

Out of State MAC Student Guidelines for Researching Home State Requirements

- State websites generally cover a wide **variety of licensed professions/occupations** in the state. You may find yourself on a website where multiple health professions are listed and have to navigate to the links that are specific to **"licensed professional counselors", "Mental health counselor" or some similar title.**
- From the counselor-specific page, you will likely have to **navigate to the specific content** that you are looking for, since, once again, the page will likely be a more comprehensive page for all-things-LPC for the state. This means that you will see links for things like "renewals" and "continuing education" etc. These do not apply to you at this point. Instead, **look for something that references "educational requirements", "requirements", "licensure", "rules" or a similarly titled link.**
- Once you find this page, you should be able to **view the state rules and license requirements.** Some of this information, like the official state rules, are lengthy and can be a bit complex, but these are the legal requirements for the state. They should outline a **minimum credit hour requirement and several areas of content** that need to be covered in the curriculum, including the **hours required for practicum and internship.** For most states, CACREP standards are what will be required. **Read the first paragraphs of the rules very carefully** as most states will indicate that a student needs to have a CACREP accredited education **OR (the OR is very important as the student will already meet the CACREP portion and not need the other part of the "OR" descriptions)** meet equivalent standards and the website will typically then provide a very long and detailed overview of what is considered "equivalent". **Since SAU is CACREP accredited, the student does not need to review those details if the requirements for the state allow for a CACREP program.** Those detailed explanations are only for students who are attending a non-CACREP program to help them determine if their program has adequate equivalency.
- In those same areas of the state website, students will want to look to see if there are any **state-specific courses that are required above and beyond the typical CACREP curriculum.** For example, in the state of Florida, all individuals seeking licensure are required to take a state-specific "Laws and Rules" course that is 8-hours long and that specifically educates the student on laws in Florida. This is a course/requirement that is above and beyond the CACREP curriculum and that would not be offered at SAU. Florida also requires a 3-hour course on HIV/AIDS and a 2-hour course on Domestic Violence. Similarly, the student would have to take these courses at a board-approved provider that can be located through Florida's Counseling Board website, but this would not be offered at SAU.
- It is recommended that the student **look at the application for licensure as an additional step to verify what is required on the initial application.** This can serve as a checklist of sorts to help the student verify that they are meeting all requirements and would be able to adequately submit what the application is asking for.
- It is also recommended that the student **call the Board of Counseling for the state they desire to practice in.** They will want to **ask if there are any special considerations or requirements that they need to be aware of when attending an out-of-state CACREP program.** Specifically, they will also want to **ask if there are any particular requirements for their state in regard to practicum and internship** (i.e., types of sites for their internship, if there are stipulations on who can be an approved supervisor, and if any sort of temporary license is required. **For example,** in Ohio,

most sites required an intern to have a Counselor Trainee (CT) license in order to be able to accrue hours for internship).