CACREP and LICENSURE

Licensure and Disclosure Statement:
The M.A. in Counseling program may lead to licensure as a Mental Health Counselor (sometimes referred to as a “professional counselor”) in most states. However, enrollment in the Master’s in counseling program does not guarantee a degree from Concordia University Irvine will qualify for professional licensure in a student’s state of residency. It is the sole responsibility of the student, not the program, to obtain information regarding prerequisites for licensure as outlined by their particular state board of counseling.

Licensure Information
The 60-hour Master’s counseling degree is designed to lead to professional licensure as outlined by individual state boards of mental health counseling. Before enrolling in a licensure program at Concordia University Irvine, students should consult the rules and regulations regarding counseling for their particular state. More specifically, students should be aware of the following before enrolling at CUI’s counseling program:

- State regulations regarding licensure opportunities if an applicant has a previous felony conviction.
- State regulations regarding the type and number of academic courses and practicum/internship hours.
- The state accreditation requirements for educational institutions.
- The state regulations and requirements for online graduate education programs.

In addition, students are responsible for meeting all academic and professional requirements for graduation outlined in the M.A. handbook. Students enrolled in the M.A. counseling program are responsible for knowing this material.

*To obtain your state’s web address, view State Licensure Boards

Accreditation: The counseling program is part of Concordia University Irvine and is accredited by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC), which is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as certifying institutional eligibility for federal funding in a number of programs, including student access to federal financial aid.

We have started the process to obtain the additional accreditation from the CACREP (Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs) organization. This will make licensure easier in certain states.

The information provided below is subject to change without notice. Concordia University Irvine is not responsible for knowing when changes occur. Additionally, there might be other states with unique licensure requirements.

State Boards with Unique Licensure Requirements:

California
The licensure requirements established by the California Board of Behavioral Sciences will require California students to choose the course, Psychopharmacology COUN621, as one of their electives.

**Illinois**
Illinois requires several courses to be done in a residential format. Thus, our standard online degree format does not meet the residency requirements for this state.

**Kansas**
Kansas requires several courses to be done in a residential format. Thus, our standard online degree format does not meet the residency requirements within this state.

**Missouri**
Missouri does not accept online degrees/programs for licensure.

**New Hampshire**
Students are required a minimum of one academic year of full-time academic graduate study in mental health counseling in residence of the institute granting the degree.

**New York**
Students need to be aware of the following information:

- **Site supervisors** “must be licensed and registered in New York State to practice Mental Health Counseling, medicine, as a physician assistant, psychology, licensed clinical social work, or as a registered professional nurse or nurse practitioner and competent in the practice of Mental Health Counseling, or must have the equivalent qualifications as determined by the Department for experience completed in another jurisdiction.”
- **The site supervisor must be employed by the site.** Off-site supervision is not allowed for interns in NYS.
- **Private Practice is not allowed by NYS as a site for practicum and internship.**
- Concordia University Irvine will ensure that the setting and activities are consistent with New York State regulations and laws associated with these professions and the internship supervisor will hold appropriate New York State licensure.
- The maximum number of interns (per program) that will be placed in New York State each semester is five. Currently that is not a problem.