

May 30, 2019



MHRT/C Certification Program Update

Inaugural Academic Summit

On May 20, 2019, 18 academic faculty and department heads from all seven University of Maine System campuses, and KVCC, EMCC, and Husson University, came together on the Bangor campus of University of Maine Augusta (UMA) for a half-day summit to discuss the MHRT/C program. The goal of the gathering was to promote networking among the colleagues and to explore ways to best guide students toward achieving the MHRT/C certification.

Staff from the Muskie School Center for Learning (CFL) and the Maine Office of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services (SAMHS) kicked off the day with an update of approved programs, an explanation of the review process, and information about the pending transition to the new guidelines. The group was also updated on the continuing education requirement and the Code of Conduct. There was time for Q&A before the group moved into work groups to address common challenges and ideas for sharing resources between distinct programs. Plans are already in the works for the next annual summit!

New Competency Domains Fall 2019

The revised MHRT/C competencies go into effect for all new certification applicants this fall, 2019. Students who are already enrolled in an approved academic program under the “old” requirements will be grandfathered for full certification. This means that they will be able to graduate with a full MHRT/C certificate using the approved classes they’ve already taken, and either continuing in that program or taking new courses to finish their program. It will depend on what their school offers.

New incoming students this fall are expected to begin taking the new MHRT/C courses. If a college or university hasn’t yet been approved under the new system, these incoming students may still take the old courses but may need to take additional courses to meet the new competency domains.

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(More details to follow.)

The Academic Route to MHRT/C Certification

There are several pathways to full MHRT/C certification: academic education, non-academic training, and related work experience, or a combination of all three. Currently in Maine, there are ten academic programs approved to satisfy requirements for full MHRT/C certification. Some of these institutions offer a MHRT/C minor or certificate track. In certain programs, an individual can take a single course to satisfy a competency domain. Be sure to stay tuned - there will be more approved programs this summer. Check the CFL website for updates.

As of 5/31/19 - Maine Colleges and Universities Approved for Full MHRT/C

