



WAKE FOREST
UNIVERSITY

Department of Counseling

February 4, 2021

Dan Logsdon
Director
National Center for Interstate Compacts
The Council of State Governments
1776 Avenue of the States
Lexington, KY 40511

Dear Mr. Logsdon:

On behalf of the Department of Counseling at Wake Forest University, I write to express our strong support for the Counseling Compact. The Counseling Program at Wake Forest University, which is located in Winston Salem, North Carolina, started in 1968. We have enjoyed CACREP accreditation since 1996. We currently have 22 faculty members and 5 staff members. Our department enrolls approximately 15 students per year for our on-campus program and 100-120 students per year for our online program. At any given time, we have approximately 300 – 320 students in our programs. In 2020, we had students living in 39 different states, as well as Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. For licensure, being a CACREP accredited program allows our graduates to meet many states' curricular and experiential requirements for licensure. However, if our graduates were to move to a different state, they would have to reapply for licensure. In some instances, even after practicing counseling effectively for many years, relocation to a new state would result in our graduates being required to complete additional coursework, take a different licensure exam, and/or complete additional supervised counseling hours to be licensed in their new state.

Much like the existing licensure compacts for nurses, physical therapists, physicians, psychologists and EMS personnel, the Counseling Compact will increase licensure portability for practitioners while allowing member state regulatory boards to better protect consumers through enhanced sharing of licensure information. Existing interstate occupational licensure compacts have been successful in reducing barriers for practitioners who wish to provide services in other states.

We recognize that the Counseling Compact will benefit consumers, our members and the counseling profession by:

- Enhancing mobility for counselors who meet uniform licensure requirements;
- Increasing access to care for clients;
- Ensuring continuity of care when clients or counselors relocate or travel to other states;

- Allowing military personnel and spouses to more easily maintain their certifications when relocating; and
- Preserving and strengthening the current system of state licensure.

Importantly, the Counseling Compact preserves each member state's authority to regulate the profession. Counselors utilizing the Compact must abide by the laws and rules of the state in which they are practicing, including adhering to that state's scope of practice.

With these benefits in mind, Department of Counseling at Wake Forest University is excited to endorse the Counseling Compact.

We look forward to supporting the Counseling Compact in North Carolina

Sincerely,



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