

Alaska Mental Health Providers: Pre-Licensure Requirements

Psychologists

Regulated by the Board of Psychologist and Psychological Associate Examiners

Per AS 08.86.130:

1. Doctorate degree in psychology from a program that meets the Board's criteria in clinical psychology, counseling psychology, or a specialty deemed equivalent by the Board,
2. Has not engaged in dishonorable conduct related to the practice of counseling or psychometry, and
3. Has one year of post doctoral supervised experience approved by the Board.

Psychological Associates

Regulated by the Board of Psychologist and Psychological Associate Examiners

Per AS 08.86.160 and AS 08.86.162:

1. Masters degree in psychology from a program that meets the Board's criteria in clinical psychology, counseling psychology, or a specialty deemed equivalent by the Board,
2. Has not engaged in dishonorable conduct related to the practice of counseling or psychometry,
3. Has two years of post master's supervised experience approved by the Board, and
4. Passes the Board-approved objective examination for psychological associates.

Qualifications to sit for the Psychologist Associate Examination:

- a) Number 1, above.
- b) Number 2, above, including the equivalent of at least 48 semester credit hours of graduate course work directly related to a specialized area of psychology,
- c) Recommendation by an immediate supervisor, and
- d) Has not failed the exam within the previous six months.*

**HB 110 also seeks to remove the six month requirement.*

School Psychologists

Regulated by the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, not subject to changes made by HB 110.

1. Masters or Doctoral degree in school psychology, and
2. Recommendation for endorsement by an institution whose program has been approved by:
 - a) The National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education,
 - b) The National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification,
 - c) The National Association of School Psychologists, or
 - d) The American Psychological Association, and
3. Completes a 1,200 hour internship in school psychology;

OR

Be a nationally certified school psychologist under the National School Psychologist Certification System established by the National Association of School Psychologists.

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Licensed Professional Counselors

Regulated by the Board of Professional Counselors, not subject to changes made by HB 110.

Per AS 08.29.010:

1. Age 18 or older,
2. Is not under investigation related to the practice of counseling,
3. Does not have a license related to the practice of counseling, psychology, marital and family therapy, or social work suspended, revoked, or surrendered,
4. Has passed a written exam approved by the Board,
5. Has completed either:
 - a) A Doctoral degree in counseling or a related field, or
 - b) A Masters degree in counseling or a related field, and at least 60 graduate semester hours in counseling during or after earning the Master's degree, and
6. Has at least 3,000 hours of post-degree supervised counseling experience, performed over a period of at least two years.

Marital and Family Therapists

Regulated by the Board of Marital and Family Therapy, not subject to changes made by HB 110.

Per AS 08.63.100:

1. Has not engaged in dishonorable conduct,
2. Master's or Doctorate degree in marital and family therapy or an allied mental health field from a Board-approved institution,
3. Has completed 1,500 hours of direct clinical contact with couple, individuals, and families. At least 200 of these hours must be supervised,
4. Has training related to domestic violence, and
5. Has passed a written or oral exam given by the Board.

Licensed Clinical Social Workers

Regulated by the Board of Social Work Examiners, not subject to changes made by HB 110.

Per AS 08.95.110:

1. Has a Master's or Doctoral degree in Social Work,
2. Has completed, within 10 years of application, supervised by a licensed social worker, licensed psychologist, or licensed psychiatrist:
 - a) At least two years of continuous full time employment in postgraduate clinical social work, or
 - b) At least 3,000 hours of less than full-time employment in a period of not less than two years in postgraduate social work,
3. Shows good moral character,
4. Maintains good professional standing,
5. Provides three professional references, and
6. Completes the Board-issued examination.