

Fact Sheet for Music Therapists Who Are Licensed Professional Counselors in Pennsylvania

This document has been provided by the PA Task Force in order to clarify the continuing education requirements for PA LPCs and to assist music therapists with the process of submitting music therapy continuing education credits to the Pennsylvania State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors (referred to here as PA LPC Board).

1. The PA Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) requires 60 graduate credits (with a minimum of 48 credits within the related-field Master's Degree itself) plus 3600 hours of post-graduate supervision.
2. Section 49.33 (b) of the PA LPC Board rules and regulations states that continuing education courses must be "appropriate for a Masters level practitioner".
(www.pacode.com/secure/data/049/chapter49/s49.33.html)
3. LPCs are required to complete 30 clock hours of continuing education every two years in order to maintain their license. At least 3 clock hours must be in ethical issues. Up to 20 clock hours may be obtained by home study. Excess clock hours may not be carried over to the next cycle. 1 clock hour is described as 50-60 minutes of actual instruction (there are no conversions).
(www.pacode.com/secure/data/049/chapter49/s49.32.html)
(www.pacode.com/secure/data/049/chapter49/s49.38.html)
4. CBMT is recognized by the PA LPC Board as a pre-approved provider of continuing education courses and programs for LPCs. (www.pacode.com/secure/data/049/chapter49/s49.36.html)
5. As of July 8, 2008, the PA LPC Board determined that a CBMT pre-approved course or program is acceptable as per Section 49.36 (a)(6)(v) of the regulations and provided that the course is at least 2 clock hours as per Section 49.35(a)(5) of the regulations.
(www.pacode.com/secure/data/049/chapter49/s49.35.html)
6. As of October 14, 2008, the PA LPC Board determined that CBMT can only approve a "course" or "program". The individual must produce a certificate of completion indicating that the course or program was approved and/or sponsored by CBMT. Any other requests for continuing education credit through sources other than "courses" or "programs" (i.e. published articles, etc.) would need to be approved by the PA LPC Board. (www.pacode.com/secure/data/049/chapter49/s49.37.html) and (www.pacode.com/secure/data/049/chapter49/s49.34.html)
7. If a course or program is not pre-approved by CBMT or another pre-approved provider of continuing education credit (www.pacode.com/secure/data/049/chapter49/s49.36.html), the licensee must submit an application for approval to the PA LPC Board. Applications for (1) courses or programs, (2) first time experience as a teacher, or (3) services as a preceptor, lecturer or speaker must be submitted 90 days prior to the event. Applications for published materials such as articles, books, or research must be submitted after the publication of said materials. Please note that there is a \$45 application fee.
(http://www.dos.state.pa.us/bpoa/lib/bpoa/20/socwkbd/continuing_ed_application_08-04.pdf)
8. LPCs receive an abundance of training opportunities throughout their cycle, so Music Therapists should have a sufficient number of pre-approved courses and programs to choose from.
9. Additional information on rules and regulations, licensure, and continuing education requirements can be found on the PA LPC Board website. (www.dos.state.pa.us/social) and/or (www.pacode.com/secure/data/049/chapter49/chap49toc.html)
10. All other inquiries should be directed to the PA Task Force at pastate.task.force@gmail.com