

Agency Purpose

Minnesota Statutes sections 148B.50-148B.593 require the Minnesota Board of Behavioral Health and Therapy to license professional counselors (LPCs) and Licensed Professional Clinical Counselors (LPCCs) and regulate the practice of professional counseling in the State of Minnesota. The board was established in May 2003. On 7-1-2005, the board began licensing and regulating licensed alcohol and drug counselors (LADCs) when the program transferred to the board from the Department of Health (see Minnesota Statutes chapter 148C). The board is authorized to promulgate rules.

At A Glance

Minnesota LPC, LPCC, and LADC Statistics
(As of June 30, 2008):

Total Licensed LPCs:	539
Total Licensed LPCCs	12
Total Licensed LADCs:	1,757
Total ADC Permit Holders:	296

Total New Complaints Received FY 2007-08:153
Total Resolved Complaints in FY 2007-08: 248

The board’s mission is to protect the public through effective licensure and enforcement of the statutes and rules governing the practices of professional counseling and alcohol and drug counseling to ensure a standard of competent and ethical practice.

Core Functions

The board is a regulatory agency and accomplishes its mission by:

- ◆ setting and administering minimum educational, supervision, and examination requirements for initial licensure as a licensed professional counselor, licensed professional clinical counselor, or alcohol and drug counselor;
- ◆ setting and administering requirements for renewal of licensure;
- ◆ setting standards of ethical practice;
- ◆ responding to inquiries, complaints and reports regarding applicants and licensees;
- ◆ investigating complaints of alleged violations of statutes and rules, holding educational and disciplinary conferences with licensees, and taking legal action when appropriate against licensees who fail to meet minimum standards of practice;
- ◆ approving continuing education activities; and
- ◆ providing information about licensure requirements and standards of practice to the public and other interested parties.

Operations

- ◆ The 13-member board consists of five licensed professional counselors, five licensed alcohol and drug counselors, and three public members appointed by the governor. The board has three full time staff members to perform the administrative duties necessary to regulate these professions.
- ◆ The board holds quarterly board meetings, and subcommittees of the board meet regularly to review license applications and licensure issues, draft rules, draft legislation, review complaints and hold educational and disciplinary conferences with applicants and licensees, and perform other duties required for the operation of the board.
- ◆ The board benefits and affects the public by ensuring that licensed professional counselors, licensed professional clinical counselors, and licensed alcohol and drug counselors meet and maintain minimum standards of competence and ethical practice.
- ◆ Current issues affecting the board are posted on the board’s website.

Key Goals

- ◆ Support legislation making LPCCs mental health professionals who can be reimbursed through Medical Assistance and MinnesotaCare in order to increase the number of qualified mental health providers available to children and adults in Minnesota needing mental health services.
- ◆ Continue to work with the Public Advisory Committee formed to assist the Board’s Legislative Committee in rewriting regulations for LADCs in order to remove confusing, obsolete, repetitive, and unnecessary language.

Key Measures

- ◆ Public protection – the board’s website offers several services to the public including access to information on the complaint process, obtaining forms and information regarding how to file a complaint, a list of disciplinary actions taken, and instructions for obtaining copies of public disciplinary documents.
- ◆ Online information – the board’s website currently contains a listing of information on LPC licensees, LPCC licensees, and approved supervisors. The website also contains a listing of Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors and Temporary Permit Holders. The board is working towards online services with the future goal of offering license verification, address and contact information changes, and license renewals online.
- ◆ Public information – the board provides information to the public through the board website, presentations to educators and students, and public outreach through presentations at professional organization conferences.
- ◆ Technology – repair and revise existing databases to enable the board to track license applications from receipt date to issue date, to aid in improving efficiency of the licensure process.
- ◆ Debt Retirement – continue to retire agency deficit resulting from overprojections in the number of licensees and inherited from the previous state department in charge of the LACD program.

Budget

Total direct and indirect expenditures for FY 2008-09 are estimated to be \$1,043,365, which includes 3.0 FTE employees. Direct expenditures include salaries, rent and other operating expenditures. The board receives a direct appropriation for these costs. Indirect expenditures include costs for services received from the Attorney General’s Office, and costs to fund the Health Professionals Services Program, Office of Mental Health Practice, and the Administrative Services Unit. The board is responsible for collecting sufficient revenue to cover both direct and indirect expenditures.

The board is estimated to collect \$1,147,745 in FY 2008-09, which is deposited as non-dedicated revenue into the state government special revenue fund. Revenue is collected from fees charged to applicants and licensees.

Contact

Minnesota Board of Behavioral Health and Therapy
2829 University Avenue Southeast
Suite 210
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414-3220

The website at: www.bbht.state.mn.us gives visitors easy access to useful information about LPC, LPCC, and LADC licensure and regulation. Information available on the website includes: board member and staff names, calendar of meetings, statutes and rules, application forms, regulatory news and updates, and public notices.

Email: bbht.board@state.mn.us

Phone: (651) 617-2178

Fax: (612) 617-2187

TTY: (800) 627-3529

Include a primary contact, preferably a general one rather than a specific name. Links to the agency’s website and any other supplemental information may also be useful.

Dollars in Thousands

	Current		Forecast Base		Biennium 2010-11
	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	
<u>Direct Appropriations by Fund</u>					
State Government Spec Revenue					
Current Appropriation	394	394	394	394	788
Forecast Base	394	394	394	394	788
Change		0	0	0	0
% Biennial Change from 2008-09					0%
<u>Expenditures by Fund</u>					
Carry Forward					
State Government Spec Revenue	1	99	0	0	0
Direct Appropriations					
State Government Spec Revenue	269	519	394	394	788
Open Appropriations					
State Government Spec Revenue	26	22	0	0	0
Total	296	640	394	394	788
<u>Expenditures by Category</u>					
Total Compensation	220	247	257	270	527
Other Operating Expenses	76	393	137	124	261
Total	296	640	394	394	788
<u>Expenditures by Program</u>					
Behavioral Health & Therapy	296	640	394	394	788
Total	296	640	394	394	788
Full-Time Equivalents (FTE)	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	

BEHAVIORAL HLTH & THERAPY BD

Agency Revenue Summary

Dollars in Thousands

	Actual FY2008	Budgeted FY2009	Current Law		Biennium 2010-11
			FY2010	FY2011	
<i>Non Dedicated Revenue:</i>					
Departmental Earnings:					
State Government Spec Revenue	649	643	690	690	1,380
Total Non-Dedicated Receipts	649	643	690	690	1,380
<i>Dedicated Receipts:</i>					
Total Dedicated Receipts	0	0	0	0	0
Agency Total Revenue	649	643	690	690	1,380