

JAN 21 2026

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO LICENSURE.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

SECTION 1. Section 451J-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

**"§451J-7 Application for licensure.** Any person who files an application with the department after December 31, 1998, shall be issued a license by the department if the applicant provides satisfactory evidence to the department that the applicant is qualified for licensure pursuant to the requirements of this chapter and meets the following qualifications:

- (1) Has completed a master's degree or doctoral degree from an accredited educational institution in marriage and family therapy or in an allied field related to the practice of mental health counseling ~~[which]~~ that includes or is supplemented by graduate level course work comprising a minimum of ~~[thirty-three]~~ thirty-six semester, or ~~[forty-four]~~ forty-eight quarter hours in the following course areas:



- 1 (A) Marriage and family studies--nine semester or  
2 twelve quarter hours;
- 3 (B) Marriage and family therapy studies--nine  
4 semester or twelve quarter hours;
- 5 (C) Human development--nine semester or twelve  
6 quarter hours;
- 7 (D) Ethical and professional studies--three semester  
8 or four quarter hours; [~~and~~]
- 9 (E) Research--three semester or four quarter hours;  
10 and
- 11 (F) Courses related to domestic violence--three  
12 semester or four quarter hours;
- 13 (2) Has one year practicum with three hundred hours  
14 supervised client contact;
- 15 (3) Completes one thousand hours of direct marriage and  
16 family therapy, and two hundred hours clinical  
17 supervision in not less than twenty-four months; and
- 18 (4) Has passed the National Marriage and Family Therapy  
19 Exam in accordance with section 451J-8.



1       An individual who is a clinical member of the association  
2 shall be deemed to have met the educational and clinical  
3 experience requirements of this section."

4       SECTION 2. Section 451J-10, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
5 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

6       "(b) Beginning with the renewal for the licensing  
7 triennium commencing on January 1, 2017, through December 31,  
8 2019, and prior to every triennial renewal thereafter, each  
9 licensee shall:

10       (1) Pay all required fees; and

11       (2) Complete a minimum of forty-five credit hours of  
12 continuing education courses within the three-year  
13 period preceding the renewal date; provided that a  
14 minimum of six credit hours shall be in ethics  
15 courses[-]; provided further that a minimum of two  
16 credit hours shall be in courses related to domestic  
17 violence."

18       SECTION 3. Section 453D-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
19 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

20       "(a) An applicant shall be issued a license by the  
21 department if the applicant provides satisfactory evidence to



1 the department that the applicant is qualified for licensure  
2 pursuant to the requirements of this chapter and meets the  
3 following qualifications:

4 (1) Receipt of a master's degree or doctoral degree from  
5 an accredited educational institution in counseling or  
6 in an allied field related to the practice of mental  
7 health counseling that includes, or is supplemented  
8 by, graduate level course work in counseling  
9 comprising a minimum of forty-eight semester hours or  
10 seventy-two quarter hours in the following course  
11 areas, with a minimum of three semester hours or five  
12 quarter hours in each course area as indicated below:

13 (A) Human growth and development, including but not  
14 limited to the study of life span development,  
15 strategies to facilitate that development and  
16 transitions, theories of learning and personality  
17 development, and human behavior to include  
18 crisis, disabilities, addictive behavior, and  
19 environmental factors;

20 (B) Social and cultural foundations, including but  
21 not limited to the study of issues and trends in



1 a multicultural and diverse society, including  
2 characteristics of diverse groups that may  
3 include but are not limited to age, race,  
4 religious or sexual preference, physical  
5 disability, ethnicity and culture, gender,  
6 socioeconomics, intellectual ability, and  
7 individual, family, and group strategies with  
8 diverse populations;

9 (C) Counseling theories and applications, including  
10 but not limited to counseling and consultation,  
11 including both individual and systems  
12 perspectives, interviewing, assessment, and  
13 counseling skills, as well as applying  
14 principles, methods, and theories of counseling,  
15 treatment and counseling of mental and emotional  
16 disorders, and educational techniques aimed at  
17 preventing these disorders with individuals and  
18 families;

19 (D) Group theory and practice, including but not  
20 limited to principles of group dynamics, group  
21 process, group leadership styles, theories and



1 methods of group counseling, and the application  
2 of theory to the group processes;

3 (E) Career and lifestyle development, including but  
4 not limited to the study of vocational  
5 development theories and decision-making models,  
6 assessment instruments, and techniques, types,  
7 sources, and uses of occupational and educational  
8 information systems, career development  
9 applications, and career counseling processes,  
10 techniques, and resources;

11 (F) Appraisal of human behavior, including but not  
12 limited to assessment and diagnosis of disorders  
13 with an emphasis on DSM categories and an  
14 understanding of these disorders relative to the  
15 counseling context;

16 (G) Tests and measurements, including but not limited  
17 to theoretical and historical bases for  
18 assessment techniques, and assessment methods,  
19 including analysis of various types of tests to  
20 select, administer, interpret, and use assessment



1 and evaluation instruments and techniques in  
2 counseling;

3 (H) Research and program evaluation, including but  
4 not limited to research design and methods,  
5 statistical analysis, principles, practices, and  
6 application of needs assessment, and program  
7 evaluation;

8 (I) Professional orientation and ethics, including  
9 but not limited to the history of the helping  
10 profession, professional roles and functions,  
11 ethical standards, confidentiality, professional  
12 organizations, and the public policy process,  
13 including advocacy on behalf of the profession  
14 and its clientele; ~~and~~

15 (J) At least two academic terms of supervised mental  
16 health practicum intern experience for graduate  
17 credit of at least six semester hours or ten  
18 quarter hours in a mental health counseling  
19 setting, with a total of three hundred hours of  
20 supervised client contact. The practicum  
21 experience shall be completed under the clinical



1 supervision of a person who is licensed as a  
2 mental health counselor, psychologist, clinical  
3 social worker, advanced practice registered nurse  
4 with a specialty in mental health, marriage and  
5 family therapist, or physician with a specialty  
6 in psychiatry; and

7 (K) Courses related to domestic violence;

8 (2) Completion of not less than three thousand hours of  
9 post-graduate experience in the practice of mental  
10 health counseling, with one hundred hours of  
11 face-to-face clinical supervision that shall be  
12 completed in ~~no~~ not less than two years and in ~~no~~  
13 not more than four years, under the clinical  
14 supervision of a person who is a licensed mental  
15 health counselor, psychologist, clinical social  
16 worker, advanced practice registered nurse with a  
17 specialty in mental health, marriage and family  
18 therapist, or physician with a specialty in  
19 psychiatry. In collaboration with the supervisor, the  
20 applicant may elect to fulfill some or all of the  
21 supervision requirements through face-to-face



1 supervision that is conducted electronically through a  
2 videoconference service that complies with all federal  
3 and state privacy, security, and confidentiality laws,  
4 including the Health Insurance Portability and  
5 Accountability Act of 1996; provided that the  
6 applicant shall review the laws and rules of other  
7 jurisdictions to determine the impact, if any, that  
8 electronic supervision may have on licensure by  
9 endorsement or reciprocity in other states [~~prior to~~]  
10 before electing electronic supervision; and

11 (3) Passage of the National Counselor Examination for  
12 Licensure and Certification."

13 SECTION 4. Section 453D-11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 "[+]§453D-11[+] **Renewal of license; fees[-]; continuing**  
16 **education requirement.** (a) Except as otherwise provided in  
17 section 453D-7.5, licenses shall be renewed, upon the payment of  
18 a renewal fee, triennially not earlier than ninety days before  
19 June 30, with the first renewal deadline occurring on June 30,  
20 2008. Failure to renew a license shall result in a forfeiture  
21 of the license. Licenses that have been forfeited may be



1 restored within one year of the expiration date upon payment of  
2 renewal and restoration fees. Failure to restore a forfeited  
3 license within one year of the date of its expiration shall  
4 result in the automatic termination of the license and the  
5 person may be required to reapply for licensure as a new  
6 applicant. All renewal and restoration fees shall be determined  
7 by the department.

8 (b) Before every triennial renewal, each licensee shall  
9 complete a minimum of two credit hours of continuing education  
10 within every licensing triennium in courses related to domestic  
11 violence.

12 (c) A first-time licensee shall not be subject to the  
13 continuing education requirement established under  
14 subsection (b) for the first license renewal.

15 (d) Each licensee shall be responsible for maintaining the  
16 licensee's continuing education records. At the time of  
17 renewal, each licensee shall certify under oath that the  
18 licensee has complied with the continuing education requirement  
19 of this section. The director may require a licensee to submit  
20 evidence satisfactory to the director that demonstrates



1 compliance with the continuing education requirement of this  
2 section.

3 (e) A licensee seeking renewal of a license without full  
4 compliance with the continuing education requirement shall  
5 submit the renewal application, required fee, a notarized  
6 affidavit setting forth the facts explaining the reasons for  
7 noncompliance, and a request for an extension on the basis of  
8 the facts; provided that the licensee shall complete at least  
9 ninety hours of continuing education, including at least twelve  
10 hours in ethics courses, before the next licensing triennium.  
11 The director shall consider each case on an individual basis and  
12 may grant an extension of the continuing education requirement  
13 based upon:

14 (1) Practice in an isolated geographical area with an  
15 absence of opportunities for continuing education by  
16 taped programs or otherwise; or

17 (2) Inability to devote sufficient hours to continuing  
18 education because of incapacity, undue hardship, or  
19 any other serious extenuating circumstances.

20 (f) The director may conduct random audits of licensees to  
21 determine compliance with the continuing education requirement.



1 The director shall provide written notice of an audit to a  
2 licensee randomly selected for audit. Within sixty days of  
3 notification, the licensee shall provide the director with  
4 documentation verifying compliance with the continuing education  
5 requirement established by this section."

6 SECTION 5. Section 465-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
7 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

8 (a) Every applicant for a license as a psychologist shall  
9 submit evidence satisfactory to the board that the applicant  
10 meets the following requirements:

11 (1) The applicant for licensure shall possess a doctoral  
12 degree from:

13 (A) An American Psychological Association approved  
14 program in clinical psychology, counseling  
15 psychology, school psychology, or programs  
16 offering combinations of two or more of these  
17 areas; or

18 (B) A professional psychology training program,  
19 awarded by an institution of higher education, or  
20 from a regionally accredited institution;  
21 provided that the applicant for licensure shall



1           have completed a minimum of three semester hours  
2           of graduate-level courses related to domestic  
3           violence;

4           (2) The applicant for licensure shall demonstrate that the  
5           applicant has completed one year of post doctoral  
6           supervised experience in health service in psychology,  
7           and:

8           (A) An internship approved by the American  
9           Psychological Association; or

10          (B) One year of supervised experience in health  
11          service in psychology, in an internship or  
12          residency program in an organized health service  
13          training program; and

14          (3) The applicant for licensure has passed an examination  
15          as may be prescribed by the board; provided that  
16          applicants issued an associate psychologist  
17          provisional license pursuant to section 465-7.2 shall  
18          be authorized to take the examination upon the  
19          issuance of the license; provided further that the  
20          authorization to take the examination shall terminate



1           on the date the provisional license expires or if  
2           disciplinary action is taken on the license."

3           SECTION 6. Section 465-11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
4 amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

5           "(c) Beginning with the July 1, 2016, through June 30,  
6 2018, biennium period and prior to every biennial renewal  
7 thereafter, each licensee shall:

8           (1) Pay all required fees; and

9           (2) Complete a minimum of eighteen credit hours of

10 continuing education within every licensing

11 biennium[-]; provided that a minimum of two credit

12 hours shall be in courses related to domestic

13 violence."

14           SECTION 7. Section 467E-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
15 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

16           "(a) Every applicant for a license as a social worker  
17 shall submit evidence satisfactory to the director that the  
18 applicant meets the following requirements:

19           (1) For the licensed bachelor social worker, the  
20 applicant:



1 (A) Holds a bachelor's degree from a college or  
2 university in a social work program accredited by  
3 or deemed to be equivalent to a program  
4 accredited by the Council on Social Work  
5 Education; and

6 (B) Has passed the basic level national examination  
7 given by the Association of Social Work Boards;

8 (2) For the licensed social worker, the applicant:

9 (A) Holds a master's degree from a college or  
10 university in a social work program accredited by  
11 or deemed to be equivalent to an accredited  
12 program by the Council on Social Work Education  
13 or a doctoral degree from a doctoral degree  
14 program in social work accredited by the Western  
15 Association of Schools and Colleges or a  
16 comparable regional accreditation body; and

17 (B) Has passed the intermediate or higher level  
18 national examination given by the Association of  
19 Social Work Boards; and

20 (3) For the licensed clinical social worker, the  
21 applicant:



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(A) Has met the educational requirements in paragraph (2) [7] and completed a minimum of three semester hours of graduate-level courses related to domestic violence;

(B) Has passed the clinical level national examination given by the Association of Social Work Boards;

(C) Has provided evidence of successful completion of at least three thousand hours of post masters clinical social work experience under supervision completed within no fewer than two years, but within no more than five years. Clinical social work experience shall include a minimum of two thousand hours of assessment, clinical diagnosis, and psychotherapy; no more than a maximum of nine hundred hours of client-centered advocacy, consultation, and evaluation; and at least one hundred hours of supervision as follows:

(i) At least sixty of the one hundred hours of direct face-to-face supervision shall have been individualized supervision; and



(ii) Not more than forty hours of direct face-to-face supervision may have been under small group (up to six supervisees) supervision.

An applicant who submits evidence of certification as a qualified clinical social worker or diplomate in clinical social work by the National Association of Social Workers or as a board certified diplomate by the American Board of Examiners shall be deemed to have satisfied the experience requirements of this subparagraph;

(D) For the purposes of subparagraph (C), shall have had clinical supervision as follows:

(i) The supervisor shall have been a licensed clinical social worker with at least four thousand five hundred hours of post masters clinical social work experience;

(ii) For the first five years after July 1, 2004, the following individuals shall be deemed to have satisfied the requirements of a supervisor: a person with a master's degree in social work with at least four thousand



1 five hundred hours post masters clinical  
2 social work experience; an individual who  
3 holds a diplomate in clinical social work or  
4 a board certified diplomate certification;  
5 or a board certified psychiatrist,  
6 psychologist, advanced practice registered  
7 nurse who has a minimum of four thousand  
8 five hundred hours of post masters clinical  
9 experience in assessment, clinical  
10 diagnosis, and psychotherapy; and

11 (iii) Supervision shall have included review of  
12 assessment, clinical diagnosis, and  
13 psychotherapy; and

14 (E) In collaboration with the supervisor, may elect  
15 to fulfill some or all of the supervision  
16 requirements set forth in subparagraph (C)  
17 through face-to-face supervision that is  
18 conducted electronically through a video  
19 conference service that is compliant with all  
20 federal and state privacy, security, and  
21 confidentiality laws, including the Health



1 Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of  
2 1996. [~~Prior to~~] Before making the election, it  
3 [~~is~~] shall be incumbent upon the applicant to  
4 review the laws and rules of other jurisdictions  
5 to determine the impact, if any, that electronic  
6 supervision may have on license by endorsement in  
7 other states."

8 SECTION 8. Section 467E-11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
9 amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

10 "(c) Beginning with the renewal for the licensing  
11 triennium commencing on July 1, 2016, through June 30, 2019, and  
12 prior to every triennial renewal thereafter, each licensee  
13 shall:

14 (1) Pay all required fees; and

15 (2) Complete a minimum of forty-five credit hours of  
16 continuing education courses within the three-year  
17 period preceding the renewal date; provided that a  
18 minimum of three credit hours shall be in ethic  
19 courses[~~-~~] and a minimum of two credit hours shall be  
20 in courses related to domestic violence."



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1       SECTION 9. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

3       SECTION 10. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

4

INTRODUCED BY:

*Mike Hubbard*



# S.B. NO. 2111

**Report Title:**

Licensure Requirements; Renewals; Continuing Education Requirements; Domestic Violence; Marriage and Family Therapists; Mental Health Counselors; Psychologists; Clinical Social Workers

**Description:**

Requires marriage and family therapists, mental health counselors, psychologists, and clinical social workers to complete courses related to domestic violence for licensure and renewals.

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