

GRANDPARENTING: Frequently Asked Questions

How can I get a grandparenting application?

Grandparenting applications are presently available on-line at www.ocdp.ohio.gov. Additionally, grandparenting applications are currently being sent with renewal packets. Renewal packets are issued three (3) months prior to an individual's lapse date.

When do I grandparent?

Individuals will grandparent on their first renewal date with the OCDP Board by submitting a grandparenting application along with their recertification application. Grandparenting applications are automatically sent with recertification packets.

Individuals who wish to grandparent before their renewal date may do so by submitting a grandparenting application to the OCDP Board along with a \$25 processing fee.

Individuals who are do to recertify but do not yet meet grandparenting requirements may wish to seek an extension from the Board.

How do I get an extension on submitting grandparenting paperwork?

Individuals who will not meet requirements to grandparent on their renewal date may seek a temporary extension of their current certification from the OCDP Board. Extensions must be received in writing prior to an individual's lapse date and will take the place of a renewal application. The extension must include the reason for the request (to obtain 40 diagnostic hrs, to complete degree, etc.), an indication of the additional time needed (1 yr, 2 yr, 3 yr) and the appropriate extension fee (\$75.00 per each year requested). The maximum allowable extension will be three (3) years from the effective date of the OCDP Board's administrative rule. This effective date is 6/13/04.

If the extension request is approved by the OCDP Board, an individual's lapse date will be increased by the number of years requested. During this time period, an individual will finish meeting grandparenting requirements and may submit their grandparenting application as soon as completed.

When will my recertification and grandparenting applications be processed?

Individuals should anticipate a 30 day period of time for review and processing of these applications.

Recertification and grandparenting applications received by the OCDP Board will be reviewed and approved simultaneously. A recertification that is submitted without grandparenting paperwork will be considered deficient. The applicant must either submit grandparenting paperwork or submit an extension request.

If an individual grandparents at their scheduled time of renewal, their lapse date will be updated by two years, as always. If an individual grandparents before their renewal date, their grandparenting application will be reviewed, and when approved they will be granted a license. However, these individuals will not see a change in their lapse date. They will still be required to submit renewal paperwork at their scheduled renewal date.

I have 40 hours of diagnostic training and/or a master's degree but don't know if these hours will be accepted by the OCDP Board. How should I proceed?

Recommendation 1: Submit your recertification and grandparenting applications. If the grandparenting application is reviewed and found deficient, the board will issue a deficiency letter. Upon receipt of deficiency letter, the applicant can request an extension to complete additional hours. This extension will change their lapse date and renewal cycle by the number of years requested.

Recommendation 2: Submit a request for an extension on your current certification and pay the extension fee. Individuals can then gain their hours and grandparent and recertify before their extension runs out.

I do not have my 40 hours of diagnostic training, my eight consecutive years and/or the necessary degree. How should I proceed?

Submit a request for an extension on your current certification and pay the extension fee. Individuals can then gain their hours and grandparent and recertify before their extension runs out.

How do I find out if my diagnostic training hours will be approved by the OCDP Board?

Please review the Grandparenting Diagnostic Training Definitions. This document contains the criteria for which the board reviews and approves diagnostic training. Additionally, courses that are pre-approved by the Board will have a "D" classification in the approval number.

Training must be based on the current version of the diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders at the time the training was completed. Training must be provided by an individual authorized to practice medicine and surgery or osteopathic medicine and surgery, a licensed psychologist, or a licensed professional clinical counselor or independent social worker. Presenter credentials must be documented on the certificates of completion for verification purposes.

I am a CCDC III or CCDC III-E without a master's degree. Did I have to hold the eight consecutive years of certification on the effective date of the statute?

No. Individuals may log years of certification all the way to the date they grandparent with the OCDP Board.

I am a CCDC II without a degree. Do I need to obtain a degree in order to grandparent?

No. The OCDP Board submitted an amendment to their current statute to allow CCDC IIs to grandparenting to the LCDC II level without a degree. This amendment was part of SB 189 which was signed by the Governor on March 30, 2004. The OCDP Board is now in the process of revising its administrative rule to reflect this change in statute.

Will individuals still be able to go on ST or LT inactive status? When will they grandparent?

Individuals will still be permitted to request inactive status as in the past. However, these individuals will need to grandparent with the OCDP Board before the 3 year grandparenting window closes. They may grandparent and stay on inactive status or grandparent and renew. The Board will send a special correspondence to all those individuals on inactive status who will not expire in the 3 year window to advise them of the need to grandparent.

If I have a master's degree in a behavioral science, do I need to also complete 40 hours of diagnostic training?

No, individuals who hold a master's degree in a behavioral science do not need to complete the 40 hours of diagnostic training for grandparenting. They simply need to complete the master's degree grid and submit it in their grandparenting application along with their transcript.