

Enacted 2023 SB 131

Changes to K.S.A. 65-6306 (Qualifications for Social Work Licensure)  
Section 10, New Section F, Qualifications for Specialist Clinical Social Worker

~~(d)~~(f) (1) The board shall issue a license as a specialist clinical social worker to an applicant who:

(A) Has met the requirements of subsection ~~(e)~~ (e);

(B) has completed ~~15~~ 3 credit hours as part of or in addition to the requirements under subsection ~~(e)~~ (e) supporting diagnosis or treatment of mental disorders with use of the American psychiatric association's diagnostic and statistical manual, through identifiable study of ~~the following content areas: psychopathology, diagnostic assessment, interdisciplinary referral and collaboration, treatment approaches and professional ethics;~~

(C) has completed a graduate level supervised clinical practicum of supervised professional experience, including, *but not limited to*, psychotherapy and assessment, integrating diagnosis *or diagnostic impressions* and treatment of mental disorders with use of the American psychiatric association's diagnostic and statistical manual or additional postgraduate supervised experience as determined by the board;

(D) has completed as part of or in addition to the requirements of subsection ~~(e)~~ (e) not less than two years of postgraduate supervised professional experience, in accordance with a clinical supervision plan approved by the board of not less than 3,000 hours of supervised professional experience including at least 1,500 hours of direct client contact, *including, but not limited to*, conducting psychotherapy and assessments with individuals, couples, families or groups *integrating diagnosis or diagnostic impressions and treatment of mental disorders with use of the American psychiatric association's diagnostic and statistical manual* and not less than 100 hours of face-to-face clinical supervision, as defined by the board in rules and regulations, including not less than 50 hours of individual supervision, except that the board may waive the requirement that such supervision be face-to-face upon a finding of extenuating circumstances, integrating diagnosis and treatment of mental disorders with use of the American psychiatric association's diagnostic and statistical manual;

(E) for persons earning a degree under subsection (c) prior to July 1, 2003, in lieu of the education and training requirements under subparagraphs (B) and (C), has completed the education requirements for licensure as a specialist clinical social worker in effect on the day immediately preceding the effective date of this act;

(F) for persons who apply for and are eligible for a temporary license to practice as a specialist clinical social worker on the day immediately preceding the effective date of this act, in lieu of the education and training requirements under subparagraphs (B), (C) and (D), has completed the education and training requirements for licensure as a specialist clinical social worker in effect on the day immediately preceding the effective date of this act;

(G) has passed an examination approved by the board; and

(H) has paid the application fee.

(2) A licensed specialist clinical social worker may engage in the social work practice and is authorized to diagnose and treat mental disorders specified in the edition of the diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders of the American psychiatric association designated by the board by rules and regulations. When a client has symptoms of a mental disorder, a licensed specialist clinical social worker shall consult with the client's primary care physician or psychiatrist to determine if there may be a medical condition or medication that may be causing or contributing to the client's symptoms of a mental disorder. A client may request in writing that such consultation be waived and such request shall be made a part of the client's record. A licensed specialist clinical social worker may continue to evaluate and treat the client until such time that the medical consultation is obtained or waived.

(3) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection, a licensed master social worker who has provided to the board an acceptable clinical supervision plan for licensure as a specialist clinical social worker prior to the effective date of this act shall be licensed as a specialist clinical social worker under this act upon completion of the requirements in effect for licensure as a specialist clinical social worker at the time the acceptable training plan is submitted to the board.

(4) A person licensed as a specialist clinical social worker on the day immediately preceding the effective date of this act shall be deemed to be a licensed specialist clinical social worker under this act. Such person shall not be required to file an original application for licensure as a specialist clinical social worker under this act.