



Approved Degrees in Human Services and Related Fields

The state of Virginia does not have a certification process for QMHPs; accordingly, no license or certificate is available. To qualify for these designations, coursework must be verified as **successfully completed with credit earned** and the applicant/employee's credentials and work experience must meet the following:

Below is a list of approved Bachelors or post-graduate degrees that meet the standard for QMHPs. Qualifying degrees must have been awarded from among the schools listed on the U.S. Department of Education College Accreditation database. Schools that are not listed on the database do not meet the standard as accredited. Degrees obtained outside the United States can be reviewed individually.

While this list below is comprehensive, it may not be all-inclusive given how education institutions may rename their degrees. Providers need to insure that the major studied as well as the classes taken must meet the intent of a Human Services degree.

Human Services and Related Fields Approved Degrees

- Art Therapy
- Behavioral Sciences
- Child Development
- Child and Family Studies/Services
- Cognitive Sciences
- Community Mental Health
- Counseling (MH, Vocational, Pastoral, etc.)
- Counselor Education
- Early Childhood Development
- Education (with a focus in psychology and/or special education)
- Educational Psychology
- Family Development/Relations
- Gerontology
- Health and Human Services
- Human Development



- Human Services
- Marriage and Family Therapy
- Music Therapy
- Nursing
- Pharmacy
- Psychiatric Rehabilitation
- Psychology
- Rehabilitation Counseling
- Social Work
- Sociology
- Special Education
- Speech Therapy
- Therapeutic Recreation
- Vocational Rehabilitation

EXPERIENCE

Experience means working directly with individuals identified as part of the target population in a setting where mental health treatment, practice, observation, and diagnosis occur.

QMHP-C's the experience must be with children who have a serious emotional disturbance or mental illness.

QMHP-A's the experience must be with individuals who have been diagnosed with a mental illness.

Supervised internships, practicums and field experiences obtained as a part of a college degree program at an accredited college count towards the clinical experience requirement. The experience requirement is based on full time experience (40 hours a week). Partial credit towards the experience requirement can be counted on a prorated basis (i.e. 20 hours equals half time). Supervision should have been provided by an individual who meets DBHDS supervisory requirements.

**All hiring decisions are up to the provider and the individual's personnel file must support the individual hired meets the qualifications required for the position. The Office of Licensing is not responsible for the decision to hire or not hire the individual. **



When verifying credentials or degrees:

Providers should obtain an official transcript or transcripts from the individual seeking employment. With regard to transcripts, providers should pay close attention to what classes were taken as well as to whether or not the individual passed the class. Transcripts will typically list all classes the individual was enrolled in however the individual may have withdrawn from the class or may not have passed the class. If that is the case, then that particular class cannot be counted toward the total human services class hours. Acceptable forms of transcripts include:

- Electronic transcripts from:
 - eSCRIP-SAFE, Parchment/Naviance/Avow/Docufide, OKCollegeStart (XAP), National Student Clearinghouse, Credentials Solutions, Join Service Transcripts (military JST)
- Electronic transcripts in PDF format sent directly from the counselor or registrar of the high school or university/college's email account (.edu)
- Transcripts mailed or hand-delivered with a print date in a sealed envelope from the institution.
- Faxed transcripts from institutions, which have a signed and returned Admissions/Registrar's Fax Agreement form indicating the document is official.