

texas

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**The Requirements for Licensure as a Counselor by the ³Texas State Board of Examiners of
Professional Counselors**

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The Requirements for Licensure as a Counselor by the Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors

The requirements for licensure as a counselor by the Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors are interesting. There are different criteria for interns and supervisors. For example, for one to become a licensed LPC intern, the individual must first have cleared all the payments that are required by the board and filed an application form. An individual must also meet all the academic requirements that are prescribed by the board for him/her to be licensed as an LPC intern (<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/counselor/>). An individual must further have completed all the examinations that the board advises that they should. At the same time, the individual besides completing the exams must attain the grades required by the board. An individual also requires to have got into a supervisory agreement with a professional counselor that is already licensed as a supervisor before being declared a licensed intern. The individual is also not expected to have completed the experience requirements internship as the completion would bar them from being licensed as an LPC intern.

For an individual to be licensed as an LPC intern, she/he must be ready and willing to comply with all the requirements that the licensing board shall require of them. It is also interesting that for one to practice counseling in the state of Texas, he/she must first acquire an LPC internship license. This license should be acquired before beginning the internship. Failure to obtain this license will result in an individual's hours worked without the license not counting in the requirements of supervised experience. It is also required that an LPC intern can only practice counseling as part of his/her internship. At the time of practice, one must be under strict supervision by a licensed professional counselor supervisor. An LPC intern is also discouraged from owning an independent counseling professional practice. An LPC intern is supposed to be under professional supervision for at least four hours a month. A professional supervisor could

also supervise two or three interns at the same time. Additionally, one LPC intern can also have more than one professional counselor supervisor at the same time

(<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/counselor/>).

It is also illegal for an LPC intern to have more than one professional counselor supervisor at one time. While an intern is pursuing the supervised experience, he/she must ensure they have their LPC intern license throughout the period. An LPC intern license is also set for expiry after sixty months from the day of issuance. An intern is thus expected to renew the license after the lapse of these sixty months. An LPC intern is also barred from owning client records as the records are treated as a property of the organization he/she is interning at. An LPC intern should continue to be under the professional counselors' supervision for three thousand more hours after completing the supervised experience. This should however continue until the intern receives his/her LPC license. Once the intern has received his/her LPC license, then he/she can be free from supervision. An LPC intern is also barred from employing a professional counselor's supervisor. However, the LPC intern could compensate the supervisor for the time the supervisor took to supervise him/her. This is only applicable in situations where the professional counselor supervisor's supervision is not part of the supervisor's job responsibilities in whichever agency the supervisor is working for.

The supervisor's requirements are different from the LPC intern requirements. A supervisor is expected to file a written record of all the supervisory session he/she has. The records are to be kept at the LPC intern's file. The record must contain a signed and up to date copy of the licensing board's agreement of supervision agreement form for the LPC intern. The supervisor is also expected to produce a copy containing all the records of his/her LPC intern when requested to do so. The supervisor is also expected to be wholly responsible for the

professional conduct of the LPC intern he/she is supervising. The supervisor is also barred by the board from entering into any relationships that might lower the quality of professional counseling supervision he/she gives his/her intern. Once an LPC intern has completed supervision, the supervisor is expected to submit to the board all the details of the intern he/she has been supervising. This should be done within thirty days after the supervision has ended.

In case the supervision period for an LPC intern has ended and the supervisor feels that the LPC intern is not ready to offer counseling services, then the supervisor can develop and execute a written plan for revoking the LPC intern license. The written plan must however be reviewed and signed by the intern. The supervisor is also tasked with ensuring that the LPC intern he/she is supervising acquires all the appropriate skills within the set time (<https://www.txca.org/licensing-certificate.php>).

Once a supervisor's supervisory license has expired, he/she is treated as unlicensed and is thus not allowed to offer any supervision to an LPC intern. There are also scenarios where the supervisor's license can be revoked by the board especially when the supervisor is suspended several times. When the license is revoked, the supervisor is expected to inform all the LPC interns that he/she is currently supervising and further connect them to an eligible supervisor. He/she must also return all the supervision fees. A supervisor is also eligible for disciplinary actions in case he/she starts supervising an LPC intern without notifying the licensing board.

References

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/counselor/>

<https://www.txca.org/licensing-certificate.php>

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