MHRT/C Certification Program Update

In the Next Issue:

Credit for Work Experience

Frequently Asked Questions
Continuing Education

We've had several inquiries about the new certification requirements. Here are some FAQs:

Q. I earned my full MHRT/C (II, III, or IV) prior to January 1, 2018. Since there is no expiration date on my certificate, do I have to take continuing education?
A. Yes, all full MHRT/C (II, III, & IV) certificates will be reissued as an MHRT/C with an expiration date and a continuing education requirement. Certificates without an expiration date will become invalid in 2020.

Q. When will I receive my new MHRT/C with an expiration date so I can work on continuing education?
A. We are reissuing certificates to those who provide us with updated contact information in monthly batches based on the month of original issue. Here are two examples:
1. An individual earned their MHRT/C on May 3, 2008, their certificate will be reissued in May 2018 and will be valid through May 31, 2020.
2. An individual earned their MHRT III on July 10, 1997, their certificate will be reissued (as an MHRT/C) in July 2018 and will be valid through July 31, 2020.

Q. I completed 18 hours of continuing education in the past. May I use that to meet the new recertification requirement?
A. No, continuing education must take place during the two-year period your certificate is valid.

Q. When can I start working on continuing education?
A. As soon as you have a full MHRT/C certificate with an expiration date.

Q. May I use a college course towards the continuing education requirement?
A. Yes, as long as the course is relevant to the new knowledge competencies and is completed during the two-year expiration period on your certificate. Please remember, you still need to meet four (4) hours of ethics as part of the 18 hours of continuing education.

***WWW.CFL-MUSKIE.org** for more information on the updated program*

MHRT/C Certification Program Update

Frequently Asked Questions—Continuing Education (Continued)

Q. What if that college isn't regionally accredited. Would those courses still count for continuing education?
A. We will accept a non-regionally accredited college course for continuing education as long as the course is relevant to the new knowledge competencies.

Q. I'm in the middle of completing an MSW degree. If I complete it during my recertification period, may I use that in substitution for the continuing education requirement?
A. We will accept one or more of the courses you complete in that time period towards your MSW for continuing education as long as the course is relevant to the new knowledge competencies.

Q. What happens if I don't complete the continuing education requirement in the two-year period?
A. Your certificate will expire and any services rendered after that will not be allowable under MaineCare billing.

Q. How do I document that I've completed the continuing education requirement? Where do I send that documentation?
A. You will submit an MHRT/C renewal form (download from the CFL website) and certificates of completion for the trainings you completed. Those certificates should list: Training title, trainer's name, number of hours, and date of training.

Q. Do we need prior approval for a training to ensure that it falls within one of the domains and will count toward the continuing education requirement?
A. No, but if you have any question about a training's applicability, please feel free to contact us.

Q. Can an agency develop its own training to fulfill some of the continuing education requirements?

A. Yes, and it needs to be documented with a course completion certificate that includes: Training title, number of hours, and date of training.

MHRT/C Certification Program Update

Frequently Asked Questions—Continuing Education (Continued)

Q. I have a license that requires continuing education. May I count that training towards the MHRT/C?

A. Yes, you may count the continuing education towards both your license and the MHRT/C, provided the training is related to the MHRT/C knowledge competencies.

Q. Would the new online program "Maine's Mental Health System 101" count towards continuing education?

A. Yes, the one-hour online module "Maine's Mental Health System 101" will be accepted as continuing education for those full MHRT/C certificate holders who <u>did not take the module</u> as part of their application process. The course is good for one-hour of continuing education and applies to Domain 2: Community Integration and Inclusion.

Q. Is there a fee for recertification?

A. There is no renewal fee at this time.

Full MHRT/C Continuing Education Requirement:

- Continuing education must be completed during the two-year expiration period on the full MHRT/C certificate
- Total of 18 hours of continuing education related to one or more of the competency domains
- A minimum of four (4) of the 18 hours must be in Ethics
- Submit complete documentation for renewal: Renewal form, certificates of completion with program title, trainer's name, number of hours, and the date of training

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Please keep your questions coming! We'll continue to respond with these emails, as well as have an FAQs page on our website.

What will happen if I don't update my full MHRT/C certificate? Full MHRT/C certificates that are not updated with an expiration date, will be invalid after January 1, 2020. Please send us your complete current contact information at the email address below. We'll issue new certificates over the next several months.
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WWW.CFL-MUSKIE.org _for more information on the updated program_