



Mental Health & Well-Being  
Counseling & Psychology Department

***Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling***  
***with specializations in Holistic Studies, School and Community Counseling,***  
***and Trauma Studies (60-credits)***

***Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology***  
***with a specialization in School Counseling (48-credits)***

Depending on your professional goals, where you intend to seek licensure 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 in Clinical Mental Health Counseling programs. Applicants and students are encouraged to discuss program offerings with our admissions counselors and advisors to ensure that 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](mailto:cert_off@lesley.edu).**

## **I. State Professional Mental Health Counseling Licensure**

### **Massachusetts Licensed Mental Health Counselor**

Our 60-credit Masters in Clinical Mental Health Counseling degree, 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 in 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).

Please note, the 48-credit Masters in Counseling Psychology: School Counseling specialization **meets** the licensure requirements for Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) initial licensure (see below II(b) below) but **does not meet** 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.

To research the requirements for professional mental health counseling licensure for the state in which you intend to seek licensure or plan to practice, visit the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) website at <https://www.nbcc.org/search/stateboarddirectory> or the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA) website at <https://www.nc-sara.org/resource-directories-and-guides> 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 intend to seek licensure or plan to practice.



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

- A. Lesley's University's 60-credit Clinical Mental Health Counseling programs' curricula **meets** the current educational requirements to apply for licensure in professional mental health counseling in the following state: Massachusetts
- B. Per an internal review process by Lesley University, our 60-credit Clinical Mental Health Counseling programs' curricula also **meets** the current educational requirements to apply for licensure in professional mental health counseling in the following states: Alabama, Alaska, Colorado, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, 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.
  - a ***As noted above, 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, and Lesley University has no influence on individual licensure determinations.***
- C. Lesley's University's 60-credit Clinical Mental Health Counseling programs' curricula **do not meet** the current educational requirements to apply for licensure in professional mental health counseling in the following states, but graduates may be eligible to apply with supplemental course work or additional field training experiences: Arizona, California, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Hampshire, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, the District of Columbia, and West Virginia.
  - a ***Individuals who intend to pursue professional mental health counseling licensure in one of the states listed in category C are strongly encouraged to request guidance from state licensing boards as to whether supplemental coursework, field training, or other actions would be necessary to make them eligible to apply for professional mental health counseling licensure in that state.***
- D. Lesley's University's 60-credit Clinical Mental Health Counseling programs' curricula **do not meet** the current educational requirements to apply for licensure in professional mental health counseling in the following states and graduates of our Clinical Mental Health Counseling programs are **ineligible for professional mental health counseling licensure** in the following states: Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, and North Carolina.

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

**Massachusetts School Adjustment Counselor and School Counselor Licenses**

**School Adjustment Counselor (All Levels) Initial License**

Lesley University's 60-credit Masters in Clinical Mental Health Counseling: School and Community Counseling specialization **meets** the current educational requirements to apply for licensure in School Adjustment Counseling in Massachusetts upon degree completion.



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**School Counselor (All Levels) Initial License**

Lesley University's 48-credit Masters in Counseling Psychology: School Counseling specialization and 60-credit Masters in Clinical Mental Health Counseling: School and Community Counseling specialization **meet** the current educational requirements to apply for licensure in School Counseling in Massachusetts upon degree completion.

- **Note:** *The 48-credit School Counseling specialization does not meet the licensure requirements for the Licensed Mental Health Counselor license in Massachusetts.*

**Out-of-State School Adjustment Counselor and School Counselor Licenses**

Professional school 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.

To research the requirements for School Adjustment Counselor or School Counseling licensure for the state in which you intend to seek licensure or plan to practice, visit the American School Counselor Association website at <https://www.schoolcounselor.org/school-counselors-members/careers-roles/state-certificationrequirements> for contact information and website links. We advise you to become familiar with and understand the state requirements for School Adjustment Counselor or School Counseling licensure for the state in which you intend to seek licensure or plan to practice.

**State-by-State Listing: School Adjustment Counselor, All Levels, and School Counselor, All Levels:**

- 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 comparable 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.
  - a. Individuals who intend to pursue school counseling licensure in one of the states listed in category B are strongly encouraged to request guidance from state licensing boards as to whether supplemental coursework, field training, or other actions would be necessary to make them eligible to apply for school adjustment counseling licensure in that state.



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**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 they intend to apply for licensure or seek employment, and to periodically review the requirements in order to be aware of any future changes to those requirements. If a student's plans for where they intend to seek employment change, they must become aware of the requirements for licensure for the new state.

Throughout the Program, students are required to keep the University informed of any changes in their location (state) via the [Address Change Form](#) available on the Registrar's Office webpage.

**Accreditation**

Lesley University's Masters in Clinical Mental Health Counseling programs and Masters in Counseling Psychology programs are encompassed by Lesley University's accreditation by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE). Programs are not accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling & Related Educational Programs (CACREP), and we cannot guarantee CACREP equivalency or a finding by a state licensing agency of CACREP equivalency.

*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.*