



Board of Behavioral Sciences



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Gavin Newsom, Governor
State of California

Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency
Department of Consumer Affairs

Order Extending Eligibility Period to Retake Examinations for Marriage and Family Therapist, Educational Psychologist, Clinical Social Worker, and Professional Clinical Counselor Applicants

Pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order N-39-20, during the current State of Emergency, the Director of the California Department of Consumer Affairs (Director) may waive any statutory or regulatory requirements with respect to a professional license issued pursuant to Division 2 of the Business and Professions Code (BPC). This includes professional licenses issued by the Board of Behavioral Sciences (Board).

The Director has granted the Board's request to extend examination eligibility for marriage and family therapist (LMFT), educational psychologist (LEP), clinical social worker (LCSW) and professional clinical counselor (LPCC) applicants that failed the clinical examination (for LMFT, LCSW, or LPCC applicants) or the written examination (for LEP applicants), and whose one-year eligibility to re-take the examination expired between March 31, 2020 and July 1, 2020.

Instead of having one year to retake the examination, these individuals will instead have 18 months to retake the examination. The 18-month timeframe starts on the date the notification of failure of the exam was issued.

A link to the text of the waiver can be found [here](#).

My one-year timeframe to re-take the clinical (or written) examination expired during this time period. What does this mean for me?

It means that you now have additional time to take the exam again without having to submit an entirely new application and meet all current requirements for licensure. To determine your deadline to take the exam, find the date you were officially notified of exam failure. You have 18 months from that date to retake the exam.

What if my one-year eligibility to re-take the exam expires after July 1, 2020?

At this time, the extension of exam eligibility only applies to those whose one-year eligibility expires during the March 31 – July 1, 2020 timeframe. It is unknown at this time if any further extensions will be issued.