

1724 Recommendations – First Round - DRAFT

Type of change	Affected professions	Draft recommendation
Legislative	Master's level counselors	Create a pathway for students completing their practicum to continue providing services to established patients.
	Master's level counselors	Adopt the social work compact as an alternate pathway to legal practice in Washington.
	Master's level counselors	Remove restrictive language that requires a portion of supervision to be under a marriage and family therapist that has 5 years' experience, allowing any qualified marriage and family therapist to supervise.
	Master's level counselors	Remove continuing education requirements in statute.
	Master's level counselors and Substance Use Disorder Professionals	Remove limitations on the number of renewals for associate and trainee credentials.
	Substance Use Disorder Professionals	Remove restrictions on Substance Use Disorder Professional trainees limiting them to working only in a behavioral health agency licensed to provide substance use disorder services.
	Agency Affiliated Counselors	Allow agency affiliated counselors to practice at federally qualified health centers.
	Psychology	Establish an associate level credential for psychology.
Rulemaking	All behavioral health professions	Remove continuing education requirements, except those required by statute.* (For master's level counselors, a statute change is needed first.)
	Master's level counselors	After the statute is changed, amend rules for marriage and family therapists to align the definition of "equally qualified licensed mental health practitioner" more closely with other master's level counselor professions.
	Master's level counselors	Allow for professional experience to substitute for clinical practicum requirements. (Except social workers)
	Master's level counselors and Substance Use Disorder Professionals	Lower years of licensure requirement for licensure by endorsement from 5 years to 1 year.
	Substance Use Disorder Professionals	Remove requirements that supervisors must be on-site, allowing for remote supervision.
	Substance Use Disorder Professionals	Modify coursework review requirement so that a review is only required if the applicant did not complete a substance use disorder counseling program with a degree.
	Substance Use Disorder Professionals	Eliminate the 7-year cap on supervised experience earned.
	Substance Use Disorder Professionals	Reduce the years of practice requirement to become an approved supervisor to 1 year.
	Psychology	Reduce the number of residency hours required.
	Psychology	Allow "online-only" schools that meet qualifications established by the board to qualify for licensure.
	Psychology	Increase the number of courses that can be completed outside the doctoral program.
	Psychology	Modify licensure by reciprocity and endorsement to establish different standards for different lengths of practice.
	Psychology	Establish an easier pathway to access licensure through non-American Psychology Association accredited educational programs.

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* CE required by state law includes: health equity once every 4 years, and suicide prevention once every six year.

Master’s level counselors includes: social workers and associates, marriage and family therapists and associates, and mental health counselors and associates.

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