#### OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

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# ARCHIVES DIVISION STEPHANIE CLARK

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# **NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING**

INCLUDING STATEMENT OF NEED & FISCAL IMPACT

CHAPTER 833

# MENTAL HEALTH REGULATORY AGENCY OREGON BOARD OF LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS AND THERAPISTS

**FILED** 

06/11/2025 9:35 AM ARCHIVES DIVISION SECRETARY OF STATE

FILING CAPTION: Registered associate supervisor requirements.

## LAST DAY AND TIME TO OFFER COMMENT TO AGENCY: 07/23/2025 5:00 PM

The Agency requests public comment on whether other options should be considered for achieving the rule's substantive goals while reducing negative economic impact of the rule on business.

A public rulemaking hearing may be requested in writing by 10 or more people, or by a group with 10 or more members, within 21 days following the publication of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the Oregon Bulletin or 28 days from the date the Notice was sent to people on the agency mailing list, whichever is later. If sufficient hearing requests are received, the notice of the date and time of the rulemaking hearing must be published in the Oregon Bulletin at least 14 days before the hearing.

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## NEED FOR THE RULE(S)

The Board's Education / Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee has been exploring ways to strengthen and expand the pool of qualified supervisors to guide Oregon's future counselors and therapists through the final supervised clinical supervised experience requirements for independent practice. Allowing licensees with advanced doctoral training and experience in counselor education and supervision to qualify for the registry before reaching two years of licensure was identified as a sensible opportunity to remove barriers and balance enhanced support of the workforce with strong consumer protection standards. Recognizing supervision experience already completed in other states also meets these goals. The Committee determined that the rule could be clearer regarding the graduate degree requirement for supervisors not on the registry.

#### DOCUMENTS RELIED UPON, AND WHERE THEY ARE AVAILABLE

OAR Chapter 833 and ORS Chapter 675 are available on the OBLPCT website at

https://www.oregon.gov/OBLPCT/Pages/LawsRules.aspx. Information about the Counselor Education and Supervision accreditation standards can be found on the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs website at https://www.cacrep.org/section-6-doctoral-standards-counselor-education-and-supervision-2/.

#### STATEMENT IDENTIFYING HOW ADOPTION OF RULE(S) WILL AFFECT RACIAL EQUITY IN THIS STATE

This rule amendment may have a positive effect on racial equity in the state because it is expected to expand the pool of available supervisors for future licensed counselors and therapists, which could mean more culturally informed mentorship that improves the success of registrants. Strengthening the pipeline for licensed professionals provides for more competent mental and behavioral health services to Oregonians. Clarifying the rules ensures they are easy for everyone to understand and reduces the likelihood of misinterpretation or exclusion due to vague standards.

#### **COST OF COMPLIANCE:**

(1) Identify any state agencies, units of local government, and members of the public likely to be economically affected by the rule(s). (2) Effect on Small Businesses: (a) Estimate the number and type of small businesses subject to the rule(s); (b) Describe the expected reporting, recordkeeping and administrative activities and cost required to comply with the rule(s); (c) Estimate the cost of professional services, equipment supplies, labor and increased administration required to comply with the rule(s).

None. Businesses are not subject to this rule. The Board will absorb any minimal costs required to implement these changes within its current staffing levels and budgeted resources.

# DESCRIBE HOW SMALL BUSINESSES WERE INVOLVED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THESE RULE(S):

Small businesses were not explicitly involved.

#### WAS AN ADMINISTRATIVE RULE ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSULTED? NO IF NOT, WHY NOT?

The proposed rule adoption was openly discussed during the January 13, March 10, and April 14, 2025 public session Education/DEI Committee meetings and during the June 6, 2025 public session full Board meeting where members of the public were invited to address the Board during a public forum. The rule language and concepts are straightforward. The Board did not determine that an additional committee beyond the Education/DEI committee, the eight-member Board, and Agency staff were necessary to craft the rulemaking proposal.

#### **RULES PROPOSED:**

833-130-0050, 833-130-0070

AMEND: 833-130-0050

RULE SUMMARY: Allows licensees that hold an accredited doctoral degree in Counselor Education and Supervision to qualify as Supervisor Candidates on the Supervisor Registry. Allows and specifies the criteria for supervision experience and supervision of supervision completed in other states to satisfy the requirements for Approved Supervisor registry placement.

#### **CHANGES TO RULE:**

833-130-0050

Approved Supervisors ¶

- (1) To qualify to supervise registered associates, a licensee who is not on the Supervisor Registry must meet the following requirements:¶
- (a) Meet or have previously met all of the requirements to qualify as a Supervisor Candidate per OAR 833-130-0040; and  $\P$
- (b) Hold an active Oregon license as a professional counselor or marriage and family therapist, and:¶
- (A) Have been actively licensed by the Board for at least 2 years; or ¶
- (B) Be an Approved Supervisor through the AAMFT or the NBCC Center for Credentialing and Education; or ¶
- (C) Hold a doctoral degree that is accredited by CACREP in the Counselor Education and Supervision specialty area.¶
- (2) To qualify as an Approved Supervisor for purposes of placement on the Supervisor Registry, in addition to the requirements of section (1) above, the licensee must:¶
- (a) Document at least 6 hours of post-licensure supervision of licensee's clinical supervision by. ¶
- (A) Supervision completed in Oregon must be under a Board Approved Supervisor. The licensee may have up to two Approved Supervisors, and both Approved Supervisors must complete an evaluation. Approved supervision may include one--on--one or group supervision of not more than 6 supervisees.¶
- (B) Supervision completed in other states must be under one or more supervisors that have at least two years of licensure as a mental health professional based on a graduate degree; and ¶

(b) Document a minimum of 100 hours of post-licensure experience supervising registered associates <u>(or equivalent pre-licensed supervisees in other states)</u> or student interns from <del>Board-Approved Ograduate programs at region graduate programally accredited institutions</del>.

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 675.705 - 675.835 Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 675.7205 - 675.835 AMEND: 833-130-0070

RULE SUMMARY: Clarifies the requirement that supervisors of registered associates who are not on the Supervisor Registry must hold licenses based on graduate degrees.

**CHANGES TO RULE:** 

833-130-0070

Supervisors Not on the Registry ¶

Other mental health professionals may serve as supervisors of registered associates if they meet the following requirements:¶

- (1) Hold a current, active license in Oregon as a mental health professional based on a graduate degree; ¶
- (2) Have been licensed in Oregon as a mental health professional <u>based on a graduate degree</u> for at least 3 years;¶
- (3) Complete 30 clock hours of post-master's degree supervision training;¶
- (4) Successfully pass the Board's law and rules exam; and ¶
- (5) For supervisors of marriage and family therapist associates only: supervision training that includes systems components.

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 675.705 - 675.835 Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 675.7205 - 675.835