

1
2 INTRODUCED BY *Kath*

HOUSE BILL NO. 436

3
4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR CHEMICAL
5 DEPENDENCY COUNSELORS; PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF REQUIREMENTS BY RULE; AND
6 AMENDING SECTION 53-24-215, MCA."

7
8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

9
10 Section 1. Section 53-24-215, MCA, is amended to read:

11 **"53-24-215. Certification of chemical dependency counselors.** (1) The department shall grant
12 certification to practice as a certified chemical dependency counselor to any person who ~~successfully~~
13 ~~completes a competency examination that must include a written exam, an oral exam, and a review of a~~
14 ~~taped work sample, as meets the eligibility requirements and competency standards defined in rules adopted~~
15 under 53-24-204.

16 (2) A person may apply for certification as a certified chemical dependency counselor if he:

17 (a) has:

18 (i) ~~received a baccalaureate degree in alcohol and drug studies, psychology, sociology, social work,~~
19 ~~counseling, or a related field from an accredited college or university;~~

20 (ii) ~~received an associate of arts degree in alcohol and drug studies, chemical dependency, or~~
21 ~~substance abuse from an accredited institution; or~~

22 (iii) ~~successfully completed at least 1 year of formalized training in chemical dependency counseling~~
23 ~~in a program approved by the department or recognized under the laws of another state; and~~

24 (b) ~~has completed 2,000 hours of supervised work experience in chemical dependency counseling~~
25 ~~in a state approved chemical dependency treatment program, an internship supervised by the college or~~

26 ~~university and endorsed by the department, or a similar program recognized under the laws of another~~
27 ~~state. Work experience must include experience in 12 core function areas, including screening, intake,~~

28 ~~orientation, assessment, treatment planning, individual and group counseling, case management, crisis~~
29 ~~intervention, client education, referral, recordkeeping, and consultation with other professionals in regard~~

30 ~~to client treatment and services. The department may by rule require an applicant to successfully complete~~

1 a competency examination defined in rules adopted under 53-24-204.

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8 DEPENDENCY COUNSELING IN A PROGRAM APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT OR RECOGNIZED UNDER
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10 (B) COMPLETED SUPERVISED WORK EXPERIENCE IN A STATE-APPROVED CHEMICAL
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12 APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT, OR IN A SIMILAR PROGRAM RECOGNIZED UNDER THE LAWS OF
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14 (3) The department may by rule SHALL require an applicant to successfully complete a competency
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16 (3)(4) The department may provide by rule for certification without examination of a person
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