

## **ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS:**

This Board does not review an educational institution's counseling program, including distance learning programs, outside of the actual application for licensure.

### **97-02-01-02. Academic programs.**

Academic programs are programs identified specifically as counseling programs in the graduate bulletin of the accredited school or college. These programs include counseling, counselor education, counseling and guidance, counseling and development, and counseling psychology. In addition to the 60 Hr. master's degree in counseling, the applicant's graduate transcript or transcripts must indicate a minimum of **sixty semester credits** or ninety quarter credits relating to counseling, including coursework in:

1. Counseling theories;
2. Counseling methods;
3. Group counseling;
4. Individual appraisal, assessment, or testing;
5. Counseling-related research methods;
6. Human growth and development;
7. Multicultural counseling;
8. Career and lifestyle development;
9. Professional orientation and ethics; and
10. Counseling practicum and internship.

The **practica** must consist of one hundred hours of training in supervised practica in settings relevant to the practice of counseling. The **internship** must consist of six hundred hours of training in supervised internship settings relevant to the practice of counseling. The internship must include experiences commiserate with clinical mental health counseling, including diagnosis, treatment, assessment, treatment planning, and counseling. The practica and internship hours may be within the required graduate semester hours.

The research methods coursework must include content on statistical analysis of data sets pertaining to topics in counseling.

The professional orientation and ethics coursework must be at least three semester credits or five quarter credits, and include content on the profession of counseling and the American Counseling Association code of ethics.

## **2. Distance Learning:**

The North Dakota Board of Counselor Examiners can accept the sixty semester hour Masters Degree Counseling programs offered through a distance education format, provided that:

- 1.) The internship is done locally on-site
- 2.) The Counseling Practicum is approved and supervised by the educational institution, and
- 3.) the applicant meets all other board education requirements. (See above).

[See ND Admin. Code - Section: 97-02-01-02, academic programs, in its entirety.](#)