



THE BOARD INSIDER



VOLUME 2

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BOARD OFFICE HOURS

Monday	8:30—5:00
Tuesday	8:30—8:00
Wednesday	8:30—5:00
Thursday	8:30—8:00
Friday	8:30—5:00
Saturday	Closed
Sunday	Closed

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

DENAUVO ROBINSON



DENAUVO ROBINSON
BOARD CHAIR

On behalf of the North Carolina Board of Licensed Professional Counselors, welcome to the Summer edition of The Board Insider! The Board is comprised of dedicated professionals who license qualified professionals to provide mental health services, diligently protect the public, and execute our fiduciary responsibilities.

In this issue you will find an update on the pending legislation SB 300/H678 name change and responses to your questions about this item.

The 2019 renewal deadline is quickly approaching. We encourage you to use the NCBLPC online portal to renew this year. Please remember that the June 30th deadline for renewing your LPCA, LPC, and LPCS is just a couple of weeks away.

If you have not been to the Board's website lately, please visit as we are enhancing its functionality for ease of use on all devices. The newsletter and our website include important reminders and links.

In closing, a heartfelt thank you to the Board's staff for all of their hard work during this busy time of year.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Denauvo M. Robinson, NCC, LPCS
Board Chair, NCBLPC

NCBLPC Mission

The mission of the Board under NC GS Article 24 section 90-329 states that, it is declared to be the public policy of this State that the activities of persons who render counseling services to the public be regulated to insure the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare.

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Toll free: 844-622-3572 or 336-217-6007 | Email: LPCinfo@ncblpc.org

www.ncblpc.org



OVERVIEW OF RENEWAL PROCESS

The following Licensure Renewal procedures apply to LPC Associates, LPCs, and LPC Supervisors. Renewals may be submitted as early as January 1st of the renewal year. Licensee shall complete all requirements before renewal can be issued. **Deadline for receipt of renewal is June 20th of the renewal year.**

SAVE TIME - RENEW ONLINE!

If your license is due to expire **June 30, 2019**, please visit our [License Renewal page](#) for updated 2019 renewal guidelines. The Board has a new simplified renewal process, unless you are selected for audit.

Save time, renewal online! The Board is excited to provide the renewal process online. To renew your license, please visit the [Counselor Portal page](#).

If your license lapsed on **June 30, 2018**, you may renew your license by completing a late renewal packet. Your renewal must include the renewal fee of **\$200**, a late fee of **\$75**, and 20 additional hours of continuing education. Please visit our [License Renewal page](#) for the renewal guidelines. You have one year from the date of expiration, June 30, 2018, to renew your license. Therefore, you **must** renew your license no later than June 30, 2019. Licensees who do not renew during that time will need to reapply for licensure and will be subject to the rules in place at that time.

Don't forget your Jurisprudence Exam: <http://ncblpc.org/Licensure/Applying/Jurisprudence>



ONLINE IS EASIER! DID YOU KNOW?

- [Military Licensure](#)
- [Apply Online](#)
- [Verify a License](#)
- [Find a Counselor](#)
- [File a Complaint](#)
- [Renew Your License](#)
- [Distance Counselor Policy](#)
- [Submit a Change of Address](#)

MEET THE BOARD

Denauvo Robinson
Board Chair

Kyla Kurian
Vice Chair

George Greer
Secretary/Treasurer

Katherine Glenn
Ethics Chair

Charles Wentz
Board Member

Michael Brooks
Board Member

Gussie Tate
Board Member

2019 IMPORTANT DATES

January 1	Renewal period opens for all LPC Associates, LPCs and LPC Supervisors. All requirements must be completed before renewal can be issued.
January 17	NCBLPC Board of Directors Meeting
January 21	<i>Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday (Office Closed)</i>
February 15	NCBLPC Board of Directors Meeting
April 11	NCBLPC Board of Directors Meeting
April 19	<i>Good Friday (Office Closed)</i>
May 27	<i>Memorial Day (Office Closed)</i>
June 20	If mailing your renewal information please make sure it is received in our office by this date.
June 30	Renewal Deadline
July 1	Late fee is assessed for those who have not renewed
July 4	<i>Independence Day (Office Closed)</i>
July 25	NCBLPC Board of Directors Meeting
September 2	<i>Labor Day (Office Closed)</i>
October 18	NCBLPC Board of Directors Meeting
November 11	<i>Veterans Day (Office Closed)</i>
November 28-29	<i>Thanksgiving (Office Closed)</i>
December 24-26	<i>Christmas (Office Closed)</i>
December 31	Renewal deadline for Corporations: Professional Corporation (PC) or Professional Limited Liability Company (PLLC) or Professional Association (PA)



FAQS

RENEWALS

Q.

Hours or Units?

A.

Contact hours means the number of actual clock hours spent in direct participation in a structured education format as a learner.

- **One Continuing Education Unit (CEU) = 10 contact hours**
- **One Semester hour of credit = 15 contact hours**
- **One Quarter hour of credit = 10 contact hours**

Q.

Is the jurisprudence exam required for renewal?

A.

New applicants and renewing licensees shall submit the Certificate of Completion of this Jurisprudence Exam, which must be taken within six months prior to application for licensure or renewal (NC 21 NCAC 53 .0305).

Q.

Does the Jurisprudence exam count for any continuing education?

A.

This Jurisprudence Exam qualifies for five contact hours of continuing education and fulfills the Ethics requirement for renewal of LPCA, LPC, and LPCS licensure.

Q.

What should my Continuing education Training Certificate Contain?

A.

Certificate of Attendance/Completion to include:

- a. Name of approved provider and/or an approved provider number
- b. Signed by the responsible officer of an approved continuing education provider
- c. Name of attendee
- d. Name of course
- e. Date(s) of attendance
- f. Number of contact hours

Q.

What is the renewal fee?

A.

Renewal Fee – The fee for renewal is **\$200**, and shall accompany the renewal application when mailed; an additional fee of **\$75**, shall be included if renewal is received by the Board after June 30th. For those completing the online renewal form, you will have the option to pay immediately online or to mail a check or money order. Failure to renew by June 30, 2019 means that a license shall be issued only upon re-application and all current licensure requirements apply to the new application.

Q.

Where can I find the renewal check list online?

A.

Checklist – <http://ncblpc.org/Licensure/Current/Renewal#Renewal>



LEGISLATIVE UPDATES



DEAR NCBLPC LICENSEE,

Greetings from the North Carolina Board of Licensed Professional Counselors (the Board)! We have some exciting news to share with you. We have been in discussion with various counseling professionals and organizations in North Carolina and other state boards about various issues that affect our licensees and the public. From this interaction and the work we do as the Board, we are in the process of developing a legislative proposal on the following: a) license name change, b) a health care/impaired professional counselor program for Licensed Professional Counselors and c) licensing reciprocity.

NAME CHANGE

The North Carolina Board of Licensed Professional Counselors (NCBLPC) is proposing a name change to North Carolina Board for

Professional Clinical Mental Health Counselors a) to further define and clarify our professional identity, b) to be in concert with the nomenclature used by National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), American Mental Health Counseling Association (AMHCA), and Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) and c) to align ourselves with the nomenclature being used in the Medicare provider recognition bills for mental health counselors namely, S. 1879 and H.R. 3032. These bills, if made into law, would allow Medicare enrollees access to medically necessary covered services provided by mental health counselors who are properly trained and licensed to deliver such services.

The Board staff researched the licensure names, education requirements, endorsement requirements, supervision requirements, etc., of the other 49 states and found that the majority (n=27) of the states' licensure names differed from Licensed Professional Counselor. Specifically, 15 states have identified themselves as mental health counselors by the following licensure names: Clinical Mental Health Counselor, Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor, Licensed Mental Health Counselor, Licensed Independent Mental Health Practitioner, Professional Clinical Mental Health Counselor, Licensed Professional Counselor—Mental Health Service Provider and Licensed Professional Counselor of Mental Health.

Finally, the American Mental Health Counselors Association's (2016) wrote a white paper entitled The Professional Identity of Clinical Mental Health Counselors, which outlines the reasons for the need for clarification for the name for professional counselors. Further, the Licensed Professional Counselor Association of North Carolina is the state chapter of AMHCA and they have adopted the identity of Clinical Mental Health Counselors. We hope to have our license name specifically reflect that identity as well.

HEALTH CARE/IMPAIRED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR PROGRAM FOR LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS

It is estimated that approximately 10-15% of all healthcare professionals, including licensed professional counselors, will misuse drugs or alcohol at some time during their career (Baldisseri, 2007), and approximately 18% of the general population of adults experience mental illness each year (Nami, 2012). While these rates of mental illness and substance abuse/dependence reflect those of the general population, the prevalence is of particular concern because licensed professional counselors are responsible for the mental health of the clients and the public they serve in North Carolina. The opiate crisis is unquestionably a serious threat to the health and lives of North Carolinians (N.C. Department of Health and Human Services, 2019). Healthcare professionals have higher rates of abuse of opiates and benzodiazepines than the general population. It is further understood that licensed professional counseling is a stressful occupation and that licensed counselors experience burnout, compassion fatigue and vicarious trauma as they seek to provide mental health services to those suffering from psychological, psychiatric and substance abuse disorders. North Carolina lacks the health care/impaired professional counselor program that Virginia and South Carolina have established to assist licensed professional counselors in initiating and maintaining recovery from substance abuse, mental health or other difficulties that if left untreated, could negatively affect the ability to safely fulfill the duties of their profession.

RECIPROCITY

There is a national movement among licensing boards of Licensed Professional Counselors to make licensure between states easier to secure. With our fluid society, the advancement of technology and the emergence of “distance counseling”, it is increasingly clear of the importance of counseling across state lines. For example, in North Carolina, 41 of the 100 counties border other states. A North Carolina Licensed Professional Counselor is prohibited (other than very short-term contact) from counseling across state lines without a license in an adjoining state. This condition also exists for Virginia, Tennessee and South Carolina.

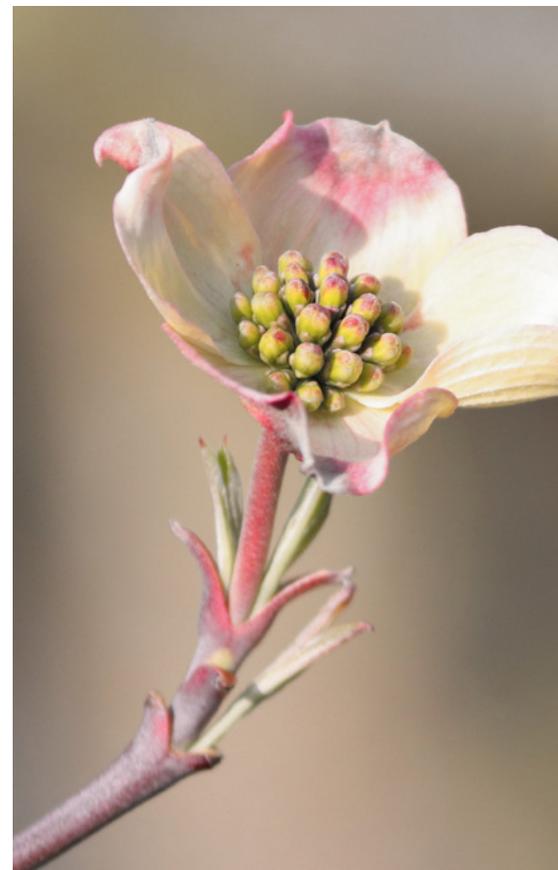
Therefore, we hope to enact legislation that will allow The North Carolina Board of Licensed Professional Counselors to enter into reciprocity agreements with other states with similar licensure requirements. The first objective would be to attempt negotiations with our contiguous states. An additional objective would be to negotiate agreements with other states, especially those east of the Mississippi River.

CONCLUSION

We have consulted various counselors and counselor leaders and they have submitted questions about the name change and we have given our answers to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQS) for the name change. We hope that our answers provide clarity and an understanding of the rationale for the name change. We look forward to serving the citizens of our great state!

KIND REGARDS,

THE NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS



REMINDER FROM THE BOARD OFFICE

APPLICATIONS

- Applications deadlines are for the application form and payment. Additional documents may be sent separately.
- Please review applications to make sure applications are as complete as possible.
- If your name or contact information change during the application process, please notify the Board as soon as possible.

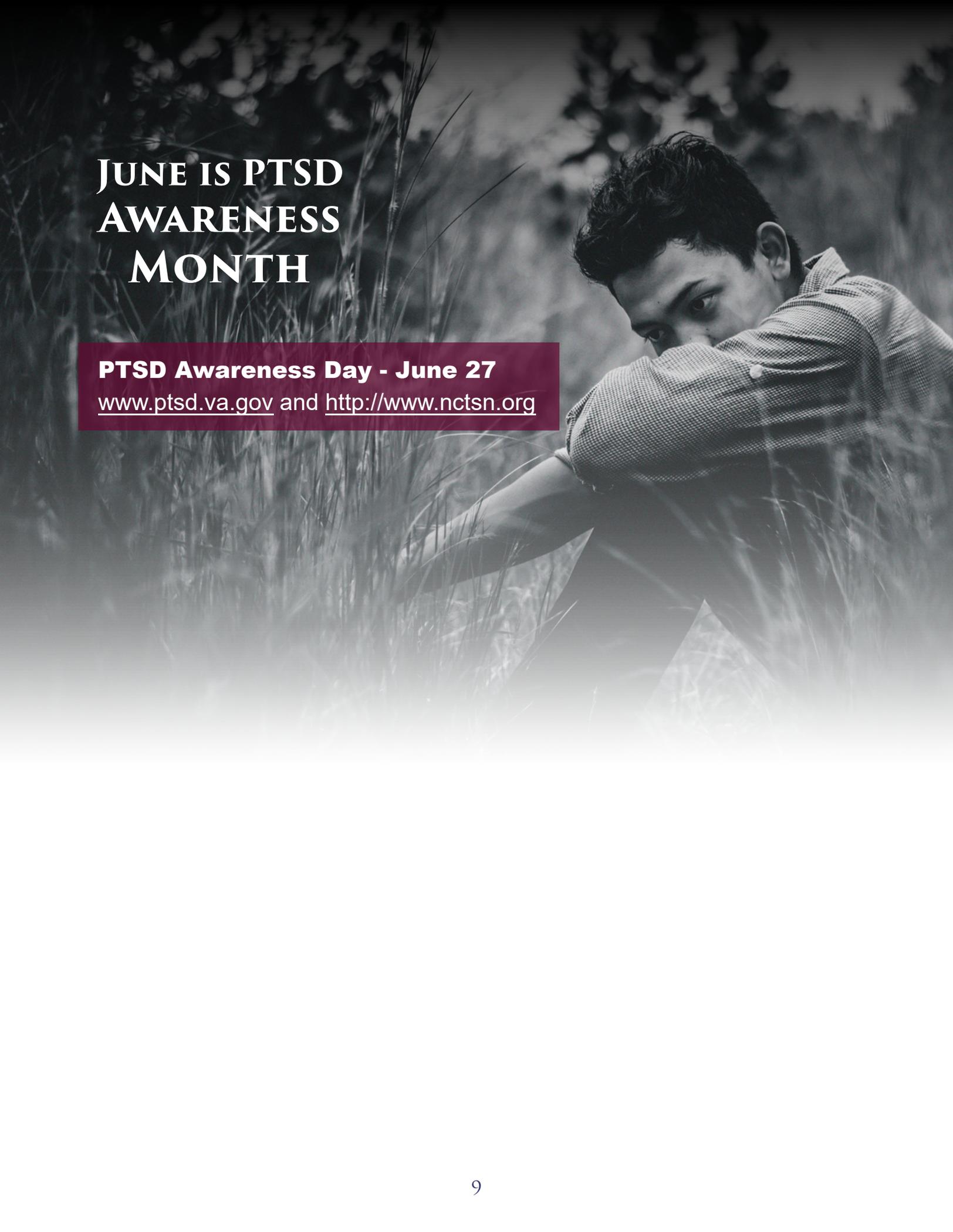
RENEWALS

- Please make sure that your Professional Disclosure Statement contains the Board's current address and contact information.
- Submit a copy of your Jurisprudence Exam certificate of completion for the license currently being renewed. The exam shall be completed after January 1, 2019.
- Copies of all CE Certificates/Documentation of Completion will not be required at the time of submitting your renewal packet.
- Documentation of continuing education is only required to be submitted if audited by the Board.
- Certificates and pocket cards are mailed every two weeks after approval of your renewal submission.

OTHER LICENSEE REMINDERS

- A Licensee shall inform the Board of any change in his or her name within 60 days after any change. A name change form shall be submitted on forms available on the Board's website, and must include any required legal documentation, such as a marriage certificate, divorce decree, or court order.
- **PDS Alert:** Below is the confidentiality statement on the PDS template. Please pay special attention to item (c) which should include the wording: ordered by a court, as stated in Rule # 21 NCAC 53 .0204 (7), those submitting their with the word subpoena in place of court will be returned to you, delaying the renewal process.
- **Confidentiality** <Below is an example.>

All of our communication becomes part of the clinical record, which is accessible to you upon request. I will keep confidential anything you say as part of our counseling relationship, with the following exceptions: (a) you direct me in writing to disclose information to someone else, (b) it is determined you are a danger to yourself or others (including child or elder abuse), or (c) I am ordered by a court to disclose information.



JUNE IS PTSD AWARENESS MONTH

PTSD Awareness Day - June 27

www.ptsd.va.gov and <http://www.nctsn.org>