



Virginia Board of Counseling

The Virginia General Assembly required the Board of Counseling to promulgate regulations for the issuance of a temporary license to Residents in Counseling, Marriage and Family Therapy and Substance Abuse Treatment.

The Board developed emergency regulations which will be effective December 23, 2019. [View these Emergency Regulations.](#)

The Board has developed a chart and FAQ for to help assist residents and their supervisors identify the changes and the requirements for a Licensed Resident in Counseling, Marriage and Family Therapy and Substance Abuse Treatment.

Links to the comparison chart and FAQs are below:

[Resident in Counseling comparison chart and FAQs](#)

[Resident in Marriage and Family comparison chart and FAQs](#)

[Resident in Substance Abuse and Family comparison chart and FAQs](#)

Key Regulations changes for Resident in Counseling, Marriage and Family Therapy and Substance Abuse Treatment effective December 23, 2019.

1. Residents will be issued a temporary license once meeting the minimum requirements outlined in the [Regulations](#).
2. Once temporarily licensed as a Resident in Counseling, Marriage and Family Therapy or Substance Abuse Treatment, a resident will not be required to submit an application if adding/changing worksites or supervisors.
3. A supervisory contract must be established prior to providing clinical services and before counting hours toward licensure. *Supervisory contract is an agreement that outlines the expectations and responsibilities of the supervisor and resident in accordance with regulations of the board*
4. Licensed residents must renew their license each year and are required to complete three (3) hours of continuing education (CE) hours in ethics, standards of practice or laws governing behavioral science professions in Virginia.
5. Residents will be required to pass the established examination for licensure within six (6) years from the date of initial issuance of their resident license.

6. The Verification of Supervision form completed and signed by the supervisor must be notarized.
7. Random audits will be conducted to verify the licensed resident is meeting the minimum requirements which would include verification of a signed supervisory contract.
8. Licensed residents will be responsible for ensuring supervisor(s) have met the supervisor requirements and are listed on the Supervisor Registry.
9. Previously approved residents will be issued and mailed a license in the month of January 2020.

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