

Chapter RL 163

PRACTICE RESTRICTIONS

RL 163.01 Who may treat substance abuse disorders.

RL 163.02 Substance abuse counselor-in-training; limited scope of practice.

Note: Chapter RL 163 was created as an emergency rule effective 9-10-07.

RL 163.01 Who may treat substance abuse disorders. (1) **EMPLOYMENT RESTRICTIONS.** A person credentialed by the department as a substance abuse counselor-in-training, a substance abuse counselor or clinical substance abuse counselor may treat substance use disorders only if he or she is qualified to do so by education, training and experience and is certified under s. 440.88, Stats. In order to treat persons with a substance use disorder, to treat the substance use disorder issues of a person with a dual diagnosis, to advertise as a substance abuse counselor or as a substance use disorder specialist, to be employed in a position identified as a substance use disorder specialist, or to be employed in a position within a program that is identified as a substance use disorder treatment program, a person shall be certified as a substance abuse counselor-in-training, a substance abuse counselor or a clinical substance abuse counselor.

(2) **EXCEPTIONS.** The preparation of a patient for substance use disorder treatment by referral, the treatment of a patient for substance use disorder until a referral for substance use disorder treatment is completed, and the continuation of treatment with the non-substance use disorder issues of a person are not restricted by this chapter, when performed by a mental health provider practicing within the scope of their credential.

History: CR 07-031; cr. Register November 2007 No. 623, eff. 12-1-07.

RL 163.02 Substance abuse counselor-in-training; limited scope of practice. (1) The granting of a substance abuse counselor-in-training certificate does not denote or assure competency to provide substance use disorder counseling. A sub-

stance abuse counselor-in-training may provide services in any of the core functions, except counseling, if authorized by the clinical supervisor. A clinical supervisor may only authorize a substance abuse counselor-in-training to provide counseling in accordance with sub. (2).

(2) (a) Except as provided in par. (b), the practice of substance use disorder counseling by a substance abuse counselor-in-training may be authorized by the individual's clinical supervisor after the substance abuse counselor-in-training has completed 300 hours of supervised training or supervised work experience in the core functions.

(b) A substance abuse counselor-in-training who transferred from a previous credential issued by the Wisconsin Certification Board, Inc., may practice substance use disorder counseling after providing proof to his or her clinical supervisor that within the previous 5 years he or she completed a total of 100 hours of specialized education in the content areas listed in s. RL 166.02.

(3) Notwithstanding subs. (1) and (2), a substance abuse counselor-in-training who transferred from a previous credential issued by the Wisconsin Certification Board, Inc., may continue to practice under the terms of their Wisconsin Certification Board, Inc., credential until March 1, 2007. Beginning March 1, 2007, a clinical supervisor may only authorize a substance abuse counselor-in-training to provide counseling after receiving proof from the substance abuse counselor-in-training that within the previous 5 years he or she completed 100 hours of specialized education in any combination of the performance domains listed in s. RL 166.02.

History: CR 07-031; cr. Register November 2007 No. 623, eff. 12-1-07.