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Pennsylvania Counseling Association (PCA)

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2007-07-20 PCA Questions and Concerns about Post-Graduate Supervision for LPC Licensure

Pennsylvania Counseling Association

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QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS ABOUT POST-GRADUATE SUPERVISION FOR LPC LICENSURE

Many masters level graduates of counseling education programs in the Pittsburgh area are unable to get licensed as LPCs because of difficulties obtaining LPC supervision for their work. These individuals have obtained a 60 hour counseling degree and passed the National Counseling Exam. They have also worked for two or more years in the field, supervised by licensed social workers, psychologists, and/or psychiatrists.

- Many masters level graduates of counseling education programs in the Pittsburgh area are having difficulty finding LPC supervision on their job sites.
- There is no available list of LPCs in the community willing to do supervision for licensure.
- Graduates who have found off-site LPC supervision report that the potential supervisors are charging \$40-\$100 per hour of supervision, which most non-licensed counselors cannot afford over the long term needed to meet licensure requirements.
- Graduates who have spoken about possible supervisory arrangements with LPCs in the community report that these individuals are reluctant to do off-site supervision because of the liability issues involved.
- Several graduates have reported that they regret having earned the counseling degree because of the difficulties getting licensed, and are encouraging their peers who are considering the counseling degree to go into social work instead. This is detrimental to the profession of counseling in PA.

Specific question – As program directors, we would like to know how to educate and advise our students, as they near graduation, about how to obtain LPC supervision if it is not available on the work site. Does PCA have any recommendations?

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