



Clinical Mental Health Counseling Masters Programs

Depending on your professional goals, where you reside or plan to practice, and the licensure requirements that exist within that state, several pathways to licensure may be available to graduates of Lesley's Masters of Clinical Mental Health programs. Applicants and students are encouraged to discuss program offerings with our admissions officers and advisors to ensure they pursue the degree that most closely aligns with their professional goals. **If you have any questions after reviewing the information below, please contact us at cert_off@lesley.edu.**

I. State Professional Mental Health Counseling Licensure

Massachusetts Licensed Mental Health Counselor

Our 60-credit Masters of **Clinical Mental Health Counseling programs, including specializations in Holistic Studies, School and Community Counseling, and Trauma Studies**, meet the current educational requirements for Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) licensure in Massachusetts.

- The 60-credit Masters of Clinical Mental Health Counseling: School and Community Counseling specialization also meets the licensure requirements for Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Initial Licensure (see II(a) below).
- The 48-credit School Counseling program meets the licensure requirements for DESE initial licensure (see below IIb), but not the licensure requirements for Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) licensure.

Out-of-State Professional Mental Health Counseling Licenses

Professional mental health counseling licensure requirements vary from state to state, are a matter of individual state legislation, and are outside of the control of educational institutions. State licensing boards make determinations as to whether an applicant's program of study meets the educational requirements for a license at the time of licensure application.

State-by-State Listing: Professional Mental Health Counseling Licensure

- A. Lesley's Clinical Mental Health Counseling programs' curricula **meet** the current educational requirements to apply for licensure in clinical mental health counseling in the following state(s): Massachusetts.
- B. Lesley University **has not made a determination** whether our Clinical Mental Health Counseling programs' curricula meet the current educational requirements to apply for licensure in the following states: Alabama, Alaska, Colorado, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Washington, Wisconsin, and Wyoming, and in Puerto Rico.
- C. Lesley's Clinical Mental Health Counseling programs' curricula **do not meet** the current educational requirements to apply for licensure in clinical mental health counseling in the following states, but graduates may be eligible to apply with supplemental course work or additional field training experiences: Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, the District of Columbia, and West Virginia.
- D. Lesley's Clinical Mental Health Counseling programs' curricula **do not meet** AND Graduates of our Clinical Mental Health Counseling programs are **ineligible for professional mental health counseling licensure** in the following states: Florida, North Carolina, Kentucky.

Individuals who intend to pursue professional mental health counseling licensure in one of the states listed in B or C above are strongly encouraged to request guidance from state licensing boards as to whether supplemental coursework or other actions would be necessary to make them eligible to apply for professional mental health counseling licensure in that state. To research the requirements for professional mental health counseling licensure for the state in which you reside or plan to practice, visit the American Counseling Association (ACA) website at <https://www.counseling.org/knowledge-center/licensure-requirements> or the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA) at <https://www.nc-sara.org/professional-licensure-directory> for contact information and website links. We advise you to become familiar with and understand the state requirements for professional mental health counseling licensure for the state in which you reside or plan to practice.

II. Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Initial Licensure:

a. School Adjustment Counselor (all grade levels: preK-12) Initial License

Graduates with a focus on School Adjustment Counseling in our 60-credit Masters of Clinical Mental Health Counseling: School and Community Counseling program meet the current educational requirements of this type of Massachusetts initial license upon degree completion.

b. School Counselor (grade levels: preK-8 or 5-12) Initial License

Graduates with a focus on School Counseling in either our 48-credit Masters of Counseling Psychology: School Counseling program or our 60-credit Masters of Clinical Mental Health Counseling: School and Community Counseling program meet the current educational requirements of this type of Massachusetts initial license upon degree completion. Note: The 48-credit School Counseling program does not meet the licensure requirements for the Licensed Mental Health Counselor license in Massachusetts.

State-by-State Listing: School Adjustment Counselor and School Counselor Licensure

- A.** Lesley's School and Community Counseling and School Counseling programs' curricula **meet** the current educational requirements to apply for the School Adjustment Counselor and School Counselor initial licenses (respectively) in the following state(s): Massachusetts.
- B.** Lesley University has **not made a determination** whether our School and Community Counseling and School Counseling programs' curricula meet the current educational requirements to apply for School Adjustment Counselor or School Counselor licenses, or similarly-named licenses, in the following states: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

Individuals who intend to pursue School Adjustment Counselor or School Counseling licensure in one of the states listed in B above are strongly encouraged to request guidance from state licensing boards as to whether supplemental coursework or other actions would be necessary to make them eligible to apply for School Adjustment Counseling or School Counseling licensure in that state. To research the requirements for School Adjustment Counselor or School Counseling licensure for the state in which you are located or plan to practice, visit the American School Counselor Association website at: <https://www.schoolcounselor.org/school-counselors-members/careers-roles/state-certification-requirements>

Periodic Review of Licensure Regulations and Moving to a New State

It is important for all applicants and students to understand the specific requirements of the state in which you intend to apply for licensure and to periodically review the requirements in order to be aware of any future changes to those requirements. If you move to a new state, you should be aware that the requirements for licensure may differ from the state in which you previously resided, and you are advised to become familiar with and understand the requirements of the new state. Students are expected to keep the University informed of any changes of location via the [Address Change Form](#) available on the Registrar's Office webpage.

Accreditation

Lesley University's Masters of Clinical Mental Health Counseling programs and Masters of Counseling Psychology programs are encompassed by Lesley University's accreditation by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE).

Lesley University has attempted to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the information provided at the time this notice was created. Please be aware that state licensure is a matter of individual state legislation and is outside of the control of educational institutions and, therefore, the information presented in this notice is subject to change.