

COUNSELING COMPACT

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Agenda

What is the Counseling Compact?

What level of licensure is required?

How does the compact work?

What are the benefits of the Compact?

Compact Map - current states participating

Q & A from the experts

WHAT IS THE COUNSELING COMPACT?

The Counseling Compact is an interstate compact, or a contract among states, allowing **professional counselors licensed** and residing in a compact member state to practice in other compact member states without need for multiple licenses.

What is an Interstate Compact?



Legislatively enacted agreement among states



Cooperatively addresses shared problems



Preserves state sovereignty over issues belonging to states



Applicable across policy areas, including licensure



What level of licensure is required?

You must be a professional counselor licensed by a Member State, regardless of the title used by that State, to independently assess, diagnose, and treat behavioral health conditions.



How does the compact work?

Professional counselors who meet uniform licensure requirements are able to quickly obtain a **privilege to practice**, which is equivalent to a license to practice counseling in another state.

The Compact creates a shared interstate licensure **data system**, allowing for near-instant verification of licensure status. Through the data system, a privilege to practice can be obtained in a matter of minutes.

The data system also enhances public protection by ensuring that member states share investigative and disciplinary information with one another.

How it works

- A state joins the compact by adopting the model legislation
- The model legislation includes both state and individual requirements
- The compact legislation “pre-negotiates” the recognition of an out-of-state license through a compact privilege to practice
- A counselor who is licensed and lives in a compact member state may apply for a privilege to practice in another compact member state through the compact

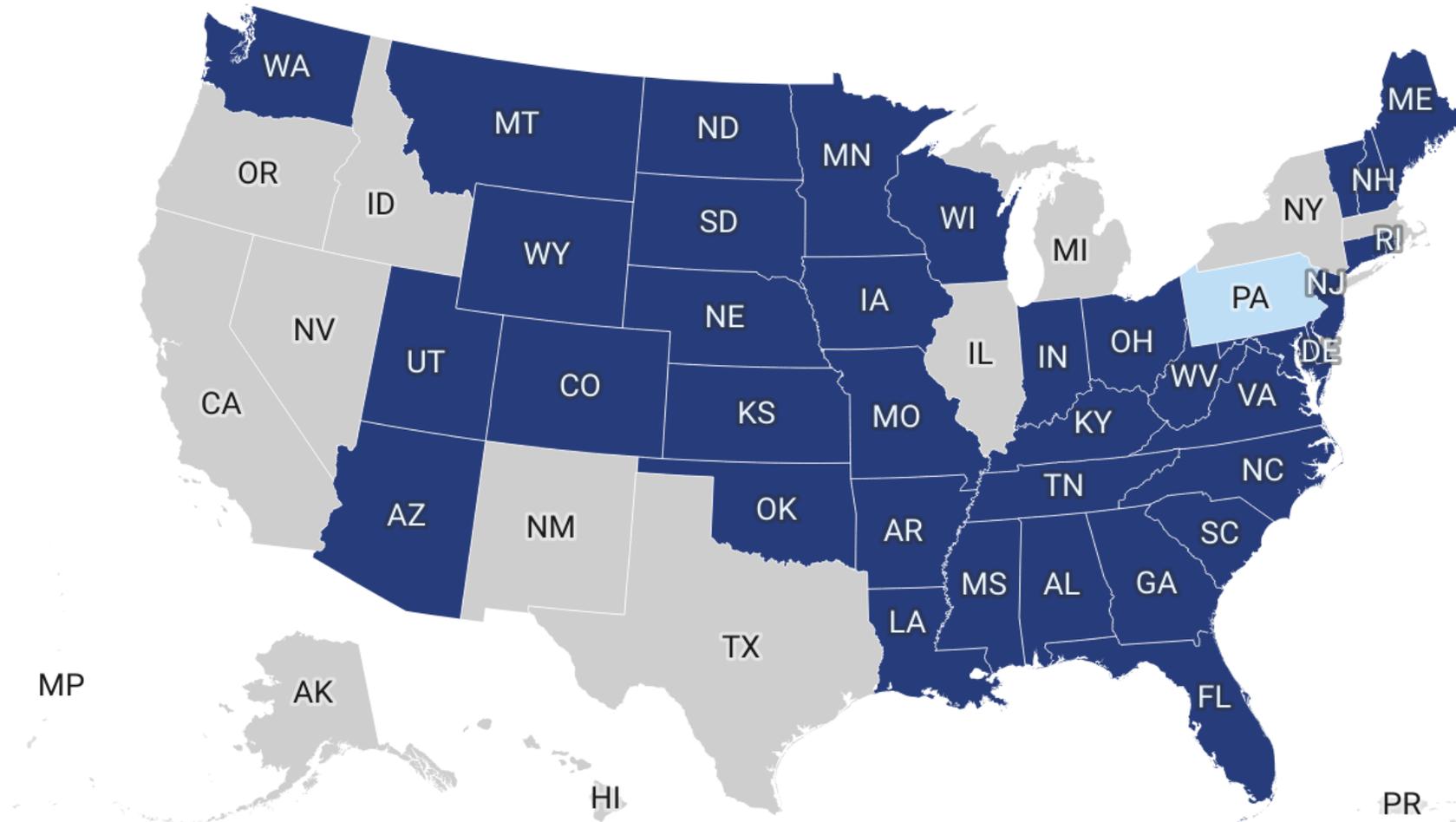
- **Increase access to specialized services to rural and underserved areas**
- Ensures **maintainable continuity and quality of care** when counselors or clients re-locate or travel out of state
- **Significantly reduced wait times** for clients/patients needing emergent services and general mental health services.
- **Enhances Public Safety** through comprehensive, authenticated, interstate licensure and discipline database.
- **Supports re-locating military spouses/families**
- **Preserving and strengthening the current system of state licensure** while offering a unified system.

Benefits of the Compact

Applications for Counseling Compact privileges to practice are expected to open in 2025.

Counseling Compact Map

■ Enacted ■ Legislation Filed ■ No Active Legislation



37 states have enacted the Counseling Compact.

1 state and D.C.* has legislation filed

12 states do not have active legislation

Resources:

Website: [Counselingcompact.org](https://counselingcompact.org)

- Counseling Compact Overview and videos
- Counseling Compact Map
- Counseling Compact Model Legislation
- FAQs and Fact Sheet

Contact:

info@counselingcompact.org

Q & A from the Experts

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THANK YOU

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