

**From Arizona State Law regarding the Licensing of Behavioral Health Service Agencies**

**Arizona Revised Statutes. Title 9. Health Services, Chapter 20. Department of Health Services Behavioral Health Service Agencies: Licensure**

**R9-20-205. Clinical Supervision**

- A. A clinical director shall ensure that a behavioral health professional develops, implements, monitors, and complies with a written plan for clinical supervision for the agency. A written plan for clinical supervision shall:
1. Ensure that clinical supervision addresses the treatment needs of all clients, including clients who receive treatment from the agency for a short period of time, such as 14 days or less;
  2. Establish criteria to determine:
    - a. When clinical supervision shall be provided to a staff member on an individual basis, which shall include a requirement that a staff member involved in an incident reported under R9-20-202(A)(1) receive clinical supervision related to the incident on an individual basis; and
    - b. When a staff member listed in subsection (B) is capable of providing clinical supervision;
  3. Establish a process for reviewing an incident reported under R9-20-202(A)(1); and
  4. Establish requirements and time-frames for documenting clinical supervision.
- B. A licensee shall ensure that clinical supervision is provided by an individual who:
1. Has skills and knowledge in the behavioral health services that the agency is authorized to provide and the populations served by the agency; and
  2. Is one of the following:
    - a. A behavioral health professional, or
    - b. A behavioral health technician with a combination of full-time behavioral health work experience and post high school education in a field related to behavioral health totaling at least six years.
- C. A licensee shall ensure that a behavioral health technician who provides clinical supervision:
1. Receives clinical supervision from a behavioral health professional according to the requirements in this Section; and
  2. Has skills and knowledge in providing clinical supervision that are verified:
    - a. Before the behavioral health technician provides clinical supervision;
    - b. By a behavioral health professional who provides clinical supervision; and
    - c. Through one or more of the following:
      - i. Visual observation of the behavioral health technician interacting with another individual, such as through role playing exercises;
      - ii. Verbal interaction with the behavioral health technician, such as interviewing, discussion, or question and answer; or
      - iii. A written examination.
- D. A licensee shall ensure that:
1. A behavioral health technician or a behavioral health paraprofessional who works full time receives at least four hours of clinical supervision in a calendar month;
  2. A behavioral health technician or a behavioral health paraprofessional who works part time receives at least one hour of clinical supervision for every 40 hours worked; and
  3. Clinical supervision occurs on an individual or group basis and may include clinical supervision in response to an incident, an emergency safety response, or, if applicable, debriefings that occur after restraint or seclusion.
- E. A licensee shall ensure that clinical supervision includes:
1. Reviewing and discussing client behavioral health issues, behavioral health services, or records;
  2. Recognizing and meeting the unique treatment needs of the clients served by the agency, such as children, adults age 65 or older, individuals who have substance abuse problems, individuals who are seriously mentally ill, or individuals who have co-occurring disorders;

3. Reviewing and discussing other topics that enhance the skills and knowledge of staff members;  
and
  4. For a behavioral health technician providing a client with an assessment or treatment plan, determining whether an assessment or treatment plan is complete and accurate and meets the client's treatment needs.
- F. A licensee shall ensure that the four hours of clinical supervision required for a behavioral health technician and a behavioral health paraprofessional is documented at least once a month, to include:
1. The date of the clinical supervision,
  2. The name, signature, and professional credential or job title of the staff member receiving clinical supervision,
  3. The signature and professional credential or job title of the individual providing clinical supervision and the date signed,
  4. The duration of the clinical supervision,
  5. A description of the topic or topics addressed in clinical supervision, as described in subsection (E),
  6. Whether clinical supervision occurred on a group or individual basis, and
  7. Identification or recommendation of additional training that may enhance the staff member's skills and knowledge.

**Historical Note**

New Section made by exempt rulemaking at 7 A.A.R. 4439, effective October 3, 2001 (Supp. 01-3).  
Amended by exempt rulemaking at 9 A.A.R. 3214, effective June 30, 2003 (Supp. 03-2).

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