



# Province & State Licensure Matrix

Updated December 2015

## WHAT IS THE LICENSURE MATRIX?

This matrix is a link to counseling laws and regulations across the US and Canada, including all US states, Canadian provinces, and US and Canadian territories.

When the Government Affairs committee created this matrix, we decided to provide links to state/province counseling licensing boards, rather than to create a PDF document with information, because links are more likely to be current. We have made every effort to make sure these links are accurate, but things change. If you find that the links do not work, or if you have newer information that you feel would be helpful to share, please let us know.

For the United States, we specifically included links to counseling boards or state health departments, because as drama therapists, in general, our work is more closely aligned with counseling than with other licensed professions. For Canada, some links provide more general information. Some links, (Alberta, New Brunswick, Quebec, and Saskatchewan), lead to provincially regulated organizations. The rest lead to professional organizations. We recognize a wide diversity within our field, however, and you may find that your own work (or training) is more in alignment with a different license or credential. We hope this matrix will give you a place to start in order to find out more about licensing in your region.

Licensing laws vary widely from state to state, from province to province, and the laws change. We also encourage you to find ways to think and work outside the box, in order to find gainful and meaningful employment as a drama therapist, whether or not you are able to be licensed. If you do not have a degree in counseling, you may have to advocate strongly for yourself in order to obtain a license. There are many jobs and opportunities, however, which may not require you to have a license. Be creative and diligent!

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[Canada](#)

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## **LINKS FOR COUNSELING LICENSES - Canada**

For overview of the regulation and profession of counseling in Canada, the following website below is helpful:

### **Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association – Regulation across Canada**

<http://www.ccpa-accp.ca/profession/regulation-across-canada/>

For each province and the two territories, the websites below give more specific information.

### **Alberta**

Government of Alberta – Alberta Occupational Profiles

[http://alis.alberta.ca/occinfo/content/requestaction.asp?aspaction=gethtmlprofile&format=html&occpro\\_id=71002221](http://alis.alberta.ca/occinfo/content/requestaction.asp?aspaction=gethtmlprofile&format=html&occpro_id=71002221)

### **British Columbia**

BC Association of Clinical Counsellors

<http://bc-counsellors.org/>

Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association – BC

<http://www.ccpa-accp.ca/en/cmhc/>

### **Manitoba**

American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy – Manitoba Division

<http://www.mamft.ca/ohana/website/?p=58953342>

### **New Brunswick**

New Brunswick Association of Counselling Therapists (NBACT)

<http://www.nbact.ca/>

Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association – New Brunswick

<http://www.ccpa-accp.ca/en/cmnb/>

Canadian College of Professional Counsellors and Psychotherapists

<http://www.ccpcp.ca/index.php/new-brunswick>

### **Newfoundland**

Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association

<http://www.ccpa-accp.ca/profession/regulation-across-canada/>

### **Northwest Territories**

Message from the Minister of Health and Social Services

<http://www.hss.gov.nt.ca/sites/default/files/ccpmanual.PDF>

Northwest Territories Job Futures

<http://jobfutures.statsnwt.ca/profile.php?NOC=E02>

Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association Alberta and Northwest Territories  
<http://www.ccpa-accp.ca/en/eab/>

### **Nova Scotia**

Nova Scotia College of Counselling Therapists (NSCCT)  
<http://www.nscct.ca/>

### **Nunavut**

Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association  
<http://www.ccpa-accp.ca/profession/regulation-across-canada/>

### **Ontario**

Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association - Ontario  
<http://www.ccpa-accp.ca/en/cmon/>

Health Professions Advisory Council  
[www.hprac.org](http://www.hprac.org)

A Submission on the Regulation of Psychology/Mental Health Counselling in Ontario  
[http://www.oaccpp.ca/assets/OACCPP\\_Psychotherapy\\_Subm\\_Final.PDF](http://www.oaccpp.ca/assets/OACCPP_Psychotherapy_Subm_Final.PDF)

### **Prince Edward Island**

PEI Counsellors Association  
<http://www.peica.org/index2.html>

### **Quebec**

Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association – Status of Regulation  
<http://www.ccpa-accp.ca/en/statusofregulation/>

Ordre des Psychologues du Quebec  
<http://www.ordrepsy.qc.ca/en/psychotherapist/index.sn>

### **Saskatchewan**

Saskatchewan College of Psychologists  
<http://www.skcp.ca/register.html>

### **Yukon**

Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association  
<http://www.ccpa-accp.ca/profession/regulation-across-canada/>

### **Additional Information:**

Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association  
<http://www.ccpa-accp.ca/en/resources/faq/>

## **LINKS FOR COUNSELING LICENSES – United States**

### **Alabama**

The Alabama Board of Examiners in Counseling  
[www.abec.alabama.gov](http://www.abec.alabama.gov)

### **Alaska**

Board of Professional Counselors  
[www.commerce.state.ak.us/occ/ppco.htm](http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/occ/ppco.htm)

### **Arizona**

Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners  
<http://www.azbbhe.us/licensure%20apps.htm>

### **Arkansas**

Arkansas Board of Examiners in Counseling  
[www.state.ar.us/abec](http://www.state.ar.us/abec)

### **California**

Board of Behavioral Sciences  
[www.bbs.ca.gov](http://www.bbs.ca.gov)

### **The Californian Association of Marriage and Family Therapists**

<http://www.camft.org/>

### **Colorado**

The Colorado State Board of Professional Counselor Examiners  
[www.dora.state.co.us/mental-health](http://www.dora.state.co.us/mental-health)

### **Connecticut**

Department of Public Health  
<http://www.ct.gov/dph>

### **Delaware**

Department of State Division of Professional Regulation  
<http://dpr.delaware.gov>

### **District of Columbia** Department of Health

<http://doh.dc.gov/>

Professional Counseling Licensing

<http://doh.dc.gov/node/160252>

### **Florida**

Division of Medical Quality Assurance  
[www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/491](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/491)

## **Georgia**

Georgia Composite Board of Professional Counselors, Social Workers, and Marriage and Family Therapists

[www.sos.state.ga.us/plb/counselors](http://www.sos.state.ga.us/plb/counselors)

## **Guam**

The only link we found pertaining to counseling in Guam had to do with being a school counselor. This link may be outdated. It is a PDF document, from January 2011, which has information on state requirements for school counseling, which also applies to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

<http://www.counseling.org/docs/licensure/schoolcounselingregs2011.PDF?sfvrsn=2>

## **Hawaii**

Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs Professional and Vocational Licensing

[www.hawaii.gov/dcca/areas/pvl/programs/mental/](http://www.hawaii.gov/dcca/areas/pvl/programs/mental/)

## **Idaho**

Professional Licensing

[www.idaho.gov/business/licensing.html](http://www.idaho.gov/business/licensing.html)

## **Illinois**

Department of Financial and Professional Regulation

[www.idfpr.com/dpr/who/prfcns.asp](http://www.idfpr.com/dpr/who/prfcns.asp)

## **Indiana**

Behavioral Health and Human Services Licensing Board

[www.in.gov/pla/social.htm](http://www.in.gov/pla/social.htm)

## **Iowa**

Bureau of Professional Licensure

[www.idph.state.ia.us/licensure/](http://www.idph.state.ia.us/licensure/)

## **Kansas**

Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board

[www.ksbsrb.org/](http://www.ksbsrb.org/)

## **Kentucky**

Board of Licensed Professional Counselors

[www.lpc.ky.gov/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.lpc.ky.gov/Pages/default.aspx)

## **Louisiana**

Professional and Occupational Licenses

<http://louisiana.gov/Services/POLicenses/>

Licensed Professional Counselors Board of Examiners

<http://lpcboard.org/>

## **Maine**

Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation

<http://www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions.htm>

Board of Counseling Professionals

<http://www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/counselors/index.htm>

## **Maryland**

Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

<http://dhmh.maryland.gov/SitePages/Home.aspx>

The Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists

<http://dhmh.maryland.gov/bopc/SitePages/Home.aspx>

## **Massachusetts**

Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation

<http://www.mass.gov/ocabr/>

Board of Registration of Allied Mental Health and Human Services Professionals

<http://www.mass.gov/ocabr/licensee/dpl-boards/mh/>

## **Michigan**

Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

<http://www.michigan.gov/lara>

Board of Counseling

[http://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-35299\\_63294\\_27529\\_27536---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-35299_63294_27529_27536---,00.html)

## **Minnesota**

Board of Behavioral Health and Therapy

<http://www.bbht.state.mn.us/>

Licensed Professional Counselor

<http://www.bbht.state.mn.us/Licensing/LicensedProfessionalCounselorLPC/tabid/1148/Default.aspx>

NOTE: check for provisions for unlicensed professionals

## **Mississippi**

State Board of Examiners for Licensed Professional Counselors

<http://www.lpc.ms.gov/lpc/web.nsf>

## **Missouri**

Division of Professional Registration

<http://pr.mo.gov/>

Committee for Professional Counselors  
<http://pr.mo.gov/counselors.asp>

## **Montana**

Department of Labor and Industry  
<http://bsd.dli.mt.gov/index.asp>

Board of Social Work Examiners and Professional Counselors  
[http://bsd.dli.mt.gov/license/bsd\\_boards/swp\\_board/board\\_page.asp](http://bsd.dli.mt.gov/license/bsd_boards/swp_board/board_page.asp)

## **Nebraska**

Department of Health and Human Services  
<http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

Certified Professional Counselor  
[http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/Pages/crl\\_mhcs\\_mental\\_cpc.aspx](http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/Pages/crl_mhcs_mental_cpc.aspx)

## **Nevada**

Board of Examiners for Marriage and Family Therapists and Clinical Professional Counselors  
<http://marriage.state.nv.us/>

## **New Hampshire**

Board of Mental Health Practice  
<http://www.nh.gov/mhpb/>

## **New Jersey**

Department of Law and Public Safety: Division of Consumer Affairs  
<http://njconsumeraffairs.gov/>

Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners  
<http://www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/mft/>

## **New Mexico**

Regulation and Licensing Department  
<http://www.rld.state.nm.us/default.aspx>

Counseling and Therapy Practice Board  
[http://www.rld.state.nm.us/boards/Counseling\\_and\\_Therapy\\_Practice.aspx](http://www.rld.state.nm.us/boards/Counseling_and_Therapy_Practice.aspx)

## **New York**

State Education Department  
<http://www.nysed.gov/>

Office of the Professions  
<http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/>

## **North Carolina**

Board of Licensed Professional Counselors

<http://www.ncblpc.org/>

## **North Dakota**

Board of Counselor Examiners:

<http://www.ndbce.org/>

## **Ohio**

Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board, (with internal links to applying for a license and FAQs):

<http://www.cswmft.ohio.gov/>

## **Oklahoma**

Division of Professional Counselor Licensing:

<http://www.ok.gov/health//Protective Health/Professional Counselor Licensing Division/>

## **Oregon**

Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists:

<http://www.oregon.gov/OBLPCT/Pages/index.aspx>

Applying for a license

<http://www.oregon.gov/oblpc/Pages/applicmethods.aspx#Applying for a license>

## **Pennsylvania**

In PA, DT is included in the LPC credential

State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Professional Counselors:

[http://www.dos.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/state\\_board\\_of\\_social\\_workers%2C\\_marriage\\_and\\_family\\_therapists\\_and\\_professional\\_counselors/12524](http://www.dos.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/state_board_of_social_workers%2C_marriage_and_family_therapists_and_professional_counselors/12524)

NOTE: check for licensure of drama therapy under the guidelines for Professional Counselors in PA

## **Puerto Rico**

The only link pertaining to counseling in Puerto Rico had to do with being a school counselor. This link is a PDF document, from January 2011, which has information on state requirements for school counseling, which also applies to Guam, and the Virgin Islands.

<http://www.counseling.org/docs/licensure/schoolcounselingregs2011.PDF?sfvrsn=2>

## **Rhode Island**

Department of Health, Healthcare License Information, (scroll down to:) Mental Health & Counseling:

<http://www.health.ri.gov/licenses/healthcare/index.php#therapists>



## **South Carolina**

Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation:

<http://www.llr.state.sc.us/POL/Counselors/>

## **South Dakota**

Department of Social Services:

[http://dss.sd.gov/behavioralhealthservices/licensingboards/board\\_examiners\\_lpc.asp](http://dss.sd.gov/behavioralhealthservices/licensingboards/board_examiners_lpc.asp)

## **Tennessee**

Department of Health, Board of Licensed Professional Counselors, Licensed Marital and Family Therapists and Licensed Pastoral Therapists:

[http://health.state.tn.us/boards/PC\\_MFT&CPT/](http://health.state.tn.us/boards/PC_MFT&CPT/)

## **Texas**

Department of State Health Services, Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/counselor/>

## **Utah**

Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing:

<http://www.dopl.utah.gov/>

## **Vermont**

Board of Allied Mental Health, with information on licensed and **non-licensed** mental health specialists, and the laws pertaining to mental health counseling in VT:

[http://vtprofessionals.org/opr1/allied\\_mental\\_health/](http://vtprofessionals.org/opr1/allied_mental_health/)

**NOTE: check for provisions for unlicensed professionals in the state of Vermont**

## **Virgin Islands**

The only link pertaining to counseling in the Virgin Islands, had to do with being a school counselor. This link is a PDF document, from January 2011, which has information on state requirements for school counseling, which also applies to Puerto Rico, and Guam.

<http://www.counseling.org/docs/licensure/schoolcounselingregs2011.PDF?sfvrsn=2>

## **Virginia**

Board of Counseling:

<http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/counseling/>

Department of Health Professions, for information on other kinds of licenses in Virginia:

<http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/>

## **Washington**

Washington State Department of Health,

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/LicensesPermitsandCertificates/ProfessionsNewReneworUpdate/MentalHealthProfessions.aspx>

## **West Virginia**

West Virginia Board of Examiners in Counseling, which includes links on licensure on becoming and LPC, and an MFT in West Virginia, and many additional links  
<http://www.wvbec.org/>

## **Wisconsin**

Professional Counselor License:

<http://dsps.wi.gov/Default.aspx?Page=4b15ef4e-f1b5-4754-a283-a04430b230ef>

## **Wyoming**

Counselor License Requirements:

<http://www.counselor-license.com/states/wyoming-counselor-license.html>

## **Additional Information:**

**Counselor License Requirements – state by state:** (some information may be out of date)

<http://www.counselor-license.com/>