



Am I Eligible for MA Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC)?

Review the requirements for eligibility before you start your application for LMHC.

1 You have 60 semester credits or 80 quarter credits in graduate school and took the required coursework

YES

NO

No-Must complete Pre-Master prerequisite

2 You have a Pre-Master's internship of at least 7 weeks / 100 clock hours and a post-practicum of 600 clock hours

YES

NO

No-Must complete Master's Degree with at least 60 credits

3 You have completed Post-Master's clinical experiences of 3360 hours

YES

NO

No-Must complete Post-Master's requirement

4 You passed the National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Examination (NCMHCE)

No-Must pass the NCMHCE Exam

NO

YES

You may apply for a Mental Health Counselor License (LMHC) in MA

Before you apply, gather the following:

- ✓ 2x2 passport style color photo
- ✓ Graduate transcript sent directly from your school
- ✓ Completed Pre-Master's Degree and Education form (not required for reciprocity)
- ✓ Completed Post-Masters Clinical Experience forms (signed by supervisor, not required for reciprocity)
- ✓ Score Report of National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Examination (NCMHCE)
- ✓ VALOR Act -Military Status documentation (if applicable)

The following document is only in the licensing tool:

- ✓ Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) form must be signed and notarized

Tool Location: [Health Professions Licensing System](#)



Massachusetts Licensed Mental Health Counselor Application Information

State of Massachusetts Licensed Mental Health Counselor Licensure Application Information

Application Fee - \$117.00

Application Link: <https://healthprofessionlicensing.mass.gov/>

Support: <https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-a-license-allied-mental-health-and-human-services-professions>

Contact us: amh.board@mass.gov or (617) 973-6199

Initial License Eligibility Requirements

Please ensure you have met all requirements for licensure:

- ✓ **You have 60 semester credits or 80 quarter credits in graduate school, and you took the [required coursework](#)**
- ✓ **You have completed Pre- and Post Master’s Degree Education and Clinical Experience requirements**
- ✓ **You passed National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Examination (NCMHCE)**

Reciprocity Requirements

Reciprocity Applicants must meet the following requirements:

- ✓ **Licensed at an independent level (not required to be supervised) as a mental health counselor or the equivalent in another state**
- ✓ **Worked full-time, or the equivalent part time, for 3 years in another state while licensed in that state as a licensed mental health counselor or the equivalent at an independent level**
- ✓ **You have 60 semester credits or 80 quarter credits in graduate school, and you took the [required coursework](#)**
- ✓ **You passed National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Examination (NCMHCE)**

Checklist Items

Please gather the following details prior to beginning the application:

- ✓ **[2x2 passport style color photo](#)**
- ✓ **Signed & notarized Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) form**
- ✓ **Pre-Master’s Degree Experience & Education Form (*Initial License Only*)**
- ✓ **Post-Master's Degree Clinical Experience Form (*Initial License Only*)**
- ✓ **NCMHCE Score Report**

If you have military status (veteran, spouse of active military or active military)

Please gather the following details prior to beginning the application:

- ✓ **VALOR Act: Military Status Documentation**

If you have ever held a professional license or certification

Regardless of expiration status or profession, primary source proof of status must be sent separately

- ✓ **Licensee details (license number, date obtained, state of origin, etc.)**



Massachusetts Licensed Mental Health Counselor Application Instructions

1

Demographics and Photo

- Name, SSN, DOB, phone number, email, address
- Color picture, white background, showing face & shoulders; size it to fit the white area

2

If veteran, active duty or spouse of active duty: Valor Act

- Military status; upload supporting documents if needed

NOTE: document must be notarized

3

Professional and Criminal History Questions

- Answer each attestation with Yes or No; Provide details for any “yes” responses

NOTE: If needed, upload any supporting documents, e.g., out of State CORI form

4

Attestations

- Select Yes or no to attest to board-approved domestic violence training

NOTE: If selected “no,” a link will appear to access to the training

5

Select Application Type

Initial Licensure

Upload completed forms:

Pre-Master’s Document, Post Master’s Document(s), & Transcripts from Primary Source Institution (Email or Mailed)

OR

Reciprocity

Answer and Email:

Complete Attestation; Transcripts and License verifications from Primary Source Institution (Email or Mailed)

6

NCMHCE Exam

- Drag and drop a score report showing you passed the National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Examination (NCMHCE)
- NOTE:** No other exam is accepted

7

Licenses in MA and Other Jurisdictions

- Enter any professional license details you have had, regardless of expiration status
- NOTE:** A primary source (e.g., Board, government authority) verification of licensure is required, even if your license is expired

8

Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) form

- Complete and upload a notarized* CORI form, located in Health Professions Licensing System
- NOTE:** The notarization date must match the signature date

***Documents must be signed in front of the notary. Check banks, mailing stores, libraries, or online for notary services, and bring a valid photo ID.**

9

E-Signature & Submission

- Attest that the information provided is truthful, accurate, and in compliance with Commonwealth of MA laws by typing your full name
- Review application details for accuracy
- Submit Application**

Start Your Application in eLX

Login or Create an account

Health Professions Licensing System (mass.gov)