

BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Arkansas Board of Examiners in Counseling
101 East Capitol, Suite 202
Little Rock, AR 72201

Thursday April 2, 2020

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

The Arkansas Board of Examiners convened via conference call:

Free Conference USA

Dial-in Number: 1-774-220-4000

Conference ID: 91946

Board Chair, Robbie Cline, presided. Board business was conducted as per the established agenda (Appended).

MEMBERS PRESENT: Robbie Cline, Cheryl Edwards, Suzanne Casey, Justin Moore, Wendy Blackwood, Ryan Martin, Vickie Keeton, Larry Hopkins, Sherry Holliman

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Lenora Erickson, Lacie Kirchner, Matt Gilmore

OBSERVERS: 4 Guests/Observers

Agenda

Discussion on the following issues:

1. Extending renewal deadline and waiving late fees due to public health crisis and financial burden on licensees.

See motion #1 below.

2. Waiving application extension fees for applicants who could not take the national exam because it was cancelled.

See motion #2 below.

3. Possibly issue a provisional license for applicants who cannot take the national exam because it was cancelled.

We cannot do this. There is nothing in our rules/statutes that allows our board to do this.

4. Lack of in-person continuing education opportunities for supervisors to renew license.

See motion # 4 below.

5. Will live webinars or virtual conferences be accepted for 3 in-person continuing education hours required for supervisors?

Motion #4 below allows for more time to get the hours.

6. Approved trainings for Technology Assisted Specialization.

This will be address in the updated FAQ document on the board website.

7. How to document Technology Assisted client contact hours on the 6-month hours report and in our system.

Client contact hours accrued during the public health crisis, that are done through technology assisted methods, will count as face-to-face (direct) client contact hours.

8. Moving rules revisions to public comment period.

Rules revisions will be moved to public comment as soon as possible and a mass email will be sent to all licensees directing them to the website for public comment. If we get the process started any time before April 8th, we can get on the legislative calendar by May 15th. We want our new rules to go into effect on July 1, 2020.

9. Adding an additional day to the May board meeting.

Discussed conducting interviews online or waiving oral interviews, rules section 6.3(a).

10. Pass/Fail (P will actually count C grades), Credit/No-Credit (CR for Credit will actually count C grades) if students request it at UA. If classes go from grades to pass or credit. UA will tell the student if they have a C grade that it will not count toward licensure and they will have to re-take the class.

This topic was tabled for discussion at the next board meeting.

11. Only 50% of supervision can be done through technology assisted methods. Will the board waive this limit?

This will be address on a case-by-case basis. Possibly having the supervisor and supervisee request a waiver if needed.

Motions

Motion 1: The board will not enforce or impose sanctions of rules section 7.1, License Expiration, and 7.2, Renewal Fees, due to the public health crisis. This will be in effect through July 31, 2020.

Moved: Justin Moore
Seconded: Cheryl Edwards
Vote: Passed

Motion 2: The board will waive application extension fees for applicants who could not take the national exam because it was cancelled.

Moved: Ryan Martin
Seconded: Vickie Keeton
Vote: Passed

Motion 3: The board will not enforce rules section 5.7, Duration of Application, through October 31, 2020, due to public health crisis.

Moved: Justin Moore
Seconded: Wendy Blackwood
Vote: Passed

Motion 4: The board will not enforce or impose sanctions of rules section 7.3(i), Continuing Education Supervision Specialization, due to public health crisis. This will be in effect through July 31, 2020.

Moved: Justin Moore
Seconded: Wendy Blackwood
Vote: Passed

ALL MOTIONS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

Board Approved:

Board Chair

Date

Board Secretary

Date