~~CHAPTER 2 REQUIREMENTS FOR INITIAL CERTIFICATION~~

~~2-001 Authority: The Division of Mental Health, Substance Abuse, and Addiction Services of the Department of Health and Human Services has statutory authority to establish certification standards for compulsive gambling counselors per Neb. Rev. Stat. Section 83-162.01 to 83-167.~~

~~2-002 Scope of Practice: Scope of practice for compulsive gambling counseling is the application of general counseling theories and treatment methods adapted to specific compulsive gambling theory and research, for the express purpose of treating compulsive gambling problems. The practice consists of the following activities:~~

~~2-002.01 Client, Significant Other, and Community Education~~

~~2-002.01A Educating the client on the pathology of pathological gambling, theoretical approaches to treatment, self-help options, the recovery process, and available literature on the subject of pathological gambling.~~

~~2-002.01B Educating the significant others of a compulsive gambler on impulse control disorders and pathological gambling, family dynamics and the impact of pathological gambling, self-help organizations, and the recovery process.~~

~~2-002.01C Educating the community on pathological gambling issues, the social impact of the disorder, available resources for assistance, and opportunities for community involvement.~~

~~2-002.02 Intake and Assessment~~

~~2-002.02A Gathering relevant client data for administrative, research, and clinical purposes with informed client consent.~~

~~2-002.02B Use of appropriate interview and testing techniques and processes to determine the nature and severity of an individual's gambling related problems and behaviors.~~

~~2-002.02C Recognition of potential co-morbid disorders and/or medical conditions which warrant referral and /or concurrent treatment interventions.~~

~~2-002.02D Coordination of services with other professionals/agencies/organizations via exchange of assessment information within the guidelines of the code of ethics and local, State, and federal laws.~~

~~2-002.03 Counseling~~

~~2-002.03A Development of an appropriate treatment plan, in collaboration with the client, which establishes therapeutic goals to be obtained from the counseling relationship.~~

~~2-002.03B Use of appropriate therapeutic interventions to assist the client in attainment of identified treatment goals.~~

~~2-002.03C Use of crisis identification and intervention techniques.~~

~~2-002.03D Continual monitoring of potential co-morbid disorders which require referral and/or consultation.~~

~~2-002.04 Case Management~~

~~2-002.04A Development of a professional relationship with a variety of community resource systems.~~

~~2-002.04B Evaluation of the clients financial status and selection of therapeutically appropriate resources for financial recovery.~~

~~2-002.04C Educating community resource systems on the recovery process and the ability of the disorder to be effectively treated.~~

~~2-002.04D Maintenance of appropriate documentation which facilitates coordination of services across disciplines.~~

~~2-002.05 Professional Responsibility~~

~~2-002.05A Maintenance of professional relationships with clients, co-workers, and the community.~~

~~2-002.05B Appropriate documentation and record keeping of interactions with clients.~~

~~2-002.05C Identification of issues/disorders beyond a counselors scope of practice and referral of the client to appropriate resources to meet client needs.~~

~~2-003 Certification Standards: An applicant may apply for certification under the following standards. An applicant must document the requirements set forth below:~~

~~2-003.01 Education~~

~~2-003.01A A high school diploma or GED.~~

~~2-003.01B Seventy-two hours of education related to the knowledge and skills of compulsive gambling counseling which must include:~~

~~2-003.01B1 A minimum of 12 hours in basic compulsive gambling knowledge. Basic knowledge must consist of education on the history and social impact of gambling in the U.S., the historical and theoretical approaches to treating compulsive gamblers, and the predominant effects of compulsive gambling on the client and their significant others.~~

~~2-003.01B2 A minimum of 12 hours in intake and assessment of compulsive gambling clients. Training must consist of education on the indicators of the presence of compulsive gambling, identification of client needs, and matching identified needs with appropriate treatment modalities. Training must also include education on identification of common co-morbid disorders and medical conditions that warrant referral and/or consultation.~~

~~2-003.01B3 A minimum of 12 hours in significant other treatment of compulsive gambling, including education on general family dynamics, effects of compulsive gambling on family systems, and facilitating appropriate changes as related to the compulsive gambling.~~

~~2-003.01B4 A minimum of 12 hours in case management for compulsive gambling clients, including education on working with compulsive gambling clients to establish therapeutic goals, measuring treatment effectiveness, and utilization of resources to effectively accomplish identified goals.~~

~~2-003.01B5 A minimum of 12 hours in individual and group counseling skills with compulsive gamblers, including education that will enhance the counselor's ability to engage, elicit feelings, and facilitate awareness in the therapeutic relationship with compulsive gambling clients.~~

~~2-003.01B6 A minimum of six hours in special populations counseling course work, including education which assists the counselor in working with clients from a variety of racial, ethnic, age, gender and socio-economic populations.~~

~~2-003.01B7 A minimum of six hours in legal/financial aspects of compulsive gambling, including education which promotes understanding of legal, financial, and occupational issues related to compulsive gambling and effective resources to appropriately resolve these issues.~~

~~2-003.02 Practicum: An applicant must document a practicum that includes a minimum of 200 hours of supervised compulsive gambling counseling working with diagnosed compulsive gambling clients in the counselor performance domains in a work setting.~~

~~2-003.02A A minimum of 40 hours must be documented in the area of intake and assessment.~~

~~2-003.02B A minimum of 40 hours must be documented in the area of case management.~~

~~2-003.02C A minimum of 80 hours must be documented in the area of counseling.~~

~~2-003.02D A minimum of 20 hours must be documented in the area of client, family, and community education.~~

~~2-003.02E A minimum of 20 hours must be documented in the area of professional responsibility.~~

~~2-003.03 Supervisor: The supervisor must be a Nebraska certified compulsive gambling counselor or other Division-approved supervisor. The supervisee may not be related to the supervisor by blood or by marriage.~~

~~2-003.03A A minimum of one hour of evaluative face-to-face supervision to ten hours of counselor performance must be documented.~~

~~2-003.03B Methods of supervision must include, but are not limited to; individual supervisory sessions, formal case staffing, and conjoint/co-therapy sessions. Supervision must be directed toward teaching the knowledge and skills of professional compulsive gambling counseling.~~

~~2-003.04 Substitution for Practicum: Current certification at the national level may be substituted for the 200 hours of Practicum experience.~~

~~2-003.05 Reference: One reference must be sent to the Division from the applicant's practicum supervisor. The reference must include a rating of the applicant's compulsive gambling counseling knowledge and skills.~~

~~2-003.06 Code Of Ethics: The applicant must attest to having read and agreed to be bound to the code of ethics set forth in 201 NAC 5, and sign a statement to that effect as part of the application process.~~

~~2-003.07 Knowledge Demonstration: An applicant must pass a Division-approved written examination for Compulsive Gambling Counselors.~~