

**List of Mental Health Professionals**

<b>Name Of Professional</b>	<b>Licensing Initials</b>	<b>Definition of Initials</b>	<b>Role In Healthcare</b>
Credentialed Alcohol Substance Abuse Counselor	CASAC	Credential Alcohol Substance Abuse Counselor (CASAC)	CASAC's provide direct clinical care services and substance use disorder counseling, including: Diagnostic Assessment; Evaluation; Intervention; Referral Substance Use Disorder counseling in both individual and group settings.
Licensed Creative Arts Therapist	LCAT	Licensed Creative Arts Therapist (LCAT)	Creative arts therapists are trained in psychotherapy and in specific arts disciplines, which may include dance/movement therapy, drama therapy, music therapy, poetry therapy and art therapy.
Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist	MFT or LMFT	Marriage & Family Therapist (MFT)  Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist (LMFT)	Marriage and Family Therapists (MFTs) are mental health professionals trained in psychotherapy and family systems, and licensed to diagnose and treat mental and emotional disorders within the context of marriage, couples and family systems. Sometimes utilized to settle disagreements or concerns between married couples or families regarding advanced directives.
Licensed Mental Health Counselor	LMHC	Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC)	LMHC's can treat individuals, families, couples, and groups through supportive counseling interventions.
Pastoral Care (Chaplain, Minister, Pastor, Ordained/Lay Person with psychological and therapeutic training)	BCC  MAPCC	Board Certified Chaplain  Masters In Pastoral Care & Counseling (MAPCC)	Pastoral care is a contemporary term for an ancient model of emotional, social and spiritual support that can be found in all cultures and traditions. The term is considered inclusive of distinctly non-religious forms of support, as well as support for people from religious communities.

<p>Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner</p>	<p>PMHNP</p>	<p>Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP)</p>	<p>Psychiatric NPs take care of patients suffering from a variety of mental illnesses and disorders. Their duties will vary based on where they work, but they often include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diagnosing and treating common acute psychiatric problems, illness, and crises;</li> <li>• Psychopharmacologic management in collaboration with a psychiatrist;</li> <li>• Providing individual, group, and family psychotherapy;</li> <li>• Caring for and counseling clients with common identified chronic psychiatric conditions.</li> </ul>
<p>Psychiatrist</p>	<p>Psych, MD</p>	<p>Psychiatrist Mental Health, Psychology Medicine (Psych)  Medical Doctor (MD)</p>	<p>Medical doctor with additional training and specialization in mental health. <b>A psychiatrist can prescribe medication, but they often do not counsel patients.</b></p>
<p>Psychologist</p>	<p>PH.D or Psy.D.</p>	<p>Doctor of Philosophy (PH.D) OR Doctor of Psychology (Psy.D.)</p>	<p><b>A psychologist cannot prescribe medication. Psychologists often work closely with psychiatrists.</b></p> <p><b>Clinical psychologists</b> assess, diagnose, and treat mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders. Clinical psychologists help people deal with problems ranging from short-term personal issues to severe, chronic conditions. Clinical psychologists often consult with other health professionals regarding the best treatment for patients, especially treatment that includes medication.</p> <p><b>Counseling psychologists</b> help patients deal with and understand problems, including issues at home, at the workplace, or in their community.</p>

			<p><b>Developmental psychologists</b> study the psychological progress and development that take place throughout life. Many developmental psychologists focus on children and adolescents.</p> <p><b>Rehabilitation psychologists</b> work with physically or developmentally disabled individuals. They help improve quality of life or help individuals adjust after a major illness or accident.</p>
Social Worker (Psychotherapist)	BSW or LBSW	Baccalaureate of Social Work (BSW)  Licensed Baccalaureate of Social Work (LBSW)	The Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree is most suited for entry-level positions in areas such as family services, child welfare, public health, and substance abuse.
Social Worker (Psychotherapist)	MSW or LMSW	Masters of Social Worker (MSW)  Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW)	MSW's can do limited clinical work, advocate, community organize, supervise non-profits, or take on a combination of several different roles.
Social Worker (Psychotherapist)	LCSW	Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW)	An LCSW supports people through various challenges by providing general counseling services, crisis intervention, mental health therapies, substance abuse support, and other key services. <b>They may have private practices, but cannot prescribe medications.</b>

**NOTES:**

- Every state has their own specific set of licensing requirements. Check with your state licensing board to ensure the most recent information.
- In some states, the word “licensed” can be interchangeable with “certified.”
- Recent graduates or unlicensed professionals will often eliminate the “L” from their credential. For example, an “MSW” would have a Master’s degree in social work, but is most likely not licensed in their state. Even without the license, they can still work within the field. However, they may be regulated to a specific scope of work.
- It may also be a personal preference to not indicate the “L” because some professionals feel it should already be assumed they are licensed.
- Closely examine signature lines when emailing your colleagues. Most mental health professionals will indicate their credentials after this name.

**RESOURCES:**

**Social Work:**

National Association of Social Workers: <https://www.socialworkers.org/>

Association of Social Work Boards: <https://www.aswb.org/public/social-work-and-regulation/>

**Licensed Mental Health Counselors:**

American Mental Health Counselors Association: <https://www.amhca.org/home>

**Licensed Marriage & Family Therapists:**

American Association for Marriage & Family Therapists: <https://www.aamft.org/>

**Licensed Creative Arts Therapists:**

American Art Therapy Association: <https://arttherapy.org/credentials-and-licensure/>

**Credential Alcohol Substance Abuse Counselors:**

National Association for Addiction Professionals: <https://www.naadac.org/>

**Psychologists:**

American Psychological Association: <https://www.apa.org/>

**Psychiatrists:**

American Psychiatric Association: <https://www.psychiatry.org/>

**Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioners:**

American Psychiatric Nurses Association: <https://www.apna.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=1>