

1 **R156. Commerce, Professional Licensing.**
2 **R156-40. Recreational Therapy Practice Act Rule.**

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5 **R156-40-102. Definitions.**

6 Terms used in this rule are defined in Title 58, Chapter 1, Division of Professional Licensing Act, and in
7 Title 58, Chapter 40, Recreational Therapy Practice Act. In addition:

- 8 (1) "Approved emphasis, option, or concentration in therapeutic recreation or recreational
9 therapy" as used in Subsection 58-40-302(3)(a)(i)(B) for TRS licensure means ~~[a program that~~
10 ~~meets NCTRC Certification Standards and is verified by official NCTRC CTRS certification]~~ a
11 bachelor's degree that meets the requirements of Subsection R156-40-302a(2).
- 12 (2) "Consultation" as used in Subsection 58-40-601(3)(a)(ii) is further defined in Section R156-
13 40-302f.
- 14 (3) "Continuing education" or "CE" means education hours that meet the requirements under
15 Section R156-40-304.
- 16 (4) "CTRS" means an individual certified by the NCTRC as a Certified Therapeutic Recreation
17 Specialist.
- 18 (5) "Full-time" and "on-site" as used in Subsections 58-40-302(4)(b)(ii) and 58-40-601(3)(a)(i)
19 and (b)(i) means the individual is employed on the premises with the hiring agency for at least 30
20 hours per week.
- 21 (6) "Initial recreational therapy treatment" as used in Subsection R156-40-302f(3) means an order
22 that directs the TRT to:
- 23 (a) collect data from patient chart reviews, interviews, and observations as part of an
24 assessment as defined in Subsection 58-40-102(2)(a)(i);
 - 25 (b) invite the patient to leisure diversionary programs and observe the patient to identify
26 recreation and leisure patterns;
 - 27 (c) provide leisure materials to the patient and support the patient's independent leisure
28 choices; and
 - 29 (d) complete recreation therapy admission notes.
- 30 (7) "Maintain the ongoing documentation" as used in Subsection 58-40-601(3)(b) means:
- 31 (a) documenting the ongoing treatment or intervention provided to a client under the
32 treatment plan; and
 - 33 (b) reviewing the patient's status under federal, state, and agency regulations.
- 34 (8) "MTRS" means an individual licensed as a master therapeutic recreation specialist under
35 Subsection 58-40-301(2)(a).
- 36 (9) "NCTRC" means the National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification.
- 37 (10) "NCTRC Certification Standards" means the National Council for Therapeutic Recreation
38 Certification's Certification Standards, October 1, 2024 edition, which is incorporated by
39 reference.
- 40 (11) "Supervision" as used in Subsections 58-40-601(3)(a)(i) and (b)(i) means the individual
41 licensed as a TRS or MTRS is responsible to ensure that the licensed TRT implements the
42 established treatment plan.
- 43 (12) "Temporarily practice recreational therapy only under appropriate supervision" as used in
44 Subsection R156-40-302g(1)(d) means supervision by a TRS or MTRS supervisor who shall be:
- 45 (a) responsible for each recreational therapy intervention performed by the temporary
46 TRS; and
 - 47 (b) required to review and approve each treatment plan and each modification to the
48 treatment plan as evidenced by the signature of the TRS or MTRS supervisor in the
49 patient's record.

- 50 (13) "TRS" means an individual licensed as a therapeutic recreation specialist under Subsection
51 58-40-301(2)(b).
52 (14) "TRT" means an individual licensed as a therapeutic recreation technician under Subsection
53 58-40-301(2)(c).
54 (15) "Written plan of operation" as used in Subsection 58-40-102(6)(b)(viii) means a
55 comprehensive management plan that outlines recreational therapy services and includes:
56 (a) a vision and mission statement;
57 (b) policies and procedures;
58 (c) an assessment protocol;
59 (d) a treatment plan, intervention plan, or both;
60 (e) the scope of care; and
61 (f) personnel management.

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64 **R156-40-302a. Qualifications for Licensure - Education Requirements.**

65 ~~[Under Section 58-40-302, the educational requirements for licensure include the following:]~~

- 66 (1) Under Subsection 58-40-302(2)(a), a MTRS applicant shall complete:
67 (a) ~~[a master's or doctoral]~~ a graduate degree in therapeutic recreation or recreational
68 therapy from a college or university that is nationally or regionally accredited; or
69 (b) a graduate degree with an emphasis in therapeutic recreation or recreational therapy
70 from a college or university that is nationally or regionally accredited that includes:
71 (i) at least nine semester hours or 12 quarter hours of graduate level course work in
72 therapeutic recreation or recreational therapy; and
73 (ii) at least 18 semester hours or 24 quarter hours of supportive course work as
74 defined by NCTRC Certification Standards. ~~[; and~~
75 ~~[(iii) a practicum that includes recreational therapy field placement experience~~
76 ~~that:~~
77 ~~(A) meets the NCTRC Certification Standards;~~
78 ~~(B) is under the supervision of an on-site supervisor who:~~
79 ~~(I) is licensed as TRS or MTRS; or~~
80 ~~(II) has a license equivalent to a TRS or MTRS from another~~
81 ~~jurisdiction and holds NCTRC CTRS certification; and~~
82 ~~(C) is verified by official transcript from a regionally accredited college or~~
83 ~~university;]~~

84 (2) Under Subsection 58-40-302(3)(a), a TRS applicant shall complete:

- 85 (a) a bachelor's degree from a college or university that is nationally or regionally
86 accredited that meets the requirements of Subsection 58-40-302(3)(a)(i)(A) or (B); or
87 (b) a graduate degree that meets the requirements of Subsection (1).

88 ([2]3) Under Subsection 58-40-302(4)(a), a TRT applicant shall complete:

- 89 (a) an educational course ~~[as required by Subsection 58-40-302(4)(b)(i)]~~ that consists of at
90 least 90 hours of structured education that meets the following requirements:
91 (i) (A) is under the instruction and direction of a licensed MTRS; or
92 (B) if completed out of state, is under the instruction and direction of an
93 individual who is nationally certified as a CTRS; and
94 (ii) includes:
95 (A) theories and concepts of recreational therapy;
96 (B) therapeutic recreation as defined in Subsection 58-40-102(5);
97 (C) characteristics of illness and disability and their effects on leisure;
98 (D) medical and psychiatric terminology including psychiatric,
99 pharmacology, gerontology, and abbreviations;

Commented [KS1]: In statute, an MTRS is already required to complete 4,000 hours of paid experience. See 58-40-302(2)(b).

- 100 (E) ethics;
- 101 (F) role and function of other health and human service professionals
- 102 including agencies, medical specialists, and allied health professionals;
- 103 (G) health and safety; and
- 104 (H) a final course examination consisting of at least 100 questions; and
- 105 (b) complete a two-hour suicide prevention course as required by Subsection 58-40-
- 106 302(4)(c) that meets the following requirements:
- 107 (i) the course provider shall be approved, sponsored, or conducted by:
- 108 (A) a recognized accredited college or university;
- 109 (B) a county, state, or federal agency; or
- 110 (C) a professional association, society, or organization representing a
- 111 licensed profession;
- 112 (ii) the content of the course shall be relevant to recreational therapy and include at
- 113 least one of the following subject areas:
- 114 (A) suicide concepts and facts;
- 115 (B) suicide risk assessment, crisis intervention, and first aid;
- 116 (C) evidence-based intervention for suicide risk;
- 117 (D) continuity of care and follow-up services for suicide risk; or
- 118 (E) therapeutic alliances for intervention in suicide risk;
- 119 (iii) each hour of education shall consist of at least 50 minutes of education in one
- 120 of the following formats:
- 121 (A) classroom lecture and discussion;
- 122 (B) workshop;
- 123 (C) synchronous webinar;
- 124 (D) asynchronous online self-paced module;
- 125 (E) case study review; or
- 126 (F) simulation;
- 127 (iv) a course provider shall provide to the attendee a completion certificate that
- 128 includes the following:
- 129 (A) name of the attendee;
- 130 (B) title, objective, or official description of the course as outlined in
- 131 Subsection (2)(b)(ii);
- 132 (C) number of hours completed;
- 133 (D) name of provider; and
- 134 (E) date of completion; and
- 135 (v) an applicant for licensure shall submit the certificate of course completion to
- 136 the Division as a prerequisite for licensure.

139 **R156-40-302b. Qualifications for Licensure - Experience Requirements.**

140 ~~[Under Section 58-40-302, the experience requirements for licensure are as follows:~~

141 ~~(1) for an MTRS applicant, the 4,000 hours of paid experience [required under Subsection 58-40-~~

142 ~~302(2)(b) shall be gained while working in a paid position practicing recreational therapy as a~~

143 ~~TRS in Utah or as a CTRS outside of Utah;~~

144 ~~(2) for a TRS applicant, the approved practicum required under Subsection 58-40-302(3)(a)(ii)~~

145 ~~shall be verified by an official degree transcript from a regionally accredited college or university;~~

146 ~~and]~~

147 (1) Under Subsection 58-40-302(3)(a)(ii), a TRS applicant shall complete a practicum that:

148 (a) meets the NCTRC Certification Standards for:

149 (i) an internship experience; or

Commented [KS2]: The statute already covers this. See Subsection 58-40-302(2)(b). Do not need to repeat in rule.

- 150 (ii) paid professional work experience;
151 (b) is under the supervision of an on-site supervisor who:
152 (i) is licensed as TRS or MTRS; or
153 (ii) has a license equivalent to a TRS or MTRS from another jurisdiction and holds
154 NCTRC CTRS certification; and
155 (c) is verified by:
156 (i) official transcript from a regionally accredited college or university; or
157 (ii) by the NCTRC.

158 ~~(3)2~~ Under Subsection 58-40-302(4)(b),~~[for]~~ a TRT applicant~~[, the]~~ shall complete an approved
159 practicum ~~[required under Subsection 58-40-302(4)(b) shall]~~ that includes at least 125 hours of
160 field work experience that is ~~[completed]:~~

- 161 (a) completed:
162 ~~(a)~~ i) within a nine-month period;
163 ~~(b)~~ ii) under the direction of a licensed TRS or MTRS supervisor or consultant~~;~~
164 ~~and]~~ that includes at least 20 hours of direct face-to-face supervision:
165 (A) to review the applicant's client programming, documentation, and
166 treatment intervention; and
167 (B) with up to five hours completed remotely via a synchronous electronic
168 method that provides real-time communication through interactive
169 technology that enables the parties to interact simultaneously through two-
170 way audio and video transmission; and
171 ~~(e)~~ iii) includes:
172 ~~(i) at least 20 hours of direct face to face supervision of programming,~~
173 ~~documentation, and treatment intervention by the TRS or MTRS supervisor~~
174 ~~or consultant;~~
175 ~~(ii)~~ A) training in recreational therapy or therapeutic recreation as defined
176 in Subsection 58-40-102(5);
177 ~~(iii)~~ B) interdisciplinary contact;
178 ~~(iv)~~ C) administration contact; and
179 ~~(v)~~ D) community relations~~;~~ and

180 (b) is verified by an official degree transcript from a nationally or regionally accredited
181 college or university.
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