

Clinical Mental Health Counseling (MS)

The educational requirements to obtain professional licensure as a counselor are met when a student obtains a master’s degree or higher in counseling or counseling-related discipline from an accredited institution, as recognized by the Department of Education. Many states require that the degree program include specific content areas and often only approve those that have programmatic accreditation. In addition to [Mercer’s institutional accreditation](#), the Clinical Mental Health Counseling program at Mercer is accredited by the [Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs \(CACREP\)](#), 1001 North Fairfax Street, Suite 510, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Applicants must also pass national exams, such as the National Counseling Exam (NCE) or the National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Exam (NCMHCE), and complete experiential requirements. Additional licensure requirements may apply, including state-specific jurisprudence exams, applications, fees, and background checks, etc. Each state board, agency, or department has the ultimate authority and discretion to determine whether professional licensure or certification will be issued.

The table below displays states where the program meets, does not meet, or Mercer is unable to determine if it meets the educational requirements for licensure. Please review the table closely to determine if the CMHC program meets the educational requirements in the state in which you reside or intend to seek licensure.

Program Contact: [Dr. Tyler Wilkinson](#)

U.S. State or Territory	Regulatory Body	Contact	Website URL	Meets educational requirements
Alabama	Alabama Board of Examiners in Counseling	(334) 420-7229	http://abec.alabama.gov/	Yes
Alaska	Alaska Board of Professional Counselors	(907) 465-1074	https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/cbpl/ProfessionalLicensing/ProfessionalCounselors.aspx	Yes
Arizona	Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners	(602) 542-1882	https://www.azbbhe.us/	Yes
Arkansas	Arkansas State Board of Examiners in Counseling	(501) 683-5800	https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/topics/arkansas-state-board-of-examiners-in-counseling	Yes
California	California Board of Behavioral Sciences	(916) 574-7830	www.bbs.ca.gov	No

U.S. State or Territory	Regulatory Body	Contact	Website URL	Meets educational requirements
Colorado	Colorado State Board of Licensed Professional Counselor Examiners	(303) 894-7800	https://dpo.colorado.gov/ProfessionalCounselor	Yes
Connecticut	Connecticut Department of Public Health, Professional Counselor Licensing	(860) 509-8000	https://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Practitioner-Licensing--Investigations/Professional-Counselor/Professional-Counselor-Licensing	Yes
Delaware	Delaware Board of Mental Health and Chemical Dependency Professionals	(302) 744-4500	https://dpr.delaware.gov/boards/profcounselors/newlicense/	Yes
District of Columbia (DC)	District of Columbia Board of Professional Counseling	(877) 672-2174	https://dchealth.dc.gov/service/professional-counseling-licensing	Yes
Florida	Florida Board of Clinical Social Work, Marriage and Family Therapy and Mental Health Counseling	(850) 488-0595	https://floridasmentalhealthprofessions.gov/	Yes
Georgia	Georgia Board of Professional Counselors, Social Workers, and Marriage & Family Therapists	(404) 424-9966	https://sos.ga.gov/board-professional-counselors-social-workers-and-marriage-family-therapists	Yes
Hawaii	Hawaii Mental Health Counselor Licensing Program	(808) 586-3000	https://cca.hawaii.gov/pvl/programs/mental/	Yes
Idaho	Idaho Licensing Board of Professional Counselors and Marriage and Family Therapists	(208) 334-3233	https://dopl.idaho.gov/cou/	Yes
Illinois	Illinois Professional Counselor Licensing and Disciplinary Board	(888) 473-4858	https://www.idfpr.com/profs/ProfCounselor.asp	Yes
Indiana	Indiana Professional Licensing Agency - Behavioral Health and Human Services	(317) 234-2054	https://www.in.gov/pla/social.htm	Yes
Iowa	Iowa Board of Behavioral Science	(515) 281-0254	https://dial.iowa.gov/licenses/medicial/mental-health/mental-behavioral/how-do-i-mental-health-counselor-permanent	Yes
Kansas	Kansas Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board	(785) 296-3240	https://ksbsrb.ks.gov/	Yes

U.S. State or Territory	Regulatory Body	Contact	Website URL	Meets educational requirements
Kentucky	Kentucky Board of Licensed Professional Counselors	(502) 782-8803	https://lpc.ky.gov/	Yes
Louisiana	Louisiana State Board of Licensed Professional Counselors	(225) 295-8444	https://www.lpcboard.org/	Yes
Maine	Maine Board of Counseling Professionals Licensure	(207) 624-8674	https://www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/board-of-counseling-professionals-licensure	Yes
Maryland	Maryland Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists	(410) 764-4732	https://health.maryland.gov/bopc/Pages/index.aspx	No
Massachusetts	Massachusetts Board of Registration of Allied Mental Health and Human Services Professions	(617) 701-8683	https://www.mass.gov/orgs/board-of-registration-of-allied-mental-health-and-human-services-professions	No
Michigan	Michigan Board of Counseling	(517) 241-0199	https://www.michigan.gov/lara/bureau-list/bpl/health/hp-lic-health-prof/counseling	Yes
Minnesota	Minnesota Board of Behavioral Health & Therapy	(651)201-2756	https://mn.gov/boards/behavioral-health/	Yes
Mississippi	Mississippi State Board of Examiners for Licensed Professional Counselors	(601) 359-1010	https://www.lpc.ms.gov/wplpc/	Yes
Missouri	Missouri Committee for Professional Counselors	(573) 751-0018	https://pr.mo.gov/counselors.asp	Yes
Montana	Montana Board of Behavioral Health	(406) 841-2300	https://boards.bsd.dli.mt.gov/behavioral-health/	Yes
Nebraska	Nebraska Board of Mental Health Practice	(402) 471-2117	https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Mental-Health-and-Social-Work-Practice.aspx	Yes
Nevada	State of Nevada Board of Examiners for Marriage and Family Therapists and Clinical Professional Counselors	(702) 486-7388	https://marriage.nv.gov/	Yes
New Hampshire	New Hampshire Board of Mental Health Practice	(603) 271-2152	https://www.oplc.nh.gov/board-mental-health-practice	Yes
New Jersey	New Jersey Professional Counselor Examiners Committee	(973) 504-6582	https://www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/lpc	Yes

U.S. State or Territory	Regulatory Body	Contact	Website URL	Meets educational requirements
New Mexico	New Mexico Counseling and Therapy Practice Board	(505) 476-4622	https://www.rld.nm.gov/boards-and-commissions/individual-boards-and-commissions/counseling-and-therapy-practice/	No
New York	New York State Board for Mental Health Practitioners	(518) 474-3817	https://www.op.nysed.gov/mental-health-counselors	Yes
North Carolina	North Carolina Board of Licensed Professional Counselors	(336) 217-6007	https://www.ncblcmhc.org/	Yes
North Dakota	North Dakota Board of Counselor Examiners	(701) 667-5969	http://www.ndbce.org/licensing.shtml	Yes
Ohio	Ohio Counselor, Social Worker and Marriage and Family Therapist Board	(614) 466-0912	https://cswmft.ohio.gov/	Yes
Oklahoma	Oklahoma State Board of Behavioral Health	(405) 522-3696	https://oklahoma.gov/behavioralhealth.html	Yes
Oregon	Oregon State Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists	(503) 378-5499	https://www.oregon.gov/OBLPCT/pages/index.aspx	Yes
Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Professional Counselors	(717) 783-1389	https://www.dos.pa.gov/ProfessionalLicensing/BoardsCommissions/SocialWorkersMarriageandFamilyTherapistsandProfessionalCounselors/Pages/default.aspx	Yes
Rhode Island	Rhode Island Board of Mental Health Counselors and Marriage & Family Therapists	(401) 222-5960	https://health.ri.gov/licenses/detail.php?id=228	Yes
South Carolina	South Carolina Board of Examiners for Licensure of Professional Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists, Addiction Counselors, and Psycho-Educational Specialists	(803) 896-4658	https://llr.sc.gov/cou/	Yes
South Dakota	South Dakota Board of Examiners for Counselors & Marriage and Family Therapists	(605) 224-1721	https://dss.sd.gov/licensingboards/counselors/counselors.aspx	Yes

U.S. State or Territory	Regulatory Body	Contact	Website URL	Meets educational requirements
Tennessee	Tennessee Board of Licensed Professional Counselors, Licensed Marital and Family Therapists and Licensed Clinical Pastoral Therapists	(615) 532-4384	https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/health-professional-boards/pcmft-board.html	Yes
Texas	Texas Board of Examiners of Professional Councilors	(512) 834-6658	https://www.bhec.texas.gov/texas-state-board-of-examiners-of-professional-counselors/index.html	Yes
Utah	Utah Clinical Mental Health Counselor Licensing Board	(801) 530-6628	https://dopl.utah.gov/clinical-mental-health-counseling/	Yes
Vermont	Vermont Board of Allied Mental Health	(802) 828-1505	https://sos.vermont.gov/allied-mental-health/	Yes
Virginia	Virginia Board of Counseling	(804) 367-4610	https://www.dhp.virginia.gov/counseling/	Yes
Washington	Washington Certified Counselors and Hypnotherapists Advisory Committee	(360) 236-4700	https://doh.wa.gov/licenses-permits-and-certificates/professions-new-renew-or-update/mental-health-counselor	Yes
West Virginia	West Virginia Board Examiners in Counseling	(800) 520-3852	https://wvbec.org	Yes
Wisconsin	Wisconsin Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling, and Social Work Examining Board	(608) 266-2112	https://dps.wi.gov/Pages/Professions/LPC/Default.aspx	Yes
Wyoming	Wyoming Mental Health Professions Licensing Board	(307) 777-3628	https://mentalhealth.wyo.gov/home	Yes
American Samoa	American Samoa Department of Human and Social Services	(684) 633-7506	http://dhss.as/	No - unable to determine
Federated States of Micronesia	State of Pohnpei Behavioral Health and Wellness Advisory (BHW) Council	(691) 320-2619	https://hsa.gov.fm/behavioral-health/	No - unable to determine
Guam	Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners	(671) 735-7407	https://guamhplo.org/gbahe	Yes
Marshall Islands	Unknown			No - unable to determine
Northern Mariana Islands	CNMI Healthcare Professions Licensing Board	(670) 664-4808	https://www.cnmilicensing.gov.mp/health-care-professions-licensing-board/	No - unable to determine

U.S. State or Territory	Regulatory Body	Contact	Website URL	Meets educational requirements
Palau	Palau Bureau of Health Administration & Support Services	(680) 488-2552	https://www.palau.gov.pw/executive-branch/ministries/health/bureau-of-health-administration-support-services-bhass/	No - unable to determine
Puerto Rico	Puerto Rico Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors	(787) 765-2929	http://www.salud.gov.pr/Pages/Home.aspx	No - unable to determine
US Virgin Islands	USVI Board of Licensed Counselors and Examiners	St Croix: (340) 713-3522 St Thomas: (340) 714-3522	https://dlca.vi.gov/boardcertifications/steps/counselorrequirements/	Yes

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