

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY, PROFESSIONAL  
COUNSELING, AND SOCIAL WORK EXAMINING BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF RULE-MAKING : ORDER OF THE  
PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE : MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY,  
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY, : PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING, AND  
PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING, AND : SOCIAL WORK EXAMINING BOARD  
SOCIAL WORK EXAMINING BOARD : ADOPTING RULES  
: (CLEARINGHOUSE RULE 18-098)

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ORDER

An order of the Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling, and Social Work Examining Board to create MPSW 1.09, relating to substance use disorder specialty authorization.

Analysis prepared by the Department of Safety and Professional Services.

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ANALYSIS

**Statutes interpreted:** ss. 440.88 and 457.02 (5) and (5m), Stats.

**Statutory authority:** ss. 15.08 (5) (b) and 457.02 (5m), Stats.

**Explanation of agency authority:**

Each board shall promulgate rules for its own guidance and the guidance of the profession to which it pertains and define and enforce professional conduct and unethical practices not inconsistent with the law relating to the particular profession. [s. 15.08 (5) (b), Stats.]

The board establishes the educational and supervised training requirements in rules promulgated by the board to authorize an individual who is certified by the board to treat substance use disorder as a specialty. In promulgating rules under this subsection, the examining board shall consider the requirements for qualifying for a credential under s. 440.88, Stats. [s. 457.02 (5m), Stats.]

**Related statute or rule:** chs. SPS 160 to 168

**Plain language analysis:**

This rulemaking order creates the educational and supervised training requirements for a person certified by the board to treat alcohol or substance dependency as a specialty. The board utilizes the DSM V term substance use disorder rather than the previous DSM IV terms of dependence and abuse.

The first subsection delineates the use of the title and scope of practice. If a person who is certified by the board wants to treat substance use disorder as a specialty, without being credentialed under s. 440.88, Stats., the person must meet the requirements in this section.

The second subsection recognizes that a credential holder who holds an advanced practice social worker or independent social worker credential would have received education in treatment, therefore, a minimum of 135 contact hours of substance use disorder education is required to supplement that education in four subject matter areas (understanding addiction; knowledge of addiction treatment; application to addiction practice; and professional readiness in addiction treatment). The credential holder would also be required to have 200 hours of supervised face-to-face client treatment. The education could be obtained in the course of earning the master's degree or in addition to the degree. The 200 hours of supervised training may be obtained during or separately from the hours required to obtain the underlying credential.

The third subsection provides the requirements for the remaining credentials certified under ch. 457, Stats. The requirements include 180 contact hours of substance use disorder education. The education must include assessment training, counseling training, case management, patient education, professional responsibility, and boundaries and ethics. The education could be obtained in the course of earning of the bachelor's degree or in addition to the degree. In addition, the individual must complete a minimum of 1,000 hours of face-to-face substance use disorder treatment experience. The 1,000 hours of supervised training may have been obtained during or separately from the hours required to obtain the underlying credential.

The fourth subsection indicates the qualifications for a person who is supervising the person obtaining the training for the specialty. The following people are qualified, provided they have knowledge in psychopharmacology and addiction treatment: a licensed marriage and family therapist, a licensed professional counselor, a licensed clinical social worker, a licensed psychologist, a licensed physician, a clinical supervisor as defined by SPS 160.02 (7), or another individual approved in advance of the supervising by the board.

The fifth subsection indicates that at least 6 continuing education hours in substance use disorder must be obtained during each biennial credentialing period. This continuing education may be counted toward the continuing education required for the renewal of the underlying credential.

**Summary of, and comparison with, existing or proposed federal regulation:** None

**Comparison with rules in adjacent states:**

**Illinois:** Illinois does not have requirements for a social worker to obtain specified education or training to specialize in substance use disorder treatment.

**Iowa:** Iowa does not have requirements for a social worker to obtain specified education or training to specialize in substance use disorder treatment.

**Michigan:** Michigan does not have requirements for a social worker to obtain specified education or training to specialize in substance use disorder treatment.

**Minnesota:** Minnesota does not have requirements for a social worker to obtain specified education or training to specialize in substance use disorder treatment.

**Summary of factual data and analytical methodologies:**

The Board considered the requirements for qualifying for a credential under s. 440.88, Stats, *Scopes of Practice & Career Ladder for Substance Use Disorder Counseling* (September 2011) by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Technical Assistance Publication Series *Addiction Counseling Competencies* (March 2008) by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

**Analysis and supporting documents used to determine effect on small business or in preparation of economic impact analysis:**

This rule was posted for economic comments and none were received.

**Fiscal Estimate and Economic Impact Analysis:**

The Fiscal Estimate and Economic Impact Analysis is attached.

**Effect on small business:**

These proposed rules do not have an economic impact on small businesses, as defined in s. 227.114 (1), Stats. The Department's Regulatory Review Coordinator may be contacted by email at Daniel.Hereth@wisconsin.gov, or by calling (608) 267-2435.

**Agency contact person:**

Sharon Henes, Administrative Rules Coordinator, Department of Safety and Professional Services, Division of Policy Development, 4822 Madison Yards Way, P.O. Box 8366, Madison, Wisconsin 53708; telephone 608-261-2377; email at DSPSAdminRules@wisconsin.gov.

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TEXT OF RULE

SECTION 1. MPSW 1.09 is created to read:

**MPSW 1.09 Substance abuse disorder specialty (1) USE OF TITLE AND SCOPE OF PRACTICE (a)**

A person certified by the board may use the title "alcohol and drug counselor" or "chemical dependency counselor" only if the person is credentialed as a substance abuse counselor under s. 440.88, Stats., or satisfies the educational and supervised training requirements established in this section.

(b) A person who is certified by the board may treat substance use disorder as a specialty if the person is credentialed under s. 440.88, Stats., or satisfies the educational and supervised training requirements established in this section.

- (c) A person certified by the board may do all of the following:
1. Prepare a client for substance use disorder treatment by referral.
  2. Continue to work with the non substance use disorder issues of a person who has been referred for substance use disorder treatment.
  3. Continue to treat a client who is in recovery following treatment for substance use disorder.

**(2) SPECIALTY REQUIREMENTS FOR INDIVIDUALS CERTIFIED AS AN ADVANCED PRACTICE SOCIAL WORKER OR INDEPENDENT SOCIAL WORKER.** To be authorized to treat substance use disorder as a specialty, an advanced practice social worker or independent social worker shall meet all of the following:

(a) A minimum of 135 contact hours of substance use disorder education, which may be obtained within the master's degree or additional to the master's degree. The education shall contain all of the following topics:

1. Understanding addiction.
2. Knowledge of addiction treatment.
3. Application to addiction practice.
4. Professional readiness in addiction treatment.

(b) A minimum of 200 hours of face-to-face client treatment with individuals diagnosed with substance use disorders, under the supervision of a qualified supervisor.

**(3) SPECIALTY REQUIREMENTS FOR INDIVIDUALS CERTIFIED BY THE BOARD OTHER THAN AS ADVANCED PRACTICE SOCIAL WORKERS OR INDEPENDENT SOCIAL WORKERS.** To be authorized to treat substance use disorder as a specialty an individual certified under s. 457.08 (1), 457.09 (1) or 457.14 (1) (a), Stats., shall meet all of the following:

(a) A minimum of 180 contact hours of substance use disorder education, which may be obtained within the bachelor or master's degree or in addition to the bachelor or master's degree. The education shall be in all of the following:

1. Thirty hours in assessment training.
2. Thirty hours in counseling training.
3. Thirty hours in case management.
4. Thirty hours in patient education.
5. Thirty hours in professional responsibility.
6. Three hours in boundaries and ethics.
7. Twenty-seven hours in electives in any of the subjects in subd. 1. to 6.

(b) A minimum of 1,000 of hours of face-to-face substance use disorder treatment experience, under the supervision of a qualified supervisor, with individuals diagnosed with substance use disorders. The supervised hours can be either the same as or separate from the hours obtained for the credential issued by the board.

**(4) QUALIFIED SUPERVISORS.** A qualified supervisor is a person who is knowledgeable in psychopharmacology and addiction treatment and is any of the following:

- (a) A clinical supervisor as defined by s. SPS 160.02 (7).
- (b) A licensed marriage and family therapist.
- (c) A licensed professional counselor.
- (d) A licensed clinical social worker.
- (e) A licensed psychologist.
- (f) A licensed physician.

(g) An individual, other than an individual specified in pars. (a) to (f) who is approved in advance by the board.

(5) CONTINUING EDUCATION. To maintain the authority to treat substance use disorder, an individual certified by the board must complete at least 6 continuing education hours during each biennial credentialing period in substance use disorder. The continuing education may be counted toward the continuing education required for renewal of the underlying credential.

SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. The rules adopted in this order shall take effect on the first day of the month following publication in the Wisconsin Administrative Register, pursuant to s. 227.22 (2) (intro.), Stats.

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(END OF TEXT OF RULE)  
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Dated \_\_\_\_\_

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Board Chair  
Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional  
Counseling and, Social Work Examining Board