

Counseling FAQ

1. **How long is a Professional Counselor license issued for?**

An initial license is valid for 3 years from the date of initial licensure.

2. **How long is a Limited Professional Counselor license issued for?**

An initial Limited Licensed Counselor license is valid for 1 year from the date of initial licensure. The license may be renewed annually. However, an LLC may not renew their license for more than 10 years. A licensee may request an extension to the 10-year renewal requirement in cases of hardship.

3. **When can I renew my license? How do I renew my license?**

Licensees can begin to renew their licenses approximately 90 days prior to the expiration date of their current license. Licensees will be sent a renewal notification to the contact on record approximately 90 days prior to the expiration date of the license. Remember to notify the Department in writing of any address change. It's a licensee's responsibility to renew his or her license on time. Failure to receive the renewal notification, or to notify the Department of an address change, does not exempt a licensee from renewing their license on time. Licensees are required to renew their license(s) by using the online renewal system at <https://www.michigan.gov/lara/bureau-list/bpl/miplus-assistant> using a debit or credit card containing an American Express, MasterCard, Visa or Discover logo or by electronic check.

4. **Do I need to complete continuing education (CE)?**

The law for Counseling does not require continuing education for renewal. A licensee is responsible for maintaining their competence in the profession, but a licensee does not have to demonstrate the ways he or she is doing that for renewal.

5. **There have been changes to the Public Health Code and Administrative Rules that require licensees and individuals seeking licensure to complete training to identify victims of human trafficking. When does this take effect?**

Beginning with the June 2019 renewal cycle, and all renewal cycles thereafter, licensees must have completed training in identifying victims of human trafficking that meet the standards established in Administrative Rule 338.1751a.

Beginning March 17, 2021, individuals seeking licensure must have completed training to identify victims of human trafficking prior to obtaining a license as a Counselor.

Licensees, or individuals seeking licensure, must complete training in identifying victims of human trafficking only one time. The department may select and audit a sample of individuals and request documentation of proof of completion of training.

6. How do I file a complaint against a health care professional?

Information on how to [File an Allegation Against a Health Care Licensee](#) can be located on the Bureau of Professional Licensing's website at www.michigan.gov/bpl.

7. Where can I find a copy of the administrative rules pertaining to Counselors?

You may view the current [Administrative Rules](#) and proposed revisions on the website www.michigan.gov/bpl.