

January 29, 2019



MHRT/C Certification Program Update

Academic Programs Update

Earlier this month, academic stakeholders came together via a Zoom conference call to talk about aligning their courses and programs with the new MHRT/C competency domains. To date, seven programs have been pre-approved to satisfy the certification requirements, with many others in process. Approved programs will begin offering their courses Fall 2019. First year students will be enrolled in these newly pre-approved programs. Students currently enrolled in MHRT/C tracks or programs may have the option to choose programs, depending on the institution.

Three presenters on the Zoom call included:

- Mark Kavanaugh, Kennebec Valley Community College (KVCC), AAS/Psychology & AAS/Mental Health
- Shawn Graham, University of Maine at Fort Kent (UMFK), BS/Behavioral Sciences, and
- Charlie Bernacchio, University of Southern Maine (USM), MS/Rehabilitation Counseling

While each program is unique, information that may help others moving forward includes:

1. **KVCC** will offer eight courses directly aligned to the new domains. Four courses from the existing program will be adapted, and four others will be developed. They will offer a couple of the current courses as electives.
2. KVCC will not offer parallel tracks (current program and new) in the fall. Currently enrolled students are being counseled to complete in the summer or finish their program with the new courses.
3. All KVCC courses are offered online and face-to-face.
4. **UMFK** completed a crosswalk of their current courses and the new competencies, making adjustments to the syllabi where there were gaps. They will offer a ten course sequence for certification, with the competencies spread throughout the ten classes.
5. UMFK will offer parallel tracks for a period of time so that currently enrolled students can finish under the existing program.
6. **USM** offers five courses in their graduate program, covering all eight competency domains, to complete the MHRT/C certification. Courses are offered online only, on an annual cycle: two in the fall, two in the spring, and one in the summer.

Other Transition Updates

- Students currently enrolled in an approved program will qualify for certification when they graduate using a combination of new and old courses they complete from the approved program.
- Applications will be viewed on a case-by-case basis for the best path forward to meet as many knowledge competencies as possible.
- All new students beginning Fall 2019 will be directed to take the new courses.

The Zoom call was recorded and is available on the [CFL Website](#)!

Please Update Your Contact Information

Please spread the word that Full MHRT/C certificates without an expiration date are **no longer** valid for life. As part of the program redesign, full certificates must have an expiration date and continuing education requirement for renewal. All older MHRT II, III, IV and Community certificates without an expiration date must be reissued as an MHRT/C with an expiration date.

**As of January 1, 2020, the only valid certification for these services is a current Full or Provisional MHRT/C with an expiration date.
THIS CHANGE APPLIES TO EVERYONE.**

If you hold one of these older certificates and you have not updated your personal contact information with the Muskie School, please do so as soon as possible. To update your contact information, please submit your current mailing and home email address to the following email address: updatemhrtccontactinfo@cfl-muskie.org

Has your name changed since your certificate was issued? If so, please also include documentation of your name change. We accept legible copies of the following:

- Marriage license
- Divorce settlement (We only need page 1 and the page listing your new name.)
- Court legal name change petition

Certificates are reissued based on the month your original certificate was issued. It is sent as a PDF to the email you provide us. Have you already updated your contact information, and your month has come, but you haven't received your certificate? First, please check your spam folder. If it's not there, please contact us

Can I check to see if my employees have updated their contact information?

Yes, you may check to see if your employees have updated their contact information with our office. Email a list of names to Scott Bernier at sbernier@maine.edu requesting he check them in the database and he'll let you know if they've updated their personal contact information and when they will receive their new certificate.

Why we want your personal email instead of your work email:

Your new certificate will be issued in the month your original certificate was issued. This could be several months from now. You might change jobs between now and then. Providing your personal email will ensure you receive your new certificate when issued. Submit your updated information to: updatemhrtccontactinfo@cfl-muskie.org

Muskie School of Public Service Center for Learning

12 East Chestnut St. Augusta, ME 04330

Phone: 207-626-5280

Fax: 207-626-5022

TTY: 207-626-5282

Website: cfl-muskie.org

Email: cfl-muskie@maine.edu