

## Section 1: Introduction and Overview

### I. NATIONAL LANDSCAPE, PRECEDENCE FOR STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES

Throughout the country, policymakers in over half of the states have developed state-level sex offender management policy groups, including sex offender management boards, as a mechanism to advance sound sex offender management efforts. Such entities may be fairly broad and all-encompassing in their scope and mandates (e.g., generally addressing sex offender management issues and concerns), designed with more narrow mandates (e.g., developing formal standards or guidelines), or a combination of these functions, and that the objectives include<sup>1</sup>:

- Modeling and supporting the establishment of multi-agency collaborative partnerships to ensure the integration of the various system components that play key roles in sex offender management;
- Advancing well-informed, research-supported state laws and agency policies to shape practices; and
- Providing practitioners system-wide with specialized knowledge, proper training, and skills to implement those laws and policies effectively, with ongoing quality assurance mechanisms.

National organizations have taken leadership roles by integrating research and promising strategies into standards and guidelines for assessing, treating, and managing sex offenders. In turn, many state-level policy teams, including sex offender management boards in multiple states, have built upon such parameters to create minimum requirements, standards, and guidelines in their respective states that guide and inform sex offender management policy initiatives and case management practices.

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<sup>1</sup> See Center for Sex Offender Management (CSOM, 2010). *Advancing sex offender management efforts through state-level policy groups*. Silver Spring, MD.

- vi. Any other methods of clinical supervision that are anticipated to be employed.
- c. The formal clinical supervision agreement must accompany any initial or renewal application for a Provisional/Supervised Psychosexual Evaluator or application for change of certification category to the level of Associate/Supervised Psychosexual Evaluator.
- d. Any change from the previously approved supervisor will require a new supervision agreement, which must be forwarded to the SOMB for approval.

### **XIII. CONTINUING EDUCATION/ONGOING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS**

- A. To maintain certification as a Senior/Approved Psychosexual Evaluator or an Associate/Supervised Psychosexual Evaluator, a person must obtain a minimum of 40 verifiable hours of continuing education in the form of workshops, conferences, symposia, or on-line training over the course of the 2-year period prior to each renewal period. Continuing education shall be received as part of an organized learning event, ideally involving interaction with a presenter for the purpose of accomplishing specific learning objectives.
  - a. Twenty (20) hours of continuing education shall be consistent with maintaining licensure in their individual discipline of practice;
  - b. Twenty (20) hours of continuing education shall address a combination of specialized areas such as:
    - i. Contemporary research regarding the etiology of sexually abusive behaviors;
    - ii. Research-identified risk factors for the development and continuation of sexually abusive/offending behavior for juveniles;
    - iii. Contemporary research and practice in the areas of assessment, treatment, and management of juvenile sex offenders;
    - iv. Research-supported, sex offender-specific risk assessment tools for juveniles; and
    - v. Physiological assessment of deviant sexual arousal and/or interests.

- vi. Persons who are dually certified to provide services to adult and juvenile clients may have a combination of adult and juvenile-centered specialized continuing education.
  - c. No more than 16 hours of continuing education specific to the treatment of victims of sexual abuse can be used to count toward the minimum number of continuing education hours.
  - ~~d. Any on-line education must be from a recognized accredited educational institution, and no more than 10 hours of continuing education credits obtained from such on-line educational resources shall count toward the biennial 40-hour continuing education requirement.~~
  - e. Teaching relevant coursework at an accredited university or college, or providing training at a conference or workshop training (to be reviewed and approved by the SOMB) can substitute for up to one-half of the continuing education hours for an applicant.
- B. To maintain certification as a Provisional/Supervised Psychosexual Evaluator, a person must receive a minimum of 20 verifiable hours of specialized continuing education in the form of workshops, conferences, symposia, or on-line training annually. This specialized continuing education must meet the standards outlined in this section.
- C. A person not meeting the continuing education requirements set forth in this section when submitting a renewal application for certification may submit a written request for a 60-day extension to submit proof of meeting continuing education requirements. Failure to fully meet the minimum requirements may result in the psychosexual evaluator being placed in a less independent level of certification or denial of the renewal application.

#### **XIV. CONDITIONAL WAIVER**

- A. A conditional waiver request shall only be considered one time during initial application for applicants at the Senior/Approved or Associate/Supervised levels.

- i. A person seeking certification or currently certified as a Provisional/Supervised Sex Offender Treatment Provider shall only provide such treatment under the direct clinical practice supervision of a Senior/Approved Sex Offender Treatment Provider and in accordance with the terms of a formal clinical supervision agreement to be approved in advance by the SOMB.
- ii. The formal clinical supervision agreement shall minimally address the following criteria:
  - i. The name and contact information of the supervisee and supervisor(s);
  - ii. Population to be served (juveniles);
  - iii. Location, setting, nature of practice in which treatment services will be conducted;
  - iv. Effective period of clinical supervision; and
  - v. Any other methods of clinical supervision that are anticipated to be employed.
- iii. The formal clinical supervision agreement must accompany any initial or renewal application for a Provisional/Supervised Sex Offender Treatment Provider or application for change of certification category to the level of Associate/Supervised Sex Offender Treatment Provider.
- iv. Any change from the previously approved supervisor will require a new supervision agreement, which must be forwarded to the SOMB for approval.

**XVII. CONTINUING EDUCATION/ONGOING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS**

- A. To maintain certification as a Senior/Approved Sex Offender Treatment Provider, or an Associate/Supervised Sex Offender Treatment Provider, a person must receive a minimum of 40 verifiable hours of continuing education in the form of workshops, conferences, symposia, or on-line training over the course of the 2 year period prior to each renewal period. Continuing education shall be received as part of an organized learning event, ideally involving interaction with a presenter for the purpose of accomplishing specific learning objectives.

- a. Twenty (20) hours of continuing education shall be consistent with maintaining licensure in their individual discipline of practice;
  - b. Twenty (20) hours of continuing education shall address a combination of specialized areas such as:
    - A. Contemporary research regarding the etiology of sexually abusive behaviors;
    - B. Research-identified risk factors for the development and continuation of sexually abusive/offending behavior for juveniles;
    - C. Contemporary research and practice in the areas of assessment, treatment, and management of juvenile sex offenders;
    - D. Research-supported, sex offender-specific risk assessment tools for juveniles; and
    - E. Physiological assessment of deviant sexual arousal and/or interests.
    - F. Persons who are dually certified to provide services to adult and juvenile clients may have a combination of adult and juvenile-centered specialized continuing education.
  - c. No more than 16 hours of training specific to the treatment of victims of sexual abuse can be used to count toward the minimum number of specialized training hours.
  - ~~d. Any on line education must be from a recognized accredited educational institution, and no more than 10 hours of continuing education credits obtained from such on line educational resources shall count toward the biennial 40 hour continuing education requirement.~~
  - e. Teaching relevant coursework at an accredited university or college, or providing training at a conference or workshop training (to be reviewed and approved by the SOMB) can substitute for up to one-half of the continuing education hours for an applicant.
- D. To maintain certification as a Provisional/Supervised Sex Offender Treatment Provider, a person must receive a minimum of 20 verifiable hours of specialized continuing education in the form of workshops, conferences, symposia, or on-line