

Bureau of Professional Licensing Counseling FAQ

The answers provided are not meant to be a substitute for legal advice.

Contact Information:

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[BPLHelp](#)

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

An initial Professional Counselor license is valid until the next expiration date of the profession (anywhere from 4 months to 1 year). After the first renewal, the license will be valid for 3 years.

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

An initial license is valid until the next license expiration date of the profession unless the license is issued less than 120 days prior to the expiration date and then it will carry to the following year. The license may be renewed annually. However, a LLPC may not renew their license for more than 10 years. Further, individuals who received their LLPC prior to January 1, 2012 must obtain the full professional counselor license by January 1, 2022.

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 mailed a renewal notification to their address 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 www.michigan.gov/elicense using a debit or credit card containing a MasterCard, Visa, or Discover logo or by electronic check.

4. Do I need to complete continuing education?

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 human trafficking training. 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 human trafficking training prior to obtaining a license as a Licensed Professional Counselor or Limited Licensed Professional 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. Where can I find a copy of the administrative rules pertaining to Counseling?

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