

**Comments regarding the February 16, 2016 RBH-Providers-Provider Qualifications  
Proposed Public Notice**

“I wholly support this imperative proposal. I agree, without reservation, that clinical services should only be provided by individuals who have been appropriately licensed in their respective fields of practice in order to preserve the integrity and sanctity of the counseling profession.”

“I am sending this email in reference to extending the time as a Therapist to continue with therapy sessions until I am licensed.”

“Although I believe this to be a clinically sound executive decision, I believe that the dead line of April 1, 2016 does not allow current non-licensed clinicians enough time to gather credentialing information to submit an application to the board for licensure-intern status. I am asking that you allow current non-licensing clinicians to submit their application and be allowed three years to complete full licensure in South Carolina.”

“I am requesting more time in order to proceed with obtaining licensure within the next 3 years. I am requesting that we are allowed the same amount of time the State Licensure Board allows to become a LPC (Licensed professional counselor) in the State of South Carolina”.

“This letter is a request to extend the April 1 deadline, in an effort to award myself and my co-workers time to complete whatever is needed in the licensure process”.

“It is my plea to you that please allow clinicians more time to receive their license than just April 1<sup>st</sup> of this year due to the amount of time that it takes to receive intern status in the state of South Carolina”.

“I’m writing to ask you all to allow more time for the sake of our families (clients). The process of obtaining a license takes 4 to 6 weeks and maybe even longer since so many clinicians providing core services in RBHS services will be applying to become licensed. It also takes time to get your transcripts, funds for the application, funds for the exam, and to find a clinical supervisor”.

**SCDHHS Response: Since this is not a change but a clarification that must be comported with the guidelines promulgated by respective licensing boards there can be no extension of time granted. April 1, 2016 remains as the effective date.**