Substance Use Disorder Professionals
Licensure Paths

Licensure Requirements

- An Associate’s Degree (or higher) in a human services related field
  - At least 45 quarter hours must be in courses related to the chemical dependency field including specific course topics in WAC 246-811-030
  - SUDP Trainees must declare that they are enrolled in an approved school and gaining experience to receive the SUDP credential
- Supervised Experience based on level of formal education
  - Associate’s degree requires 2,500 hours of SUD counseling
  - Baccalaureate degree requires 2,000 hours of SUD counseling
  - Master or Doctoral degree requires 1,500 hours of SUD counseling
- Examination
  - National Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselor (NAADAC) National Certification Examination for Addiction Counselors; or
  - International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium (ICRC) Certified Addiction Counselor Level II or higher examination

Alternative Training Requirements

- Available only to individuals with a license in good standing for the following:
  - Psychologists
  - Marriage and Family Therapists, Mental Health Counselors, Advanced Social Workers or Independent Clinical Social Workers
  - Osteopathic Physician or Osteopathic Physician Assistant
  - Physician or Physician Assistant
- Education Requirement
  - 15 quarter or 10 semester college credits specific to alcohol and drug-addicted individuals is required
- Supervised Experience Requirement
  - 1,000 hours of SUD counseling
- Examination Requirement
  - National Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselor (NAADAC) National Certification Examination for Addiction Counselors; or
  - International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium (ICRC) Certified Addiction Counselor Level II or higher examination
Psychologist Licensure Paths

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Licensure Requirements  WAC 246-924-043</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- APA-accredited or equivalent doctoral degree</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Minimum 3 years in doctoral degree program</td>
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<td>- Minimum credit hour requirements in specific academic domains</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Dissertation</td>
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<tr>
<td>- 300 hour pre-doctoral practicum</td>
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<td>- 1500 hour pre-doctoral internship</td>
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<td>- One year residency or 750 hours in-person academic meetings</td>
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<td>- Minimum of 3,300 total supervised hours (including above practicum and internship)</td>
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Licensure by Examination

- First time applicants or individuals licensed less than two years in another state  
  - Newly licensed applicants can transfer their EPPP score  
- Complete educational section if degree from non-APA program  
- Completed supervised experience section  
- Expedited processing if graduated from APA-accredited doctoral degree, APA/APPIC-approved internship, and all other criteria are met  
- All other applications (non-APA graduates, non-APA/APPIC internships, irregularities with total supervised hours, “yes” to Personal Data Questions, etc.) go to a professional board member for review

Licensure by Endorsement  WAC 246-924-100

- Licensed in another state or country for at least two years; OR  
- Diplomate in good standing of the American Board of Examiners in Professional Psychology, now the American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP).  
- Expedited processing if licensed two years or more in a substantially equivalent state.

Temporary Practice Permit  WAC 246-924-480

- Approved if currently licensed (no minimum length) in a substantially equivalent state  
- Applicants from non-substantially equivalent states must provide documentation of graduating from an APA-accredited program and completing an APA/APPIC approved internship  
- Holders may practice up to 90 days (not consecutive) within one year from date of issuance
Licensed Counselor Requirements

Marriage and Family Therapists

- Education
  - Master’s program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE); OR
  - Master’s or doctoral degree in marriage and family therapy from an approved school; OR
  - Master’s or doctoral degree in a behavioral science program with equivalent course work from an approved school; OR
  - Persons who have obtained American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT) clinical membership status; OR
  - Meet program equivalency requirement
    - Course work equivalent to master’s or doctoral degree
    - A total of 45 semester credits or 60 quarter credits in the nine areas of study as outlined in [WAC 246-809-121](#)

- Experience
  - Minimum of 2 years of full-time marriage and family therapy; AND
  - Minimum of 3,000 hours of which must include at least:
    - Direct client contact - 1,000 hours
    - Direct supervision - 200 hours

Mental Health Counselor

- Education
  - Master’s or doctoral program accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP); OR
  - Master’s or doctoral degree in mental health counseling from an approved school; OR
  - Master’s or doctoral degree in a behavioral science field relating to mental health counseling from an approved school which include a core of study as outlined in [WAC 246-809-221](#)

- Experience
  - Minimum of 3 years full-time counseling; OR
  - Minimum of 3,000 hours of which must include at least:
    - Direct client contact - 1,000 hours
    - Direct supervision - 100 hours
## Licensed Counselor Requirements

### Advanced Social Worker

- **Education**
  - Master’s or Doctoral degree in a social work educational program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE); OR
  - Persons who have obtained the Board Certified Diplomate in Clinical Social Work from the American Board of Examiners in Clinical Social Work (ABECSW); OR
  - Persons who have obtained the Diplomate in Clinical Social Work (DCSW) or Qualified Clinical Social Work (QCSW) from the National Association of Social Workers (NASW)

- **Experience**
  - Minimum of 3,200 hours of which must include at least:
    - Direct client contact - 800 hours
    - Direct supervision - 90 hours

### Independent Clinical Social Worker

- **Education**
  - Master’s or Doctoral degree in a social work educational program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE); OR
  - Board Certified Diplomate in Clinical Social Work from the American Board of Examiners in Clinical Social Work (ABECSW); OR
  - Diplomate in Clinical Social Work (DCSW) or Qualified Clinical Social Work (QCSW) from the National Association of Social Workers (NASW)

- **Experience**
  - Minimum of 3 years; AND
  - Minimum of 4,000 hours of which must include at least:
    - Direct client contact - 1,000 hours
    - Direct supervision - 130 hours