

TITLE 176 NEBRASKA CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS MANAGEMENT

CHAPTER 1 CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

001. SCOPE AND AUTHORITY. These regulations implement Nebraska Revised Statutes (Neb. Rev. Stat.) §§ 71-7101 to 71-7113, known as the Critical Incident Stress Management Act.

002. DEFINITIONS. Definitions are set out in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-7102, and these regulations.

002.01 CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS MANAGEMENT PEERS. Emergency service personnel who are appointed to the program in accordance with these regulations, program standards, policies and guidelines.

002.02 MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL. A mental health professional is a:

- (A) State of Nebraska credentialed physician, psychologist, social worker, professional counselor, mental health practitioner, or as a nurse practitioner or physician assistant with a clinical specialty in psychiatry or mental health;
- (B) State of Nebraska credentialed registered nurse who holds a clinical nurse specialist credential in psychiatric nursing or mental health;
- (C) Certified by the Nebraska Department of Education with an endorsement as a school psychologist or as a school guidance counselor; or
- (D) Clergy member of a recognized denomination with documentation of completion of a generally recognized Clinical Pastoral Education program which includes a practicum or a current membership in the American Association of Pastoral Counselors or equivalent organization.

002.03 MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT PERSONNEL. Mental health professionals who have been appointed to the Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Program in accordance with these regulations, program standards, policies and guidelines. The terms Mental Health Professional and Mental Health Worker mean the same as Mental Health Support Personnel.

003. APPOINTMENT TO THE CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM. To be appointed as a Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Program team member, an individual shall:

- (A) Submit a complete application provided by the Department;
- (B) Submit proof of successful completion of the Basic Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Group Intervention Course;
- (C) Submit the license or certificate number if licensed or credentialed under the Uniform Credentialing Act or by the Nebraska Department of Education;
- (D) Submit, if applicable, documentation of a recognized Clinical Pastoral Education program and proof of practicum or membership in the American Association of Pastoral Counselors or an equivalent organization; and
- (E) Have a minimum of two years' experience in emergency services, corrections, or as a mental health professional.

004. RESIGNATION. Any team member wishing to resign from the program shall surrender all forms of Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Program identification to the Department. A team member who has resigned and wishes to be reinstated must reapply.

005. STANDARD OF CONDUCT. The Department may remove a team member for any of the following:

- (A) Failure to follow program standards, policies and guidelines;
- (B) Failure to show at interventions the team member has agreed to attend;
- (C) Knowingly misrepresenting the affairs or operations of the Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Program;
- (D) Continued absenteeism at Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Program meetings or trainings;
- (E) Continued unavailability or refusal to participate in Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Program interventions;
- (F) Failure to maintain confidentiality regarding interventions;
- (G) Organizing interventions without the prior approval of the Department;
- (H) Responding to an incident and acting behalf of the Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Program without the prior authorization of the Department;
- (I) Using program membership for unauthorized purposes;
- (J) Use of alcohol or drugs that impairs one's ability to participate in a Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Program activity; or
- (K) Conviction of a felony.

006. APPEAL OF REMOVAL FROM THE CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS MANAGEMENT (CISM) TEAM. A team member may appeal the decision to be removed from the Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) team to the Department. The process is as follows:

- (A) The team member shall submit a written appeal to the Department within 30 days of the mailing of the notice of removal, detailing the basis of the appeal and including any supporting documentation.
- (B) A hearing before the Interagency Management Committee will be scheduled within 30 days of receiving the appeal and a written decision will be issued within 30 days of the hearing.
- (C) A team member may appeal the Interagency Management Committee's decision as set out in Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 84-917 to 84-919.