

**645—31.6(154D) Educational qualifications for mental health counselors.** The applicant must complete three semester credit hours, or equivalent quarter hours, of graduate level coursework in each of the content areas identified in subrule 31.6(2); no course may be used to fulfill more than one content area. The applicant must present proof of completion of the following educational requirements for licensure as a mental health counselor:

**31.6(1) Accredited program.** Applicants must present with the application an official transcript verifying completion of a master's degree of 60 semester hours (or equivalent quarter hours) or a doctoral degree in counseling with emphasis in mental health counseling from a mental health counseling program accredited by the CACREP from a college or university accredited by an agency recognized by the United States Department of Education. Applicants who entered a program of study prior to July 1, 2012, must present with the application an official transcript verifying completion of a master's degree of 45 semester hours or the equivalent; or

**31.6(2) Content-equivalent program.** Applicants must present an official transcript verifying completion of a master's degree or a doctoral degree from a college or university accredited by an agency recognized by the United States Department of Education that is content-equivalent to a master's degree in counseling with emphasis in mental health counseling. Graduates from non-CACREP accredited mental health counseling programs shall provide an equivalency evaluation of their educational credentials by the CCE, website [cce-global.org](http://cce-global.org).

**31.6(3) Foreign-trained marital and family therapists or mental health counselors.** Foreign-trained marital and family therapists or mental health counselors shall:

*a.* Provide an equivalency evaluation of their educational credentials by the following: International Education Research Foundation, Inc., Credentials Evaluation Service, P.O. Box 3665, Culver City, CA 90231-3665; telephone 310.258.9451; website [www.ierf.org](http://www.ierf.org) or email at [info@ierf.org](mailto:info@ierf.org). A candidate shall bear the expense of the curriculum evaluation.

*b.* Receive a final determination from the board regarding the application for licensure.

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