

MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL LICENSING STUDY

Office of Professional Regulation

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[https://sos.vermont.gov/opr/regulatory/
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MENTAL HEALTH LICENSING STUDY

AGENDA 1/29/2024

- Welcome
- Study Update: Research, Resources, and Learning
 - Barriers to Entry Subgroup Review
 - Supervision Regulations Subgroup Review
 - Streamlining Regulations Subgroup Review
- Discussion on Shifting Process for Research Period
 - Survey building group;
 - Research reporting;
 - Frequency of meetings

We are here!



Questions and
Goals and
Scope

Research,
Resources, and
Learning

Recommendations

Report

BARRIERS TO ENTRY: RESEARCH AND RESOURCES

CURRENT RESOURCES

- HEAC reports
- Reports on professional license barriers
 - CSG, George Mason Law School, Institute for Justice, etc.
- Position Papers
 - E.g., National Association of the Deaf
- Endorsement policies by state (psych)
- Telehealth taskforce report/data
- Licensure compacts data/rules
- Mental Health America (barriers)
- NBCC (exams per state)

FUTURE RESEARCH

- Meetings with groups
- Anonymous survey
 - All mental health professionals
 - Current/recent professionals in training
- Exam requirements and accommodations
- Exam requirements and alternatives in other states (e.g., Illinois)
- Meeting with community organizations
- Equity trainings in VT and other states
- Language barriers to supervisors (e.g., ASL)
- Post-degree coursework supplementation
- Credential conversion (school counselors)
- Reimbursement pathways for trainees
- National median income for MH providers

SUPERVISOR REGULATIONS: RESEARCH AND RESOURCES

CURRENT RESOURCES

- Supervision requirement by state (psych)
- ASPPB Guidelines
- NASW Supervision Standards
- AAMFT Approved Supervisor Handbook

FUTURE RESEARCH

- Anonymous survey
 - All mental health professionals
 - Current/recent professionals in training
- Vermont's supervisor requirements in other OPR professions
- Supervisor requirements in other states
 - See: NC & NJ Social Work boards
- Accrediting standards
- Supervised hour reporting policies
 - Examples from VT supervisors/agencies
 - Requirements in other states
- Vermont's 3-year practice requirement compared to other states
- Supervision practices in Designated Agencies

STREAMLINING REGULATIONS: RESEARCH AND RESOURCES

CURRENT RESOURCES

- Qualification requirements by profession
- CEU by state (psych)
- License compacts/requirements
- Endorsement policies by state (psych)
- Telehealth taskforce data/report
- Licensure compacts' requirements
- HEAC Report on CE and Equity Training
- Music and Art Therapy resources
 - Advocacy landscape
 - NJH/MD/ND board examples
 - 3rd party certification requirements

FUTURE RESEARCH

- Anonymous survey
- Consolidated board examples
 - KS/OH/TX/NH
- Min/max profession req's in other states
- Qualification pathways in other states
- 3rd party certifications and accreditations
- OPR application denial data
- Roster history and legislative intention
- CEU requirements in other states
- Regulation and insurance system
- DOL on regulation and workforce impacts

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS: TOPICS AND FREQUENCY

- **Survey Design Group**
 - Study group has determined that an anonymous would be a valuable tool
 - Study participants are invited to participate in survey design
- **Other Subcommittees**
 - By profession
 - Research collection and reporting
- **Should we reduce frequency/change topics of subcommittee meetings during research period?**
 - Participants noted the study group frequency can be a burden on top of professional obligations
 - OPR will need time to perform research for each study group prior to recommendation phase

NEXT MEETING DATE

Next Meetings: 2-4pm

Full Group – February 19 is President's Day and there is no meeting; *Reschedule for Tuesday, January 27th*

Full Group – March 18

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