

Alabama Administrative Code
Board of Genetic Counseling
Chapter 405-X-1. Licensure

Ala. Admin. Code r. 405-X-1-.01

405-X-1-.01. Qualifications For Licensure.

Currentness

- (1) An individual shall be qualified for licensure as a genetic counselor and the board may issue a license if that individual:
- (a) Is at least 21 years of age;
 - (b) Has submitted a completed licensure application form to the board;
 - (c) Has not engaged in conduct or activities which would constitute grounds for discipline under the Alabama Genetic Counselor Act or the rules created pursuant to the Act;
 - (d) Has successfully completed:
 - 1. A master's degree in genetic counseling from an ACGC or ABMGG accredited training program or an equivalent program approved by the ACGC or the ABMGG; or
 - 2. A doctoral degree and an ABMGG accredited medical genetics training program or an equivalent program approved by the ABMGG;
 - (e) Has successfully passed the American Board of Genetic Counseling Certification Examination, or its equivalent;
 - (f) Has paid the fees established by the board;

(g) Has met the requirements for certification set forth by the ABGC or its successor or the ABMGG or its successor, which are hereby incorporated by reference; and

(h) Has met the requirements for licensure established by the board.

Author: Alabama Board of Genetic Counseling

Credits

Statutory Authority: [Code of Ala. 1975](#), § 34-13A-3, et seq.

History: New Rule: Published December 31, 2020; effective February 14, 2021.

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Ala. Admin. Code r. 405-X-1-.01, AL ADC 405-X-1-.01

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[Alabama Administrative Code](#)

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[Chapter 405-X-1. Licensure](#)

Ala. Admin. Code r. 405-X-1-.02

405-X-1-.02. Qualifications For Temporary Licensure.

[Currentness](#)

- (1) The board may issue a temporary license to an individual if that individual:
- (a) Has submitted a completed temporary licensure application to the board;
 - (b) Has submitted the fees required for temporary licensure;
 - (c) Has achieved active candidate status, or its equivalent, through the American Board of Genetic Counseling, or its equivalent;
 - (d) Has met all of the requirements for licensure in accordance with 405-X-1-.01 except for the examination requirement; and
 - (e) Has met any other condition established by rule.
- (2) The holder of a temporary license shall practice only under the supervision of a qualified supervisor.
- (3) A temporary license shall expire at the earlier of:
- (a) 30 days after failure to pass the American Board of Genetic Counseling Certification Examination;
 - (b) One year from the date the board issues the temporary license;

(c) The issuance of a regular license to the temporary license holder; or

(d) The denial of a regular license to the temporary license holder.

(e) The holder of a temporary license may not renew the temporary license but may reapply for an additional temporary license if the he or she otherwise satisfies the qualification for temporary licensure.

Author: Alabama Board of Genetic Counseling

Credits

Statutory Authority: [Code of Ala. 1975, § 34-13A-3](#), et seq.

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Alabama Administrative Code
Board of Genetic Counseling
Chapter 405-X-1. Licensure

Ala. Admin. Code r. 405-X-1-.03

405-X-1-.03. Renewal Of License.

Currentness

(1) Licensure Periods

(a) A license shall normally be valid for one year, expiring on October 1.

(b) The initial licensure period may be abbreviated in order to have the expiration at the established renewal date.

(2) The renewal of a license shall be accomplished prior to expiration of the license.

(a) Failure to renew prior to the expiration date of the current license will result in an additional late fee.

(b) The board shall not renew a license if that license has been expired for more than 60 days.

(c) A genetic counselor shall not engage in activities that require a genetic counseling license if his or her license has expired.

(3) To be eligible for renewal, the applicant shall:

(a) Hold a valid, active Alabama license;

(b) Submit required fee(s); and

(c) Meet continuing education requirements.

Author: Alabama Board of Genetic Counseling

Credits

Statutory Authority: [Code of Ala. 1975, § 34-13A-3, et seq.](#)

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Alabama Administrative Code
Board of Genetic Counseling
Chapter 405-X-1. Licensure

Ala. Admin. Code r. 405-X-1-.04

405-X-1-.04. Placing License On Inactive Status.

[Currentness](#)

(1) A licensee may elect to place his or her license on inactive status for up to, but not to exceed five (5) years, by submitting the required completed form and fees to the board.

(2) An inactive licensee may not practice genetic counseling in this state and shall be excused from payment of renewal fees until he or she restores the license to active status.

Author: Alabama Board of Genetic Counseling

Credits

Statutory Authority: [Code of Ala. 1975, § 34-13A-3, et seq.](#)

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Alabama Administrative Code
Board of Genetic Counseling
Chapter 405-X-1. Licensure

Ala. Admin. Code r. 405-X-1-.05

405-X-1-.05. Restoration Of Expired Or Inactive License.

[Currentness](#)

An individual who has permitted his or her license to expire or who has had his or her license on inactive status may have his or her license restored by:

- (a) Submitting a completed restoration application to the board;
- (b) Filing proof acceptable to the board of his or her fitness to have his or her license restored, including, but not limited to, sworn evidence certifying to active practice in another jurisdiction satisfactory to the board;
- (c) Paying the required restoration and license fee(s); and
- (d) If the individual has not maintained an active practice in another jurisdiction satisfactory to the board, the board shall determine, by its evaluation program (defined as maintaining certification through the American Board of Genetic Counseling or successful completion of the American Board of Genetic Counseling certification examination), such individual's fitness to resume active status and may require the individual to complete a period of evaluated clinical experience and successful completion of an examination.

Author: Alabama Board of Genetic Counseling

Credits

Statutory Authority: [Code of Ala. 1975, § 34-13A-3, et seq.](#)

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Alabama Administrative Code
Board of Genetic Counseling
Chapter 405-X-1. Licensure

Ala. Admin. Code r. 405-X-1-.06

405-X-1-.06. Change Of Name Or Contact Information.

[Currentness](#)

(1) An applicant or licensee shall notify the Board of any requested name change. Appropriate legal documents shall be submitted prior to changing the name of the licensee.

(2) An applicant or licensee shall notify the Board office of any change in the licensee's or applicant's address or contact information. The address of record is the address provided by the applicant or licensee.

Author: Alabama Board of Genetic Counseling

Credits

Statutory Authority: [Code of Ala. 1975, § 34-13A-3, et seq.](#)

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Alabama Administrative Code
Board of Genetic Counseling
Chapter 405-X-1. Licensure

Ala. Admin. Code r. 405-X-1-.07

405-X-1-.07. Schedule Of Fees.

[Currentness](#)

(1)	License Application Fee:	\$100
(2)	License Fee:	\$300
(3)	Temporary License Application Fee:	\$100
(4)	Temporary License Fee:	\$300
(5)	Late Fee for Licensure Renewal:	\$100
(6)	Restoration Application Fee:	\$250
(7)	License Renewal Fee:	\$300
(8)	Inactive License Application Fee	\$150
(9)	Verification of License Fee	\$ 25

Note, fees for currently practicing genetic counselors for full licenses only will be offered at a discounted rate of one-half (50%) of the full cost through 10/1/2021.

Author: Alabama Board of Genetic Counseling

Credits

Statutory Authority: [Code of Ala. 1975, § 34-13A-3, et seq.](#)

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Alabama Administrative Code

Board of Genetic Counseling

Chapter 405-X-2. Disciplinary Action

Ala. Admin. Code r. 405-X-2-.01

405-X-2-.01. Grounds For Denial Of A License.

Currentness

(1) The following may be grounds for denial of a license:

(a) Failure to meet any requirement or standard established by law or by rules and regulations adopted by the Board.

(b) Engaging in fraud, misrepresentation, deception, or concealment of a material fact in applying for or securing licensure or taking any examination required for licensure.

(c) A course of conduct that would be grounds for discipline under Chapter 405-X-2-.02.

(d) Having disciplinary action pending or having a license denied, conditionally issued, reprimanded, placed on probation, suspended, revoked, or voluntarily surrendered in another state, territory or country.

(e) Having been court-martialed or administratively discharged by a branch of the United States Armed Forces for any act or conduct that would constitute grounds for discipline in this state under Chapter 405-X-2-.02.

(f) Failure to produce evidence of good moral character.

1. The decision as to whether the applicant is of good moral character is within the discretion of the Board.

2. Failure to show good moral character includes but is not limited to a criminal history or pattern of illegal conduct or disregard for the law.

(g) Any other reasons authorized by law.

Author: Alabama Board of Genetic Counseling

Credits

Statutory Authority: [Code of Ala. 1975, § 34-13A-3, et seq.](#)

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Alabama Administrative Code

Board of Genetic Counseling

Chapter 405-X-2. Disciplinary Action

Ala. Admin. Code r. 405-X-2-.02

405-X-2-.02. Grounds For Discipline Of A Licensee Or Denial Of Renewal Or Reinstatement.

Currentness

(1) The Board may reprimand, fine, probate, suspend, revoke or otherwise discipline any genetic counselor upon proof that the person:

(a) Is guilty of fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to procure a license by:

1. Filing false, forged or altered documents or credentials, including required continuing education documentation.
2. Misrepresenting or falsifying facts in applying for original licensure, renewal, reactivation, or reinstatement of license.
3. Having another person appear for a licensing or certification examination.

(b) Has been convicted of a felony offense.

(c) Has been convicted of, or has entered a plea of no contest, nolo contendere, nolo contendere, or has entered a plea of guilt, regardless of court disposition (including adjudication withheld), to a charged criminal act involving moral turpitude or of gross immorality that would tend to bring reproach upon the genetic counseling profession. Such criminal acts include, but are not limited to, offenses involving drugs, theft, lewdness, sexual misconduct, abuse, violence, fraud, or any other conduct deemed detrimental to the public's health, safety or welfare.

(d) Is impaired due to the use of alcohol, or is addicted to the use of habit-forming drugs to such an extent as to render the genetic counselor unsafe or unreliable which includes but is not limited to:

1. Testing positive for alcohol and/or unauthorized drugs.
2. Misappropriation or diversion of drugs from the workplace.
3. A pattern of abuse or misuse of habit forming or mood-altering drugs or alcohol.
4. Impairment while on duty due to the use of drugs or alcohol.
5. Refusal to submit to drug screen for cause.
6. The use of alcohol or habit forming or mood-altering drugs to the extent that medical or psychiatric treatment, rehabilitation, or counseling is medically determined or otherwise recommended by a legally authorized practitioner.

(e) Has been convicted of any violation of a federal or state law relating to controlled substances, including misdemeanor and felony offenses.

(f) Is guilty of unprofessional conduct of a character likely to deceive, defraud, or injure the public in matters pertaining to health, which includes but is not limited to:

1. Failure to comply with the Alabama Genetic Counselor Act and rules and regulations as well as federal, state or local laws, rules or regulations applicable to the area of genetic counseling practice.
2. Failure to practice genetic counseling in accordance with the standards of practice adopted by the Board.
3. Practice beyond the scope of practice as determined by, but not limited to educational preparation; license status; state and federal statutes and regulations; state and national standards appropriate to the type of practice; genetic counseling experience; standardized procedures; knowledge, skills and ability to manage risks and potential complications; and required instruction and supervision.
4. Failure to use appropriate judgment in practicing genetic counseling judgment.
5. Failure to demonstrate competence in administering or carrying out patient care.

6. Failure to make entries, destroying or altering entries, charting before assessment or delivery of care, or making false entries in patient, employer, or employee records.

7. Failure to timely, accurately, legibly, and completely report and document on appropriate records a patient's status, including signs and symptoms, responses, treatments, medications, other genetic counseling rendered, communication of pertinent information to other health team members, and unusual occurrences involving the patient.

8. Assigning patient care in a manner that fails to take into consideration patient safety.

9. Assigning genetic counseling functions to others who lack the educational preparation, license, credentials, competence, experience, knowledge, or physical, mental or emotional ability to perform the assigned functions.

10. Failure to provide adequate supervision, management, or training of individuals to whom genetic counseling functions or responsibilities are delegated or assigned.

11. Gross negligence in the practice of genetic counseling.

12. Abandoning or neglecting patients. A certified copy of the record of a state or federal agency that substantiated neglect of a patient shall be conclusive evidence of patient neglect.

13. Failure to safeguard the patient's dignity, right to privacy, and confidential health information.

14. Intentionally or negligently causing or permitting physical, sexual, emotional, or verbal abuse of a patient, willfully harassing or intimidating a patient. A certified copy of the record of a state or federal agency that substantiated patient abuse shall be conclusive evidence of abuse, harassment, or intimidation of a patient.

15. Violating professional boundaries of the genetic counselor-patient relationship that includes but is not limited to:
 - (i) Sexual or intimate conduct with a patient, patient's immediate family member(s) or significant other(s); or

 - (ii) Emotional or financial exploitation of the patient or the patient's immediate family member(s) or significant

other(s).

16. Exhibiting unethical or unprofessional conduct or behavior in the workplace.

17. Engaging in fraud, deceit or misrepresentation in seeking employment, practicing, or seeking to practice that includes but is not limited to:

(i) Alteration of a temporary permit, identification card or license,

(ii) Falsification of credentials,

(iii) Falsification of employment records, or

(iv) Representing oneself as a genetic counselor without a license. Representation as a genetic counselor includes using in connection with a person's practice the words "genetic counselor," "licensed genetic counselor," "gene counselor," "genetic consultant," "genetic associate," or any words, letters, abbreviations, or insignia indicating or implying the individual holds a genetic counseling license.

18. Commission of fraudulent acts in advertising, insurance, or in billing for services, which includes, but is not limited to:

(i) Medicare or other federal government programs,

(ii) Medicaid or other state government programs, and

(iii) Commercial insurance or health plan.

19. Aiding, abetting, or assisting an individual to violate or circumvent any law or rule intended to guide the conduct of a genetic counselor or any other licensed health care provider.

20. Failure to ensure verification of current Alabama licensure and credentials of genetic counseling personnel for whom the genetic counselor is administratively responsible.

21. Personal use of unauthorized or illegal drugs or substances or obtaining, furnishing or administering drugs or controlled substances to any person, except as directed by a legally authorized prescriber.

22. Appropriating anything of value, use or benefit, including but not limited to:

(i) Any real or personal property of the patient, employer, or any other person or entity; or

(ii) Failing to take precautions to prevent such misappropriation.

23. Practicing while the mental or physical ability to practice is impaired by any mood-altering drugs or substances or by a physical, mental, or emotional disorder that renders the genetic counselor unable to perform with reasonable skill and safety.

24. Failure to report illegal, substandard, unethical, unsafe or incompetent genetic counseling practices.

25. Having a license denied, conditionally issued, reprimanded, placed on probation, suspended, revoked, or voluntarily surrendered in another state, territory or country, or having been court-martialed or administratively discharged by a branch of the United States Armed Forces for any act or conduct which would constitute grounds for disciplinary action in this state. A certified copy of the record of the agency that took such action shall be conclusive evidence of the grounds for discipline.

(g) Has failed to respond to official Board correspondence, including but not limited to requests for information, subpoenas, or notices.

(h) Has willfully or repeatedly violated any of the provisions of a statute or rule that includes but is not limited to:

1. Practicing or seeking to practice genetic counseling without a current license.

2. Impersonating an applicant for licensure or another licensed practitioner or permitting or allowing another person to use the genetic counseling license.

3. Continued violation of statute or rule after notice by the Board.

4. Failure to comply with any stipulated terms and conditions of any Board order or contract.

(i) Failed to comply with continuing education requirements.

(j) Submitted payment of any fees or fines to the Board with a worthless check, invalid credit card, or by any other method that is not honored by the financial institution.

(k) Poses a risk to public safety for any other reasons stated by law.

(l) Violates the code of ethics adopted and published by the National Association of Genetic Counselors or its successor organization.

Author: Alabama Board of Genetic Counseling

Credits

Statutory Authority: [Code of Ala. 1975, § 34-13A-3, et seq.](#)

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Alabama Administrative Code

Board of Genetic Counseling

Chapter 405-X-2. Disciplinary Action

Ala. Admin. Code r. 405-X-2-.03

405-X-2-.03. Investigation.

Currentness

(1) Upon self-disclosure or receipt of a written complaint alleging that a genetic counselor has violated a statute or rule by committing one or more of the actions specified as grounds for disciplinary action, the Board or its designee shall perform a preliminary review to determine if there is merit and sufficient evidence to warrant formal proceedings.

(2) When the Board or its designee determines there may be merit and sufficient evidence exists to warrant proceedings, an investigative committee shall be formed consisting of one Board member, one Board counsel, and a designee.

(a) Within 30 days of self-disclosure or receipt of a written complaint, the Board or its designee shall provide the genetic counselor, against whom the complaint was made, written notification of the complaint and allegations. The genetic counselor may submit, to the Board or its designee, a written response and any supporting documentation within 15 days of the receipt of the written notification.

(b) The committee shall review the complaint and other information submitted to determine if further investigation is warranted.

1. If an investigation is warranted, an investigator shall be retained. At the conclusion of the investigation, the investigator shall submit an investigation report to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee. The investigative committee shall send written notification to the complainant and the genetic counselor, against whom the complaint was made, of any action outlined in 405-X-2-.04 the committee decides to take in response to the investigation report.

2. If the committee determines that an investigation is not warranted, the Board or its designee may close the investigative file, provided that the matter may be reinvestigated at any time if circumstances so warrant. The Board or its designee shall notify the complainant and the genetic counselor against whom the complaint was made.

Author: Alabama Board of Genetic Counseling

Credits

Statutory Authority: [Code of Ala. 1975, § 34-13A-3, et seq.](#)

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Ala. Admin. Code r. 405-X-2-.04

405-X-2-.04. Board Action Following Investigation.

[Currentness](#)

(1) The Board or its authorized designee shall have the power to act on the report of the investigation as follows:

(a) Dismiss complaint.

(b) Commence disciplinary proceedings.

(c) Accept voluntary surrender of a license.

Author: Alabama Board of Genetic Counseling

Credits

Statutory Authority: [Code of Ala. 1975, § 34-13A-3, et seq.](#)

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Board of Genetic Counseling

Chapter 405-X-2. Disciplinary Action

Ala. Admin. Code r. 405-X-2-.05

405-X-2-.05. Formal Disposition Of Contested Cases.

Currentness

(1) At least thirty days prior to the administrative hearing, a notice of hearing and a copy of the charges shall be served on the applicant or genetic counselor personally or by registered or certified mail to the last known address shown on the records of the Board.

(2) The Board's complaint may be amended prior to the hearing but no amendment shall be permitted which is not germane to the charge or charges or which materially alters the nature of any offense charged. The Board shall have the right to determine the sufficiency of the complaint.

(3) A motion for withdrawal of the complaint may be filed with the Board's designee. The circumstances surrounding the attempt to withdraw the complaint may be explained by the person who is attempting to withdraw the complaint and the explanation shall be considered. No complaint that is well-founded will be dismissed solely upon the motion of the original complainant.

(4) Pleadings relating to disciplinary proceedings pending before the Board shall be filed with the Board's designee. Pleadings shall be deemed filed upon actual receipt.

(5) Requests for subpoenas shall be filed with the Board or the officer presiding over the hearing at least ten days prior to the hearing along with the appropriate subpoena-processing fee. Any expense for service by a sheriff, process server or other entity shall be the responsibility of the party requesting the subpoena. Any expenses incurred relative to subpoenas requested by a respondent, either for witnesses or related to production of documents are the responsibility of the party who requested the issuance of said subpoena.

(6) The hearing shall be conducted by the Board or by a hearing officer appointed by the Board. All testimony shall be under oath and shall be transcribed by a court reporter scheduled by the Board. Telephonic or other real-time electronic testimony is admissible at the discretion of the hearing officer.

(7) A continuance may be granted by the Board or its designee upon the filing of a written motion and affidavit detailing the

reasons for the continuance. No motion for continuance shall be granted unless filed at least five days prior to the hearing. This provision may be waived upon showing of an emergency.

Author: Alabama Board of Genetic Counseling

Credits

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[Chapter 405-X-2. Disciplinary Action](#)

Ala. Admin. Code r. 405-X-2-.06

405-X-2-.06. Informal Disposition Of Contested Cases.

[Currentness](#)

(1) Complaints or controversies may be considered and resolved by the Board or Board designee through alternative dispute resolution, informal conferences, meetings, or other informal means. Such informal measures shall be held without prejudice to the right of the Board thereafter to institute formal proceedings based upon the same or related material if circumstances so warrant.

(2) Informal dispositions may be made of any contested case by stipulation, agreed settlement, consent order or default or by another method agreed upon by the parties in writing and as approved by the Board.

Author: Alabama Board of Genetic Counseling

Credits

Statutory Authority: [Code of Ala. 1975, § 34-13A-3, et seq.](#)

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Board of Genetic Counseling

Chapter 405-X-2. Disciplinary Action

Ala. Admin. Code r. 405-X-2-.07

405-X-2-.07. Decisions Of The Board.

Currentness

(1) Based upon the evidence presented at the administrative hearing or pursuant to informal disposition the Board action may be one or more of the following:

(a) Dismiss the complaint.

(b) Reprimand the respondent.

(c) Suspend the respondent's license. A suspended license is subject to expiration during the suspension period.

(d) Revoke the respondent's license.

(e) Deny approval of the application.

(f) Deny renewal or reinstatement of a license.

(g) Impose other sanctions or restrictions.

(2) The Board may levy a fine not to exceed \$1,000.00 per violation. Each day of a violation may be considered as a separate violation.

(3) The decisions of the Board shall be in writing in the form of an order, a copy of which shall be mailed or delivered to the

respondent or the respondent's attorney.

(4) The decisions of the Board shall be subject to public dissemination.

Author: Alabama Board of Genetic Counseling

Credits

Statutory Authority: [Code of Ala. 1975, § 34-13A-3, et seq.](#)

History: New Rule: Published December 31, 2020; effective February 14, 2021.

Current through the May 28, 2021 Alabama Administrative Monthly. Some sections may be more current. Please consult the credit on each document for more information. The Rules of the Alabama Banking Department are not part of the Alabama Administrative Code. The Alabama Banking Department Regulations appearing here have been obtained directly from the Banking Department, and are presented for user assistance and convenience.

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Ala. Admin. Code r. 405-X-2-.07, AL ADC 405-X-2-.07

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Alabama Administrative Code

Board of Genetic Counseling

Chapter 405-X-2. Disciplinary Action

Ala. Admin. Code r. 405-X-2-.08

405-X-2-.08. Application Following Denial Of Licensure.

Currentness

- (1) Application for a license following denial of licensure shall include evidence of rehabilitation, or elimination or resolution of the conditions for denial.
- (2) Board action on applications following denial of licensure may be resolved either informally or through the formal hearing process.
- (3) In considering a subsequent application for licensure, the Board may evaluate factors that include but are not limited to:
- (a) The severity of the act(s) or omission(s) which resulted in the denial of license.
 - (b) The conduct of the applicant subsequent to the denial of license.
 - (c) The lapse of time since denial of license.
 - (d) Compliance with any conditions stipulated by the Board as a prerequisite for a subsequent application.
 - (e) Rehabilitation attained by the applicant as evidenced by statements provided directly to the Board from qualified individuals who have professional knowledge of the applicant.
 - (f) Whether the applicant is in violation of any applicable statute or rule.

Author: Alabama Board of Genetic Counseling

Credits

Statutory Authority: [Code of Ala. 1975, § 34-13A-3](#), et seq.

History: New Rule: Published December 31, 2020; effective February 14, 2021.

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Alabama Administrative Code

Board of Genetic Counseling

Chapter 405-X-2. Disciplinary Action

Ala. Admin. Code r. 405-X-2-.09

405-X-2-.09. Reinstatement Of A Revoked License.

Currentness

(1) Application for reinstatement:

(a) May be made twelve months after the effective date of revocation unless otherwise specified in Order or Agreement.

(b) Shall be made according to forms and guidelines provided by the Board.

(2) Applications for reinstatement of a revoked license may be resolved informally or through the formal hearing process.

(3) In considering reinstatement of a revoked license, the Board may evaluate factors that include but are not limited to:

(a) Severity of the act(s) that resulted in revocation of the license.

(b) Conduct of the applicant subsequent to the revocation of license.

(c) Lapse of time since revocation.

(d) Compliance with all reinstatement requirements stipulated by the Board.

(e) Rehabilitation attained by the applicant as evidenced by statements provided directly to the Board from qualified individuals who have professional knowledge of the applicant.

(f) Whether the applicant is in violation of any applicable statute or rule.

Author: Alabama Board of Genetic Counseling

Credits

Statutory Authority: [Code of Ala. 1975, § 34-13A-3, et seq.](#)

History: New Rule: Published December 31, 2020; effective February 14, 2021.

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[Alabama Administrative Code](#)

[Board of Genetic Counseling](#)

[Chapter 405-X-3. Continuing Education](#)

Ala. Admin. Code r. 405-X-3-.01

405-X-3-.01. Continuing Education Requirements.

[Currentness](#)

(1) Licensed genetic counselors must comply with the following continuing education rules as a prerequisite to licensure renewal.

(2) For each 12-month period an individual holds a genetic counselor license, the genetic counselor must complete 1.25 continuing education units (category 1 or 2) or twelve and one half (12.5) contact hours approved for recertification purposes by the ABGC prior to renewing the license.

(3) The Board may waive or otherwise modify the requirements of this rule in cases where there is retirement, or an illness, disability or other undue hardship that prevents a licensee from obtaining the requisite number of continuing education hours. Requests for waivers or modification must be sent in writing to the Board's administrative office prior to the expiration of the renewal period in which the continuing education is due.

Author: Alabama Board of Genetic Counseling

Credits

Statutory Authority: [Code of Ala. 1975, § 34-13A-3, et seq.](#)

History: New Rule: Published December 31, 2020; effective February 14, 2021.

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[Alabama Administrative Code](#)

[Board of Genetic Counseling](#)

[Chapter 405-X-3. Continuing Education](#)

Ala. Admin. Code r. 405-X-3-.02

405-X-3-.02. Proof Of Compliance With Continuing Education Requirements.

[Currentness](#)

(1) Submission of proof of compliance with continuing education requirements must be sent along with the renewal application.

(2) Genetic counselors must retain independent documentation of completion of all continuing education hours. This documentation must be retained for a period of four (4) years from the end of the renewal period in which the continuing education was acquired. This documentation must be produced for inspection and verification, if requested in writing by the Board during its verification process. Documentation verifying the licensed individual's completion of the continuing education program(s) may consist of any one or more of the following:

(a) Certificates from the continuing education program's sponsor, indicating the date, length in minutes awarded, program title, licensed individual's name and license number; or

(b) An original letter on official stationery from the continuing education program's sponsor indicating date, length in minutes awarded, program title, licensed individual's name and license number.

(3) If a person submits documentation for continuing education that is not clearly identifiable as appropriate continuing education, the Board will request a written description of the education and how it applies to the practice of genetic counseling.

Author: Alabama Board of Genetic Counseling

Credits

Statutory Authority: [Code of Ala. 1975, § 34-13A-3, et seq.](#)

History: New Rule: Published December 31, 2020; effective February 14, 2021.

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