

State of Ohio Counselor, Social Worker & Marriage and Family Therapist Board

Chapter 4757-5 Rules for Standards of ethical and professional conduct

4757-5-12 Standards of ethical practice and professional conduct: professional disclosure for counselors, social workers and marriage and family therapists.

(A) Section 4757.12 of the Revised Code requires that a client cannot be charged for professional counseling, social work or marriage and family therapy services unless one of the following applies:

- (1) Prior to the performance of services, the client is furnished a copy of a professional disclosure statement containing the information described in division (C) of this rule; or
- (2) A professional disclosure statement containing the information described in paragraph (C) of this rule is displayed in a conspicuous location at the place where the services are performed and a copy of the statement is provided to the client upon request.

(B) In order to comply with paragraph (A) of this rule the statement shall contain:

- (1) The name, title, business address, and business phone number of the licensee performing the services.
- (2) The formal professional education of the licensee, including their academic degrees, the institutions awarding those degrees and the dates awarded.
 - (a) "Formal professional education" means the licensee's academic training related to counseling, social work and/or marriage and family therapy, which meets the educational requirements for licensure.
 - (b) Academic degrees that do not meet the requirements for licensure, including degrees that do not come from accredited education institutions, are not formal professional education as defined in this rule and shall not be listed on the professional disclosure statement.
- (3) The licensee's areas of competence and the services they provide as follows:
 - (a) The professional counselor's areas of competence and the services they provide. The practice of counseling and the delivery of those services are defined in division (A) of section 4757.01 of the Revised Code and in rules 4757-15-01 and 4757-15-02 of the Administrative Code. The counseling areas of competence and services are required to be listed on the professional statement;
 - (b) The social worker's areas of competence and the services they provide. The practice of social work and the delivery of those services are defined in division (C) of section 4757.01 of the Revised Code and in rules 4757-21-01, 4757-21-02, and 4757-21-03 of the Administrative Code. The social work areas of competence and services are required to be listed on the professional statement; or
 - (c) The marriage and family therapist's areas of competence and the services they provide. The practice of marriage and family therapy and the delivery of those services are defined in division (H) of section 4757.01 of the Revised Code.

The marriage and family therapist areas of competence and services are required to be listed on the professional statement.

- (4) For a licensee employed in a private practice, partnership, or group practice, a fee schedule shall be listed by type of service or hourly rate.
- (5) The type of license(s) held by the individual and the license number(s).
- (6) At the bottom of the first page of the professional disclosure statement, the following words shall appear, "If you have complaints about professional services from a counselor, social worker and/or marriage and family therapist contact the Ohio Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board, 50 West Broad Street, Suite 1075, Columbus, OH 43215. Phone (614) 466-0912. Website: www.cswmft.ohio.gov."

(C) The following legal and ethical principles apply in providing the professional disclosure statement:

- (1) The provision of the professional disclosure statement is the sole responsibility of the licensee. A copy of the professional disclosure statement shall be submitted to the board upon request;
- (2) The purpose of professional disclosure is to provide sufficient information to aid the client/consumer of services, or the public in making informed judgments and choices on matters concerning the provision of counseling, social work and/or marriage and family therapy services; and
- (3) When choosing areas of competence and services provided to be listed on their professional disclosure statement, licensees shall be guided by paragraph (A)(1) of rule 4757-5-02 of the Administrative Code. "Counselors, social workers and marriage and family therapist shall not misrepresent directly, indirectly, or by implication their professional qualifications such as education, specialized training, experience, and/or area(s) of competence."

(D) In listing areas of competence and services provided on the professional disclosure statement, licensees shall adhere to their scope of practice and delivery of services as referenced in paragraph (B)(3)(a), (B)(3)(b), or (B)(3)(c) of this rule and rules 4757-5-02 and 4757-11-01 of the Administrative Code.

HISTORY: 11-7-07

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Rule amplifies: RC 4757.11

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