at <http://www.ncblpc.org>.*

## **Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist (LCAS)**

### **Criteria C: (ECU graduates of the Substance Abuse and Clinical Counseling Program). Fee \$250.**

- Minimum of a master's degree in a human services field with a substance abuse specialty that includes 180 hours of substance abuse specific training / education;
- One year of post-graduate supervised substance abuse counseling experience by a Certified Clinical Supervisor (CCS);
- Achievement of a passing score on the written examination administered by the Board;

### **Renewal:**

- 40 hours of Board approved education every 2 years. \$125 renewal fee every 2 years; \$35.00 for Deemed Status.
- No more than 50% of hours may be in independent (or home) study.
- No more than 25% of hours may be from in-service training (that is defined as training presented by employees of a facility and only available to employees of the same facility).
- No more than 25% of hours may be from Alcohol/Drug Education Traffic School (ADETS) or Drug Education School (DES).
- No more than 25% of hours may be from making workshop presentations where one hour of presentation equals one hour of training.
- **Deemed status.** Applicants who hold an LCAS through their credential with a Deemed Status organization need only submit documentation that the credential with that organization is still valid.
- Substance abuse specific (SAS). Minimum of 50% must be substance abuse specific (SAS)
- No more than 25% can be in-service education
- No more than 25% can be in self-study courses
- 3 contact hours of HIV/AIDs/Blood bourne pathogens
- 3 contact hours of professional ethics
- 3 hours of either: Nicotine Dependence/ Psychopathology/ Evidence-Based Treatment Approaches Substance Abuse Issues in Older Adults/ Substance Abuse Issues Affecting Veterans.

## **Certified Clinical Supervisor (CCS)**

- LCAS or CSAC with a master's degree in human services. Fee is \$275.
- 4 years (8,000 hours) and a master's degree in a human services field with a clinical application from a regionally accredited college or university (10,000 hours/5 years in order to be reciprocal through the IC&RC).
- 2 years experience as a substance abuse clinical supervisor
- 30 hours of substance abuse clinical supervision specific education/training for initial certification and 15 hours for recertification every 2 years. These hours should reflect the 12 core functions in their clinical application and practice must be reflective of the current Performance Domains as defined by the IC&RC/AODA, Inc. and may also be used as recertification hours for LCAS or CSAC continuing education credits.
- 4 letters of reference:
  - 1 letter of reference from the applicant's current supervisor.
  - 1 letter from a professional who can attest to supervisory competence
  - 2 letters from either counselors who have been supervised by the candidate or professionals who can attest to the applicant's competence.
- Written exam from the IC&RC/AODA, Inc.

### **Renewal**

- 15 contact hours every 2 years. Renewal fee is \$125 every 2 years.
- No more than 25% of hours may be obtained through providing supervision to applicants for certification.

*See NC Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board website for more info at [www.ncsappb.org](http://www.ncsappb.org).*

## Approved Clinical Supervisor (ACS)

A national certification for clinical supervisors developed jointly by the Association for Counselors Education and Supervision (ACES) and the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC). Fee \$110.

### Requirements for Standard Entry to ACS Certification:

1. **Current Status as one of the following:**  
NCC, Licensed or Certified Mental Health Provider, or Licensed or Certified Clinical Supervisor
2. **Education:** A Master's degree or higher in a mental health field
3. **Specialized Training-** must document completion of either A or B:  
A. A graduate course in clinical supervision, OR  
B. A total of 30 contact hours of workshop training in clinical supervision
4. **Mental Health-Related Experience:**
  - Minimum of 3 years of post-Master's experience in mental health services which must include at least 1,500 hours of direct service with clients.
  - Doctoral-level practitioners/professionals can substitute one year of post-master's work experience in mental health or mental health-related education for 300 hours of direct service with clients, up to a maximum of 900 hours.
  - Doctoral-level internship(s) in mental health may also be used toward this requirement. Candidates must provide an official transcript verifying doctoral program internship.
5. **Supervision Experience/Endorsement:**  
Must have provided a minimum of 100 hours of clinical supervision of mental health services with supervisees along with a minimum of 20 hours of supervision-of-supervision **OR** an endorsement from a mental health professional attesting to the applicant's supervisory activity.
6. **Self-Assessment and Professional Disclosure**  
Submit a Professional Disclosure statement which assesses the understanding of multiple responsibilities of clinical supervision (see application for details).

### Requirements for Alternative Entry to ACS Certification:

1. Steps #1, 2, and 6 as outlined above and meet at least **ONE** of the following criteria:
  - a. Mental health professionals who have provided at least 3 yrs and 500 hours of experience as a clinical supervisor.
  - b. Mental health related educators who can document full time employment teaching in an education program at a regionally-accredited institution for a minimum of 2 semesters. Teaching assignments must have included courses of practicum or internship supervision, or related courses that primarily require the educator to perform the role of clinical supervisor.
  - c. Doctoral graduates or doctoral candidates in the FINAL semester of their doctoral studies (from a CACREP accredited program), who possess a Master's degree in a mental health field and who can document teaching assignments in practicum or internship supervision for a minimum of 2 semesters. **In addition, doctoral graduates or candidates MUST also provide evidence of completion of a clinical supervision graduate course.**
  - d. Mental health professionals who possess a recognized national or state credential in clinical supervision.

**Renewal Requirements:** 18 hours of continuing education (may include up to 9 hours of supervision of supervisees) every 5 years. \$35 annual renewal fee.

See website for more information on ACS credential at [www.cce-global.org](http://www.cce-global.org).