



The North Carolina Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board is in receipt of numerous inquiries regarding the Board's registration requirements concerning professionals providing mental health treatment services to individuals with substance related disorders.

Given that these mental health professionals provide services to different classes of consumers (some presenting no substance related disorders, some presenting co-occurring substance abuse issues, and some presenting exclusively substance related disorders), all professionals do not need to be registered with the Board. Only those individuals providing treatment for substance abuse would need to be registered with the Board unless specifically exempted as described below.

Furthermore, of the professionals providing services to these two groups, there are professionals specifically exempt from the requirement that they be credentialed by the Board to provide substance abuse services (as set forth in North Carolina General Statute 90-113.42 [a], [b], and [c]) as follows:

- (a) *It shall be unlawful for any person not licensed or otherwise credentialed as a substance abuse professional pursuant to this Article to engage in those activities set forth in the scope of practice of a substance abuse professional under G.S. 90-113.31B, unless that person is regulated by another profession or is a registrant or intern as defined by this Article.*
- (b) *It is not the intent of this article to regulate members of other regulated professions who provide substance abuse services or consultation in the normal course of the practice of their profession.*
- (c) *This article does not apply to any person registered, certified, or licensed by the State or federal government to practice any other occupation or profession while rendering substance abuse services or consultation or performance of the occupation or profession for which the person is registered, certified, or licensed.*

If you have any questions about this issue, please contact the North Carolina Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board at 919-832-5975.