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**Continuing Education Requirements:**

**Policy No.: 2020-01**

The Board of Registration of Allied Mental Health and Human Services Professionals ("Board") voted at its meeting on October 16, 2020 to adopt the following Policy and at its meeting on November 19, 2021 to amend the Policy. The Board adopts Policy guidelines to reflect standards of professional practice and uses them in formulating decisions that relate to the Board's licensees.

By issuing this Policy No. 2020-01, the Board hereby rescinds the following former Policies:

- Use of Home Study and On-Line Programs to meet the Continuing Education Requirements: Policy No.: 07-02;
- Policy on Board Recognized Entities Designated to Approve Sponsors of Continuing Education Courses: Policy No. 08-01; and
- Policy on Proration of Continuing Education Requirements: Policy No. 09-01.

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this policy statement is to offer guidance to Licensees regarding the Continuing Education Requirements set forth in 262 Code Mass. Regs. (CMR) 7.03(1).

**Policy:**

**Section I: Topics for Continuing Education**

The Board encourages licensees to obtain some contact hours in the following areas as part of the "30 contact hours of continuing education activities" required in each renewal cycle by 262 CMR 7.03(1):

- Three (3) contact hours of Ethics;
- Three (3) contact hours of Anti-Discrimination; and
- Three (3) contact hours of Supervision training for Licensees who supervise clinical work of students, interns, or others.



## **Section II: Board Recognized Entities Designated to Approve Sponsors of Continuing Education Courses**

“**Board-Recognized Entities**” is defined in 262 CMR 7.02 as “Entities that the Board has designated as appropriate to approve sponsors of continuing education activities. Entities may define continuing education content areas appropriate for the specific license. Designated entities may define procedures for the sponsors to follow in the delivery of continuing education activities.”

**In accordance with the above definition, the Board will accept courses or programs approved by the following entities:**

**For Licensed Mental Health Counselors (LMHC):** Courses approved under the standards of the Massachusetts Mental Health Counselors Association (MAMHCA) or the National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC).

**For Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists (LMFT):** Courses approved under the standards of the New England Association for Family and Systemic Therapy (NEAFST) and/or its appointed Continuing Education administrators.

**For Licensed Rehabilitation Counselors (LRC):** Courses approved by the Commission of Rehabilitation Counselors (CRC) or Massachusetts Rehabilitation Counselors Association (MRCA).

**For Licensed Educational Psychologists (LEP):** Courses approved by the MA Department of Education, the National Association of School Psychologists, the American Psychological Association and the Massachusetts School Psychologists Association.

**For Licensed Applied Behavior Analysts and Licensed Assistant Applied Behavior Analysts (LABA and LAABA):** Courses offered by an Authorized Continuing Education (ACE) provider, as designated and approved by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB).

## **Section III: Proration of Continuing Education Requirements For New Licensees**

The number of continuing education hours required for license renewal shall be pro-rated for the licensure period in which a Licensee first obtains a license from the Board, as follows:

1. A licensee who first receives a license between January and June of an even-numbered calendar year shall complete 22.5 continuing education hours before the end of the licensing cycle.
2. A licensee who first receives a license between July and December of an even-numbered calendar year shall complete 15 continuing education hours before the end of the licensing cycle.

3. A licensee who first receives a license between January and June of an odd-numbered calendar year shall complete 7.5 continuing education hours before the end of the licensing cycle.; and
4. A licensee who first receives a license between July and December of an odd-numbered year shall not be required to complete any continuing education hours for that licensing cycle.

**Authority:** M.G.L. Chapter 13, Section 90; and 262 CMR 7.00