



TENNESSEE SEX OFFENDER TREATMENT

Approved Treatment Provider Qualifications

To be approved to provide sex offender treatment and/or evaluation (TSOTB Approved Provider/Evaluator), the following conditions/qualifications must be met:

A. Education

1. All Approved Providers should hold a master's or doctoral degree in social work, psychology, or counseling, from a regionally accredited university

B. Licensure

1. You must hold a current Tennessee license from the Health Related Board in Psychology, Social Work, or Professional Counseling.
2. You are licensed in another state and are pending a license from the Tennessee Health Related Board in the above-mentioned areas.
3. Persons who are not licensed to practice independently are not eligible for approval status.

The TSOTB-approved sex offender treatment as defined in T.C.A. 39-13-703 is considered counseling, psychological services, treatment, etc. and individuals who perform these services shall have appropriate licensure from the Health Related Board. Being approved by the Tennessee Sex Offender Treatment Board does not permit a provider to practice or perform services that they are not licensed to perform. All services provided by an approved provider must be within the limits of their license.

C. Standards of Competence for Sex Offender Treatment Providers

1. The TSOTB standard of provider competence, generally, is the standard that is outlined in ethics guidelines concerning practice. The Provider is to employ only those skills and techniques in which they have the education, training, and experience.
 - a. Education and Training

The Provider/Evaluator shall have at least 50 hours of specialized sex offender training with a minimum of 10 hours in the following areas:

- a. Etiology; developmental issues of sex offender behavior
- b. Sex offender assessment
- c. Sex offender treatment interventions



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- d. Program development, evaluation, and treatment efficacy
- e. Community Safety and issues related to recidivism

b. Experience

1. The Provider/Evaluator shall have 2,000 hours of supervised clinical experience post-licensure in the field of sex offender treatment. Clinical experience is defined as participation in professional training, work, research, writings, etc. related to the field of sex offender treatment. The supervisor for those hours must also have relevant experience and background in the treatment of sex offenders. (Auditing of those hours may be required as needed.)

**Hours received pre-licensure while working with a TSOTB Approved Provider may be used to satisfy the 2,000-hour requirement as long as the Board has approved such arrangement and the Approved Provider's clinical license allows for supervision of candidates seeking licensure.

2. The Provider/Evaluator shall have a Clinical Master's Degree or Higher.
3. For sex offender risk evaluations, the Evaluator shall have-a minimum of 250 hours of supervised clinical experience specifically in completing sex offender risk assessments/evaluations for adult clients. Evaluations completed with juvenile clients may be considered but will not satisfy the required clinical experience for this part.
4. For those seeking initial approval as an evaluator, applicants will be required to submit to an interview panel that concentrates on the applicant's knowledge of sex offender dynamics, risk factors related to sexual re-offense, clinical interview standards, concerns related to community placement, objective testing, and the ability to use clinical expertise to calculate risk. Additionally, applicants will be interviewed on their understanding of risk recommendations specific to reducing sexual offenses and their knowledge of how the evaluation impacts sex offender treatment. The interview panel will include the Presiding Officer and no more than four additional persons, chosen by the Presiding Officer, with experience and expertise in risk evaluations.
5. The Provider/Evaluator shall have a minimum of 100 hours of face-to-face supervision, from a qualified clinical supervisor, within the prerequisite 2000 hours of clinical experience. Group or peer supervision time dedicated to case presentations may constitute up to 50 hours of face to face-to-face supervision.



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2. All Providers/Evaluators may use any clinical contacts; clinical staffing, research, writing, etc. related to the field of sex offender treatment received at any time during their professional development (practicum, field placement, internship, work, etc.)

Providers/Evaluators seeking to be approved by the TSOTB and those who are seeking reciprocity licensure in TN with sex offender treatment provider credentials in their licensing state, applications may be presented throughout the year. All applications must be submitted a minimum of two weeks before the regularly scheduled board meeting to be included on the agenda. Applicants can determine the deadline by emailing the TSOTB contact for details.

******Approved November 17, 2023******