



Licensure of Internationally Licensed Applicants Not Currently Licensed in Canada

Policy # R-09.0	Approved October 2016	Authority Board of Directors	Responsibility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registrar • Registration Committee
Related Policy & Procedures R-09.1	Amendments September 2020 Formerly: 002.7	Supporting Legislation/Regulation/By-Laws <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>FRPA 7(a)(c)(d)</i> • <i>Regulation 6(2)(e)(iii)</i> 	

POLICY

The Registrar is responsible for determining if applicants meet the NSCCT requirements for the licensure of internationally educated applicants not currently licensed in Canada as set out in the Policy, and making a recommendation to accept or deny an Applicant’s application to the Registration Committee for final ratification.

Having met these requirements, Applicants who hold licensure in jurisdictions outside of Canada will be licensed in the category recommended by the Registrar and ratified by the Registration Committee. The Registrar/Registration Committee will present a list of applicants approved under this Policy to the Board as part of their annual report.

Internationally educated Applicants, who are currently licensed in a Canadian licensing jurisdiction other than Nova Scotia, are governed by NSCCT Policy: *Licensure of Applicants Currently Licensed in Canadian Jurisdictions Outside Nova Scotia*.

In order for an internationally educated Applicant to be considered for NSCCT licensure, the Applicant must provide documentary evidence:

1. Of current licensure from a regulatory body in the Applicant’s current jurisdiction. This requirement is typically met by submission of a copy of the license;
2. That the licensing authority, under which the Applicant is currently licensed, operates with official Government sanction, typically by legislation in the form of an Act or Regulations. This requirement is meant to exclude Applicants whose licensure is voluntary or required only by a non-governmental entity. This requirement is typically

- met by the submission of a copy of the relevant legislation under which the governing body is authorized to grant a license;
3. That the Applicant has successfully completed a course of study equivalent to a Canadian Masters Degree, with required core content specific to the practice of counselling therapy. Typically the program will be equivalent to at least one (1) year of full time study following the first post-secondary degree/diploma, plus a practicum of approximately 500 hours. This criterion is typically satisfied by copies of the diploma, transcript and program overview including specific course descriptions;
 4. That the Applicant has successfully completed a period of supervised post-graduate practice of not less than 2000 hours (including at least 800 hours of direct client counselling and a minimum 50 hours of clinical supervision). And that this practice period took place prior to licensure. This requirement can be satisfied by a letter from the Applicant's supervisor along with attestation from the relevant educational institution or governing body indicating that the supervisor was acting in an official capacity;
 5. From the Registrar (or equivalent authority) of the licensing body under which the Applicant is licensed in his/her/their originating jurisdiction attesting that:
 - the Applicant is a member in good standing;
 - the Applicant is not the subject of any unresolved disciplinary matters;
 - there are no previous, current or pending sanctions or licensing restrictions imposed upon or due to be imposed upon the Applicant;
 - the licensing body knows of no unresolved disciplinary matters to which the Applicant is subject within another jurisdiction, nor is the body aware of any previous, current or pending sanctions or licensing restrictions imposed upon or due to be imposed upon the Applicant by any other jurisdiction.
 6. Confirming English language proficiency to the minimum standard as required by Policy: *English Language Requirement for Internationally Educated Applicants*;
 7. Of Criminal Record Check (municipal police or RCMP);*
 8. Of Vulnerable Sector Check (municipal police or RCMP);*
 9. Of such other information as is required by the Registrar or Registration Committee to establish evidence of suitability to practice (e.g., Human Rights Commission findings, etc.).
 10. Of payment of the annual NSCCT membership fee for the relevant category as outlined in the Schedule of Fees);
 11. Of professional liability insurance policy coverage of \$1,000,000 minimum

Note: The NSCCT makes use of the World Education Service (WES) to provide credential assessment and document verification.

Note: Applicants must provide verified English translations of all necessary documents at their own expense.

Note: Applicants are responsible for obtaining the Criminal Record Check and Vulnerable Sector Check at their own expense.

Code of Ethics and Practice Standards

With the understanding that the specific practice standards and ethical expectations of Counselling Therapists may vary widely across international jurisdictions, the College, under its legislative obligation to protect the public interest, is committed to ensuring all internationally educated Applicants are familiar with the *Code of Ethics* and the *Standards of Practice* adopted by the NSCCT. To this end, Applicants who are deemed, after review of the above criteria by the Registrar, to be thus far acceptable for admission to the College, are required to:

1. Thoroughly acquaint themselves with the *Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association Code of Ethics (2020)* and the *Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association Standards of Practice (2015)*;
2. Successfully complete an on-line multiple-choice test covering relevant material taken directly from the above noted documents.

While there is no limit to the number of times an Applicant may attempt the quiz, an NSCCT license to practice Counselling Therapy in Nova Scotia will not be granted until successful completion of the test.

Notice of Decision and Right of Appeal

The Registrar will notify Applicants of any decision regarding admission to the College in writing (with reasons) within 60 days of receiving a fully complete application package.

Applicants have a right to request a review of the Registrar/Registration Committee decision regarding their application. Appeals are made directly to the Chair, Registration Appeal Committee.

Neither the Registrar nor any member of the Registration Committee involved in the initial registration decision will be permitted to sit in consideration of an appeal of that decision.

PURPOSE

To help increase public access to mental health services in Nova Scotia by facilitating the licensure of appropriately trained Counselling Therapists from outside of Canada.

To fulfill NSCCT's role in protecting the public interest by ensuring that internationally educated Counselling Therapists not currently licensed in Canada meet the standards of practice and licensure expected of a Counselling Therapist in Nova Scotia.

To ensure that all new NSCCT licensed internationally educated Counselling Therapists are familiar with the College's high ethical and practice standards.

To ensure that internationally educated Counselling Therapists not currently licensed in Canada are assessed for licensing based on clear, objective and accessible criteria.

To ensure NSCCT compliance with FRPA.