

# Supervised Work Experience and Clinical Supervision Requirements

## R4-6-705 Supervised Work Experience for Substance Abuse Counselor Licensure

- A. An applicant for associate substance abuse counselor licensure who has a bachelor's degree and is required under R4-6-702(A) to participate in a supervised work experience shall complete at least ~~3200~~ hours of supervised work experience in substance abuse counseling in no less than 24 months. The applicant shall ensure that the supervised work experience relates to substance use disorder and addiction and meets the following standards:
1. At least 1600 hours of direct client contact involving the use of psychotherapy related to substance use disorder and addiction issues,
  2. No more than 400 of the 1600 hours of direct client contact are in psychoeducation,
  3. ~~For the purpose of licensure, no more than 1600 hours of indirect client contact related to psychotherapy services.~~
  4. At least 100 hours of clinical supervision as prescribed under R4-6-212 and R4-6-706, and
  5. At least one hour of clinical supervision in any month in which the applicant provides direct client contact.
- B. An applicant for independent substance abuse counselor licensure shall demonstrate completion of at least ~~3200~~ hours of supervised work experience in substance abuse counseling in no less than 24 months. The applicant shall ensure that the supervised work experience meets the standards specified in subsection (A).
- C. An applicant for substance abuse technician qualifying under R4-6-701(C) shall complete at least 6400 hours of supervised work experience in no less than 48 months. The applicant shall ensure that the supervised work experience includes:
1. At least 3200 hours of direct client contact;
  2. Using psychotherapy to assess, diagnose, and treat individuals, couples, families, and groups for issues relating to substance use disorder and addiction; and
  3. At least 200 hours of clinical supervision as prescribed under R4-6-212 and R4-6-706.
- D. An applicant may submit more than the required number of hours of supervised work experience for consideration by the Board.
- E. During the period of required supervised work experience, an applicant for substance abuse licensure shall practice behavioral health under the limitations specified in R4-6-210.
- F. There is no supervised work experience requirement for an applicant for licensure as:
1. A substance abuse technician qualifying under R4-6-701(A), or
  2. An associate substance abuse counselor qualifying under R4-6-702(A) with a master's or higher degree.

### PLEASE NOTE:

**Senate Bill 1089:** *Effective September 29, 2021*

**Indirect Hours for Supervised Work Experience:** On March 18, 2021, Governor Ducey signed [Senate Bill 1089](#) which amended A.R.S. §§ 32-3293 (social work), 32-3301 (counseling), 32-3311 (marriage and family therapy), and 32-3321 (substance abuse counseling). As a result, indirect client hours no longer need to be tracked; however, 1600 direct client hours are still required in addition to at least 100 hours of clinical supervision in no less than 24 months. The supervisor must also attest that the supervisee was observed during supervised hours to have demonstrated satisfactory competency in clinical documentation, consultation, collaboration and coordination of care related to clients to whom the supervisee provided direct care. All verification forms are updated and posted to the website.

**R4-6-706. Clinical Supervision for Substance Abuse Counselor Licensure**

- A. During the supervised work experience required under R4-6-705, an applicant for substance abuse counselor licensure shall demonstrate that the applicant received, for the level of licensure sought, at least the number of hours of clinical supervision specified in R4-6-705 that meets the requirements in subsection (B) and R4-6-212.
- B. The Board shall accept hours of clinical supervision for substance abuse licensure if the focus of the supervised hours relates to substance use disorder and addiction and:
  - 1. At least 50 hours are supervised by:
    - a. An independent substance abuse counselor licensed by the Board; or
    - b. An independently licensed behavioral health professional who:
  - 2. The remaining hours are supervised by an individual qualified under R4-6-212(A), or
  - 3. The hours are supervised by an individual for whom an exemption was obtained under R4-6-212.01.