

Rimrock Foundation

Proposed Amendments to HB 203

1. Title, line 18.

Following: "PERMITS;"

Insert: "CLARIFYING LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSED ADDICTION COUNSELORS;"

2. Title, line 27.

Following: "37-19-101,"

Insert: "37-35-202,

3. Page 33.

Following: line 16

Insert: Section 44. Section 37-35-202, MCA, is amended to read:

"37-35-202. Licensure requirements -- examination -- fees. (1) To be eligible for licensure as a licensed addiction counselor, the applicant shall submit an application fee in an amount established by the department by rule and a written application on a form provided by the department that demonstrates that the applicant has completed the eligibility requirements and competency standards as defined by department rule.

(2) A person may apply for licensure as a licensed addiction counselor if the person has:

(a) received a baccalaureate or advanced degree in alcohol and drug studies, psychology, sociology, social work, counseling, or a ~~related field~~ comparable degree from an accredited college or university; or

(b) received an associate of arts degree in alcohol and drug studies, addiction, or substance abuse from an accredited institution.

(3) Prior to becoming eligible to begin the examination process, each person shall complete supervised work experience in an addiction treatment program as defined by the department, in an internship approved by the department, or in a similar program recognized

under the laws of another state.

(4) Each applicant shall successfully complete a competency examination process, in writing only, as defined by rules adopted by the department.

(5) A person holding a license to practice as a licensed addiction counselor in this state may use the title "licensed addiction counselor".

(6) For purposes of this section, a "comparable degree" means a degree that includes 270 hours of accredited college course work, of which six hours are in human behavior, sociology, psychology or similar emphasis, three hours are in psychopathology or course work exploring patterns and courses of abnormal or deviant behavior, and nine hours in counseling, of which six hours must be in group counseling and three in theory of counseling and which specified hours may be obtained in an associate or masters degree program if the applicant does not have a qualifying baccalaureate degree.

Renumber: subsequent sections

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