

Pastoral Psychotherapist

Pastoral Psychotherapists are clergy persons with graduate training enabling them to provide psychotherapy, marital, and family therapy. Some also offer group therapy and sex therapy.

Legislation

Statutes: NH RSA 330-A:17

Administrative Rules: Chapter Mhp 100 - 500

Licensure Requirements

- Baccalaureate degree from an accredited college and
- A Master of Divinity degree, or an equivalent, from a school of theology accredited by the Association of Theological Schools; and
- A Doctorate in pastoral psychotherapy
- Have been authorized by a denomination or faith group to exercise specific leadership and service on its behalf
- Have completed one unit of full-time clinical pastoral education or its equivalent
- Give evidence of serving at least three years as a clergy person, demonstrating growing maturity in one's identity and role as a professional religious leader
- Complete two years of not less than 1,500 hours per year of supervised experience in pastoral psychotherapy
- Of the 3,000 hours specified above, have performed at least 1,375 hours of clinical pastoral counseling while receiving at least 250 hours of interdisciplinary supervision
- Give evidence of having undergone sufficient theological and psychotherapeutic investigation of one's own intrapsychic and interpersonal processes
- Give evidence of:
 1. An understanding of the counseling or psychotherapeutic process
 2. An ability to develop the counseling or psychotherapeutic relationship
 3. An ability to perform a leadership role in the context of the religious community
 4. An ability to integrate one's professional role and personal identity
- Have attained the level of Fellow in the American Association of Pastoral Counselors or an equivalent organization
- Pass a satisfactory examination in pastoral counseling as set and defined by the Board
- New Hampshire residency is not required, but must be principally employed in New Hampshire
- Must complete a criminal background check

Examination

Written and oral examination required

Regulatory Agency

New Hampshire Board of Mental Health Practice

Office of Professional Licensure and Certification

7 Eagle Square

Concord, New Hampshire 03301

phone (603) 271-2152

web <www.oplc.nh.gov/board-mental-health-practice>

contact Board Administrator

e-mail mentalhealth@oplc.nh.gov

Pastoral Psychotherapist (continued)

Continuing Education

Forty hours of continuing education credits are required every two years, plus 40 hours of collaboration every two years

Reciprocity

While the Board does not offer reciprocity licenses, a license can be obtained through “portability,” or Fast Track Licensing, allowing someone licensed in another state for five or more years to obtain a license in New Hampshire.

Active Licenses

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Related Training

Clinical Pastoral Counseling/ Patient Counseling

Fees

License application review	\$150.00
Approved license application fee	\$135.00
Biennial renewal	\$270.00
Inactive license (one year)	\$67.50
License reinstatement	\$300.00

O*Net Codes

21-1013.00	Marriage and Family Therapists
21-2011.00	Clergy

Additional Information Sources

Association for Clinical Pastoral Education
<www.theactionalliance.org>

Association of Theological Schools
<www.ats.edu>