



**Chemical Dependency Professionals Board
37 W. Broad Street, Suite 785 ♦ Columbus, Ohio 43215-4132**

Notice of Public Hearing

Ohio Chemical Dependency Professionals Board

Pursuant to Section 119.03 of the Ohio Revised Code, notice is hereby given that the Ohio Chemical Dependency Professionals (OCDP) Board intends to conduct a public hearing.

Of the two rules described below one is being proposed as a new rule and the other is being proposed for revision. The new rule will establish policies, procedures and requirements for the OCDP Board's Master's Degree Accreditation Program. The rule related to fees is being amended to establish fees for the Accreditation Program and adjust fees for written exams and the Chemical Dependency Counselor Assistant application in order to sufficiently cover costs.

The following rule is being proposed as a new rule:

New: OAC 4758-14-01 Master's Accreditation

4758-14-01 will establish policies and procedures for the OCDP Board's Master's Accreditation program. The rule contains information and requirements regarding the application process, site visit procedures, retaining the accreditation, renewal of the accreditation and revocation of the accreditation.

The OCDP Board, based on the recommendation of its Education Committee and expressed interest from various college and university degree programs, voted to establish a voluntary Master's Accreditation program for colleges and universities.

The non-mandatory program will enable colleges and universities to better align course work with Board degree and educational requirements, providing an official endorsement by the Board of a school's chemical dependency counseling related offerings.

Individuals qualify for certification/licensure through a combination of formal education, chemical dependency training, work experience, and testing. The formal education requirement for the Board's top level of licensed independent

Phone: (614) 387-1110 ♦ Fax: (614) 387-1109 ♦ www.ocdp.ohio.gov

chemical dependency counselors (LICDC) is a Master's Degree in a qualified behavioral science training program. In order to qualify, the Master's Degree program must include specific content areas and a specific number of contact hours in each area as spelled out in R.C. 4758.20(A)(10)(11) and 4758.40(A)(1)(3).

The proposed accreditation program will support and facilitate the efforts of applicants for OCDP licensure to secure a master's degree that meets the Board's degree and educational requirements. For those colleges and universities that choose to participate, it will ensure their offerings meet the Board's degree content and educational requirements.

It is expected to provide additional support to an educational institution's efforts to attract students interested in working in chemical dependency counseling. A college or university's accreditation by the Board may be included in the school's promotional material. Students benefit by being assured that the education that they are pursuing will meet the formal education and Master's Degree requirements for Board licensure at the LICDC level. Accreditation will promote an increased level of competence in chemical dependency treatment and provide professionals greater and more focused opportunities to acquire the LICDC designation. Accreditation will provide greater assurance for consumers that there will be a source of professionals who have received training necessary for competent practice in chemical dependency treatment.

The following rule is being proposed for revision:

Revised: OAC 4758-3-01 Fees

4758-3-01 establishes the fees charged by the OCDP Board. This rule is being revised to add fees associated with implementing the Board Master's Accreditation program. Specifically, the fees are a \$300 application fee, a \$3,000 fee for the initial five (5) year accreditation and any subsequent five (5) year accreditation renewals.

The rule is being revised also to reflect the Board's decision to increase fees for written exams and the Chemical Dependency Counselor Assistant (CDCA) application. This action was taken per R.C. 4758.21 requirement to charge fees in amounts sufficient to cover the necessary expenses of the Board.

Written exam fees will increase to \$100. Currently, the prevention and Alcohol and Other Drug Addiction (AODA) written exam fee is \$60. The fee for the clinical supervisor written exam is \$80.

Underlying the Board's decision regarding the testing fees is the International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium's (ICRC) decision to increase what it

charges member boards for an exam. The OCDP Board is a member of the ICRC and uses its tests. The ICRC charges member boards \$70 per exam. However, when costs related to space for conducting the exam, administering the exam and shipping and handling are factored in, OCDP Board costs are approximately \$100 per exam.

The CDCA application fee will increase from \$14 to \$50. It has been determined that processing a CDCA application involves essentially the same amount of time and effort to review as does the Board's prevention certifications and treatment licenses. As a result it is proposed that the CDCA application be equalized with that of its other certifications and licenses to cover the costs of processing.

A public hearing will be conducted:

Date: February 15, 2008
Time: 10:00 A.M.
Room: 1932
Location: Vern Riffe Center, 77 S. High Street, 19th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215