

56 N.J.R. 1263(a)

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Reporter

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Action: Notice of Action on Petition for Rulemaking

Agency

LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY > DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS > BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS

Administrative Code Citation

N.J.A.C. 13:34-13

Text

Notice of Action on Petition for Rulemaking

Professional Counselor Examiners Committee

Authority: N.J.S.A. 45:8B-13.

Petitioners: Vanessa Woods, LPC, and Glenn Duncan, LPC.

Take notice that on February 26, 2024, the Professional Counselor Examiners Committee (Committee) of the Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners received a petition for rulemaking from Vanessa Woods, LPC, and Glenn Duncan, LPC, requesting that the Committee amend N.J.A.C. 13:34-13, which governs the supervision of licensed associate counselors. Specifically, the petitioners ask the Committee to allow licensed associate counselors who are completing the 4,500 hours of supervised professional counseling experience required for licensure as a professional counselor to be supervised virtually.

Currently, licensed associate counselors must obtain their supervised experience pursuant to the supervision of a qualified supervisor through face-to-face supervision. The petitioners believe that the Committee's face-to-face supervision requirement is inconsistent with other boards within the Division of Consumer Affairs (Division) that allow their licensees to obtain up to 50 percent of their required supervision hours through virtual supervision. In addition, the petitioners note that they have not found any scientific research to support the need to limit virtual supervision to only 50 percent of the required supervision hours. Lastly, while other boards within the Division require qualified supervisors to complete a six-hour course in virtual supervision before providing such supervision, the petitioners urge a different approach. Instead of a six-hour course, the petitioners request that the Committee mandate that licensees obtain this training either through a graduate-level supervision course or as part of the training required to obtain an Approved Clinical Supervisor credential from the Center for Credentialing and Education of the National Board for Certified Counselors or an equivalent clinical supervisor credential.

A notice acknowledging receipt of the petition was filed with the Office of Administrative Law on March 8, 2024, and was published in the New Jersey Register on April 15, 2024, at 56 N.J.R. 620(a).

Take further notice that, at its March 7, 2024 meeting, the Committee referred this matter to its Regulations Sub-Committee for further deliberation in order to develop a better understanding of the implications this request would have for licensees and the public.

A copy of this notice has been mailed to the petitioners pursuant to N.J.A.C. 1:30-4.2.

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