

# Licensure for Pastoral Counseling Summary Sheet

The following information was updated in January, 2009. There were a number of significant changes to the IL licensing laws in the Spring of 2007. What follows is a brief summary of licensure requirements. However, you are advised to check with the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation (IDPR) to remain updated on the current status of rules and regulations and to receive all application forms. Their web site is [www.dpr.state.il.us](http://www.dpr.state.il.us)

Graduate education program in a clinical area of 48 hours from an accredited institution. Loyola is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. IPS is not CACREP nor CORE accredited.

Curriculum requirements include the following thirteen (13) courses. Numbers in parentheses are the IPS courses that correspond to the license categories. Courses need to be three (3) credit hours each. Courses not completed in the 48 hour program can be “added on” afterwards. However you must have completed all 13 courses in order to receive approval to sit for the licensure exam. (If you have questions about the acceptance of courses taken in previous degree programs please write the Board and enclose copies of a transcript and course description.)

- Human Development (555); Psychopathology (509);
- Counseling Theory (517); Counseling Techniques (501 & 503);
- Assessment (507), Research Methods (515),
- Profssnl/Lgal/Ethical Issues (512), Internship/Practicum (511 & 513),
- Group Counseling (505), Family Therapy (473),
- Addictions Counselng/Substance Abuse (476);
- Social and Cultural Foundations (472) - Care and Counseling of Men meets this state requirement (483);
- Life Style and Career Counseling (518);

## Supervised clinical hours post-degree:

From the Illinois Law: Section 1375.130 “Professional Experience for Licensure as a Clinical Professional Counselor beginning January 1, 1999 shall be obtained as set forth below: A person holding a master's degree in counseling, rehabilitation counseling, psychology or similar degree program shall have completed the equivalent of 2 years of full-time satisfactory supervised experience working as a counselor in a professional capacity under the direction of a qualified supervisor subsequent to the degree.” Two years experience totals 3360 hours at 1680 hours per year. Clinical work cannot be done in a private practice setting. If there is any question you will be asked to submit a W-2 form to verify employment.

Exams: There are two examinations taken after finishing your degree. The first is the LPC exam (Licensed Professional Counselor) taken after graduation as soon as you have completed all 13 required courses. It is more book and classroom oriented. The second

exam is the LCPC (Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor) taken after completing supervised clinical practice. It is more clinically oriented, presents case studies, and asks for diagnostic and treatment plans. The exams used to be given only twice a year in April and October. Effective September 1, 2007 they will be computer administered each month. The ILDPR board meets once each month to review and approve applications. Once your application is approved as complete, you sign up for the next available test date.

Exam preparation: The IL Mental Health Counselors Association conducts test preparation workshops several times each year. Contact them at 800-493-4424 or [imhca@imhca.org](mailto:imhca@imhca.org). Their website is <http://www.imhca.org> See also: Howard Rosenthal, The Encyclopedia of Counseling, Brunner-Routledge, 2002. National Board of Certified Counselors Exam Prep materials for the NCE Exam. Past students have found it especially helpful to study in small, 2-4 person groups.

Information management/Record keeping: Students are advised to: Keep *course syllabi* from the IPS MA PC program and have these ready for submission with other license materials if requested. A suggestion: keep all these materials together in the MA PC Manual.

Keep track of your *clinical* (individual, couple, family, group), *supervisory*, and total *site hours* during and after the program; See the MAPC tracking sheet given out in Supervision I (511). You begin to accumulate hours towards the LCPC license after the graduation date on your official transcript.

When applying for licensure complete all *forms/application materials*, including dates of entry and completion of the program, and be willing to walk these through the university channels for verification. We will sign them and get the university seal/stamp. We will not however go back into the files to gather all the background information, dates, etc.

Finally, would you let us know when you *take and pass the exams*. The university is now asking us to keep track of this information.

International students are welcome to sit for one or both of the license exams. A Social Security number is required on the applications

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