

SENATE FILE NO. SF0126

Addictions professionals-licensing.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Bouchard and Representative(s)  
Sweeney

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to addictions professionals; specifying  
2 clinical supervisor standards; revising educational and  
3 examination requirements for certified addictions  
4 practitioners; providing that a licensed addictions therapist  
5 or a certified addictions practitioner may obtain licensure  
6 if licensed in another state with a substantially similar  
7 scope of practice; and providing for an effective date.

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9 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

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11 **Section 1.** W.S. 33-38-106(c)(intro), (iii), (v) and by  
12 creating new subsections (q) and (r) is amended to read:

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14 **33-38-106. Requirements for licensure and**  
15 **certification.**

1

2 (c) Certification under this subsection shall allow  
3 practice as a certified addictions practitioner only under  
4 the supervision of a qualified clinical supervisor who has  
5 obtained a clinical supervisor certification issued by the  
6 national association for alcohol and drug abuse counselors or  
7 the international certification and reciprocity consortium,  
8 and subject to ~~any~~ other necessary restrictions which may be  
9 specified by the board pursuant to rule which are required to  
10 protect the public and are consistent with this section. The  
11 board shall grant certification as a certified addictions  
12 practitioner to any applicant who files an application upon  
13 a form and in the manner prescribed by the board, accompanied  
14 by the appropriate fee and who furnishes satisfactory  
15 evidence to the board of the following:

16

17 (iii) The applicant has received a baccalaureate  
18 degree in a human resource discipline from a regionally  
19 accredited institution of higher education, which is  
20 ~~professional in content and which meets the academic and~~  
21 ~~training content standards established by the board, or in a~~  
22 field that substantially relates to addictions therapy,  
23 including psychology, sociology or criminal justice, a

1 baccalaureate level equivalency in addiction therapy or an  
2 associate degree with specified coursework in addictions  
3 therapy, as determined by the board. The board shall not  
4 require a practicum for baccalaureate degree holders, but  
5 shall require a practicum for associate degree holders.  
6 Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, the board  
7 shall ~~use~~recognize the professional training and experience  
8 standards of the ~~appropriate professional associations~~  
9 national association for alcohol and drug abuse counselors  
10 and the international certification and reciprocity  
11 consortium, as established by the rules and regulations for  
12 the purposes of this section, in a manner that will promote  
13 access to certified addictions practitioners for the public.  
14 An applicant with an associate degree shall complete not less  
15 than four thousand (4,000) hours of supervised clinical  
16 experience before becoming eligible to apply for  
17 certification under this subsection;

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19 (v) The applicant has demonstrated knowledge in  
20 the field of addictions treatment in general by passing a  
21 standard examination which may be written or situational, ~~as~~  
22 ~~the board prescribes. The board may develop, adopt and~~  
23 ~~administer appropriate examinations and is comprised of~~

1 either the examination offered by the national association  
2 for alcohol and drug abuse counselors or the international  
3 certification and reciprocity consortium. The board shall  
4 accept the results of either examination. The board shall  
5 establish specific provisions for examination of applicants  
6 for certification in the specific discipline at reasonable  
7 times and places at least twice each year;

8  
9 (q) In addition to other provisions establishing  
10 licensing without examination under this section, the board  
11 shall grant certification without examination as a licensed  
12 addictions therapist or certified addictions practitioner if:

13  
14 (i) The person, at the time of application,  
15 maintains a license in good standing to practice in another  
16 state and has been licensed in that state for not less than  
17 two (2) years as a licensed addictions therapist or certified  
18 addictions practitioner, or any other role, however  
19 designated, with a scope of practice substantially similar to  
20 a licensed addictions therapist or certified addictions  
21 practitioner. As used in this paragraph, "substantially  
22 similar" means having a preponderance of characteristics in  
23 common and does not mean that the scope of practice of the

1 person in the licensed state is required to be identical to  
2 the scope of practice for licensed addictions therapists or  
3 certified addictions practitioners in Wyoming;

4  
5 (ii) The applicant has no felony convictions and  
6 no misdemeanor convictions that relate adversely to the  
7 practice of addictions therapy, provided that exemptions to  
8 this requirement may be granted by the board if consistent  
9 with the public interest; and

10  
11 (iii) Upon payment of a fee established by the  
12 board.

13  
14 (r) The provisions of subsection (q) of this section  
15 shall be an additional means of licensure for licensed  
16 addictions therapists and certified addictions practitioners.  
17 The board shall not impose other requirements for licensure  
18 under subsection (q) of this section.

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20 **Section 2.** The mental health professions licensing  
21 board shall adopt rules to implement this act on or before  
22 October 1, 2019.

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1           **Section 3.** The mental health professions licensing  
2 board shall issue a report to the joint labor, health and  
3 social services interim committee on all actions taken  
4 pursuant to this act, which shall include the adoption of  
5 rules, on or before October 1, 2019.

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7           **Section 4.** This act is effective immediately upon  
8 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as  
9 provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

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(END)