

Mental Health/Behavioral Health Professionals in Minnesota Scope of Practice Summary

PROFESSION	LICENSING BOARD	SCOPE OF PRACTICE
Licensed Professional Clinical Counselors (LPCC)	MN Board of Behavioral Health and Therapy http://www.bbht.state.mn.us/Home/tabid/91/Default.aspx	Practices under supervision. Four-thousand (4,000) supervised post-degree clinical practice hours are required for licensure. The scope of practice of a licensed professional clinical counselor includes, but is not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • implementation of professional counseling treatment interventions including evaluation, treatment planning, assessment, and referral; • direct counseling services to individuals, groups, and families; • counseling strategies that effectively respond to multicultural populations; • knowledge of relevant laws and ethics impacting practice; • crisis intervention; • consultation; and • program evaluation and applied research. <p style="text-align: right;">(M.S. 148B.50)</p>
Licensed Professional Counselors (LPC)	MN Board of Behavioral Health and Therapy http://www.bbht.state.mn.us/Home/tabid/91/Default.aspx	Practices under supervision. Two-thousand (2,000) supervised post-degree clinical practice hours are required for licensure. The scope of practice of a licensed professional counselor includes, but is not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • implementation of professional counseling treatment interventions including evaluation, treatment planning, assessment, and referral; • direct counseling services to individuals, groups, and families; • counseling strategies that effectively respond to multicultural populations; • knowledge of relevant laws and ethics impacting practice; • crisis intervention; • consultation; and • program evaluation and applied research. <p style="text-align: right;">(M.S. 148B.50)</p>

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Marriage and Family Therapist (MFT)	MN Board of Marriage and Family Therapy http://www.bbht.state.mn.us/Home/tabid/91/Default.aspx	Practices under supervision for two years, then practices independently. Marriage and Family Therapists have graduate training (a Master's or Doctoral degree) in marriage and family therapy and at least two years of clinical experience before licensure. Marriage and Family Therapists are mental health professionals trained in psychotherapy and family systems, and licensed to diagnose and treat mental and emotional disorders within the context of marriage, couples and family systems. Marriage and Family Therapy is recognized as a "core" mental health profession, along with psychiatry, psychology, social work and psychiatric nursing. <div style="text-align: right;">(M.S. 148B.29)</div>
Psychiatrist (MD)	MN Board of Medical Practice http://www.state.mn.us/portal/mn/jsp/home.do?agency=BMP	Practices independently without supervision. A psychiatrist is a physician certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology. <div style="text-align: right;">(M.S. 147)</div>
Certified Clinical Nurse Specialist (RN, CNS) – Adult psychiatric certification	MN Board of Nursing http://www.state.mn.us/portal/mn/jsp/home.do?agency=NursingBoard	Practices independently without supervision. May prescribe drugs and therapeutic devices. May function as a direct care provider, case manager, consultant, educator, and researcher. May accept referrals from, consult with, cooperate with, or refer to all other types of health care providers, including but not limited to physicians, chiropractors, podiatrists, and dentists. Requires completion of no less than 30 hours of formal study in the prescribing of psychotropic medications and medications to treat their side effects which included instruction in health assessment, psychotropic classifications, psychopharmacology, indications, dosages, contraindications, side effects, and evidence of application. <div style="text-align: right;">(M.S. 148.171)</div>

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Certified Clinical Nurse Specialist (RN, CNS) – Child/ adolescent psychiatric certification	MN Board of Nursing http://www.state.mn.us/portal/mn/jsp/home.do?agency=NursingBoard	Practices independently without supervision. May prescribe drugs and therapeutic devices. May function as a direct care provider, case manager, consultant, educator, and researcher. May accept referrals from, consult with, cooperate with, or refer to all other types of health care providers, including but not limited to physicians, chiropractors, podiatrists, and dentists. Requires completion of no less than 30 hours of formal study in the prescribing of psychotropic medications and medications to treat their side effects which included instruction in health assessment, psychotropic classifications, psychopharmacology, indications, dosages, contraindications, side effects, and evidence of application. (M.S. 148.171)
Certified Nurse Practitioner (RN, CNP) – Adult psychiatric certification	MN Board of Nursing http://www.state.mn.us/portal/mn/jsp/home.do?agency=NursingBoard	Practices independently without supervision. May prescribe drugs and therapeutic devices. May function as a direct care provider, case manager, consultant, educator, and researcher. May accept referrals from, consult with, cooperate with, or refer to all other types of health care providers, including but not limited to physicians, chiropractors, podiatrists, and dentists. (M.S. 148.171)
Certified Nurse Practitioner (RN, CNP) – Family psychiatric certification	MN Board of Nursing http://www.state.mn.us/portal/mn/jsp/home.do?agency=NursingBoard	Practices independently without supervision. May prescribe drugs and therapeutic devices. May function as a direct care provider, case manager, consultant, educator, and researcher. May accept referrals from, consult with, cooperate with, or refer to all other types of health care providers, including but not limited to physicians, chiropractors, podiatrists, and dentists. (M.S. 148.171)

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PROFESSION	LICENSING BOARD	SCOPE OF PRACTICE
Licensed Psychological Practitioner (LPP)	MN Board of Psychology http://www.psychologyboard.state.mn.us/	Practices under supervision. Must be employed by a licensed psychologist or an agency that employs or contracts with a supervising licensed psychologist. (M.S. 148.908)
Licensed Psychologist (LP)	MN Board of Psychology http://www.psychologyboard.state.mn.us/	Practices independently without supervision. May observe, evaluate, interpret or modify human behavior by application of psychological principles, methods, or procedures including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • psychotherapy; • psycho-educational services and treatment; • assessment by testing and other means of intelligence, personality, abilities, interests, aptitudes, and neuropsychological functioning; • testimony as an expert witness concerning the characteristics of an individual; • consultation and supervision; and • research and teaching. (M.S. 148.89)
Licensed Graduate Social Worker (LGSW)	MN Board of Social Work http://www.socialwork.state.mn.us/	Practices under supervision. May engage in clinical practice under supervision of an independent clinical social worker. (M.S. 148D.050)
Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker (LICSW)	MN Board of Social Work http://www.socialwork.state.mn.us/	Practices independently without supervision. May engage in clinical practice. <i>Clinical practice</i> is the diagnosis and treatment of psychosocial function, disability, or impairment, including addictions and emotional, mental, and behavioral disorders, including plans based on a differential diagnosis. Treatment may include psychotherapy. (M.S. 148D.050)

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Licensed Independent Social Worker (LISW)	MN Board of Social Work http://www.socialwork.state.mn.us/	Practices under supervision. May engage in clinical practice under supervision of an independent clinical social worker. (M.S. 148D.050)
Licensed Social Worker (LSW)	MN Board of Social Work http://www.socialwork.state.mn.us/	Practices under supervision. May not engage in clinical practice. Practice includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assessment • case management • client-centered advocacy • client education and counseling • crisis intervention • referral (M.S. 148D.050)

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Mental health professional. (M.S. 245.462 DEFINITIONS)

"Mental health professional" means a person providing clinical services in the treatment of mental illness who is qualified in at least one of the following ways:

- (1) in psychiatric nursing: a registered nurse who is licensed under sections [148.171](#) to [148.285](#); and:
 - (i) who is certified as a clinical specialist or as a nurse practitioner in adult or family psychiatric and mental health nursing by a national nurse certification organization; or
 - (ii) who has a master's degree in nursing or one of the behavioral sciences or related fields from an accredited college or university or its equivalent, with at least 4,000 hours of post-master's supervised experience in the delivery of clinical services in the treatment of mental illness;
- (2) in clinical social work: a person licensed as an independent clinical social worker under chapter 148D, or a person with a master's degree in social work from an accredited college or university, with at least 4,000 hours of post-master's supervised experience in the delivery of clinical services in the treatment of mental illness;
- (3) in psychology: an individual licensed by the Board of Psychology under sections [148.88](#) to [148.98](#) who has stated to the Board of Psychology competencies in the diagnosis and treatment of mental illness;
- (4) in psychiatry: a physician licensed under chapter 147 and certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology or eligible for board certification in psychiatry;
- (5) in marriage and family therapy: the mental health professional must be a marriage and family therapist licensed under sections [148B.29](#) to [148B.39](#) with at least two years of post-master's supervised experience in the delivery of clinical services in the treatment of mental illness; or
- (6) in allied fields: a person with a master's degree from an accredited college or university in one of the behavioral sciences or related fields, with at least 4,000 hours of post-master's supervised experience in the delivery of clinical services in the treatment of mental illness.

For further detail on Minnesota Statutes, visit: www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/statutes/