

Texas LPC (Licensed Professional Counselor) Jurisprudence Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



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Questions

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- 1. How must LPCs maintain competence in their professional practice?**
 - A. Through continuous professional development and adherence to ethical standards**
 - B. By relying solely on their initial training**
 - C. By participating in any community workshops**
 - D. Only by reviewing client feedback**
- 2. What constitutes conduct that is sexual in nature in terms of making comments?**
 - A. Making a request for a date**
 - B. Making sexually demeaning comments about an individual's sexual orientation**
 - C. Kissing or fondling**
 - D. Making sexually demeaning comments about a person's body**
- 3. What must LPCs disclose to clients regarding confidentiality?**
 - A. All client information is always confidential**
 - B. Limitations of confidentiality must be discussed**
 - C. Confidentiality does not exist if the client requests it**
 - D. Clients have no rights to confidentiality**
- 4. How long does an LPC have to report sexual misconduct?**
 - A. No later than 5 days after becoming aware**
 - B. No later than the end of the week of awareness**
 - C. No later than the third (3rd) business day after the date of awareness**
 - D. No reporting required**
- 5. Can LPC Interns retain payments made by clients directly to them?**
 - A. YES**
 - B. NO**
 - C. Only with board approval**
 - D. Depends on the practice setting**

- 6. Which action falls under the definition of conduct that is sexual in nature based on conversation initiation?**
- A. Making comments about potential sexual performance unless pertinent to sexual function in counseling**
 - B. Requesting details of sexual history or sexual likes and dislikes when not necessary for counseling of the individual**
 - C. Belief in the development of whole self, including a healthy balance of mental, social/emotional, and physical well-being**
 - D. Ask the students to complete pretests and posttests for the lesson**
- 7. What is the significance of informed consent in the counselor-client relationship?**
- A. It ensures clients receive free services**
 - B. It guarantees a specific outcome from therapy**
 - C. It ensures clients understand the counseling process, risks, and their rights**
 - D. It enables clients to choose their own counselor**
- 8. Can a licensee give or accept a gift from a client or a relative of a client valued at more than \$50?**
- A. YES**
 - B. NO**
 - C. Maybe**
 - D. Depends on the value**
- 9. Which of the following represents conduct that is sexual in nature regarding making comments?**
- A. Making comments about individual sexual orientation**
 - B. Making a request for a date**
 - C. Initiating conversation regarding the sexual problems, preferences, or fantasies of the licensee**
 - D. Making sexually demeaning comments about a person's body**

10. When must LPCs report changes in their professional status?

- A. Only when required by the client**
- B. If there are changes that affect their ability to provide care**
- C. Never; professional status is personal**
- D. Only during renewal of their license**

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Answers

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1. A
2. D
3. B
4. C
5. B
6. B
7. C
8. B
9. D
10. B

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Explanations

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1. How must LPCs maintain competence in their professional practice?

A. Through continuous professional development and adherence to ethical standards

B. By relying solely on their initial training

C. By participating in any community workshops

D. Only by reviewing client feedback

LPCs are required to maintain their competence in professional practice through continuous professional development and adherence to ethical standards. This involves engaging in ongoing education and training that enhances their skills and knowledge, keeping them updated on new counseling techniques, theoretical approaches, and changes in laws or ethical guidelines relevant to their practice. Continuous professional development is essential because the field of mental health is constantly evolving, and it is critical for counselors to provide the best care possible based on the most current information. Adherence to ethical standards is also vital as it guides the counselor's practice, ensuring they act with integrity, respect client confidentiality, and create a safe therapeutic environment. This dual focus on professional growth and ethical responsibility ensures that LPCs deliver competent and effective services while also maintaining the trust of their clients and the community. Other options, such as relying solely on initial training, participating in any community workshops, or only reviewing client feedback, do not encompass the breadth of practices necessary for ongoing competence. Initial training can become outdated, and not all community workshops may provide relevant or high-quality information. Similarly, while client feedback is valuable, it does not ensure that a counselor is actively engaging in professional development or adhering to ethical standards necessary for effective practice.

2. What constitutes conduct that is sexual in nature in terms of making comments?

A. Making a request for a date

B. Making sexually demeaning comments about an individual's sexual orientation

C. Kissing or fondling

D. Making sexually demeaning comments about a person's body

Conduct that is sexual in nature in terms of making comments refers to speaking or communicating in a way that is inappropriate or offensive in a sexual manner. Options A, B, and C also involve communication, but they do not necessarily pertain to making comments that are sexual in nature. Making a request for a date and making sexually demeaning comments about an individual's sexual orientation may be considered inappropriate and offensive, but they are not necessarily sexual in nature. Kissing or fondling may be considered sexual acts, but they do not involve making comments. Therefore, option D, making sexually demeaning comments about a person's body, is the correct answer as it directly relates to making comments that are sexual in nature.

3. What must LPCs disclose to clients regarding confidentiality?

- A. All client information is always confidential
- B. Limitations of confidentiality must be discussed**
- C. Confidentiality does not exist if the client requests it
- D. Clients have no rights to confidentiality

Licensed Professional Counselors (LPCs) are required to inform clients about the limitations of confidentiality in therapeutic relationships. This is an essential aspect of ethical practice and client welfare. Disclosing limitations helps clients understand the contexts in which their information may be shared without their consent. For instance, LPCs must inform clients if there are legal requirements to report suspected abuse or if there is a risk of harm to themselves or others. Providing this information promotes transparency and trust within the therapeutic relationship, allowing clients to make informed decisions about their participation in therapy. It is critical for clients to be aware that while their disclosures are generally kept confidential, certain circumstances may necessitate sharing information. This understanding helps to uphold the therapeutic alliance and ensures that clients can fully engage with the counseling process, knowing how their information may be handled. In contrast, the other options either present a misunderstanding of confidentiality principles or misrepresent LPCs' responsibilities. For example, stating that all client information is always confidential overlooks the circumstances where information might need to be disclosed legally or ethically. Similarly, claiming that confidentiality does not exist if a client requests it inaccurately implies a lack of privacy in counseling sessions, undermining the client's trust. Finally, saying clients have no rights to confidentiality contradicts the core

4. How long does an LPC have to report sexual misconduct?

- A. No later than 5 days after becoming aware
- B. No later than the end of the week of awareness
- C. No later than the third (3rd) business day after the date of awareness**
- D. No reporting required

The correct answer is that a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) has no later than the third business day after the date of awareness to report sexual misconduct. This timeline emphasizes the urgency and responsibility of LPCs to take action on serious allegations, ensuring client welfare and maintaining professional standards. Understanding this requirement is crucial, as timely reporting can impact not only the safety of clients but also the integrity of the counseling profession as a whole. The provision for a specific timeframe highlights the importance placed on addressing misconduct promptly and transparently. In the context of other choices, it's critical to recognize that having a set reporting timeline fosters accountability and trust, which are essential components of the therapeutic relationship. Thus, the other options do not align with the established guidelines for reporting in the professional code of conduct for LPCs.

5. Can LPC Interns retain payments made by clients directly to them?

A. YES

B. NO

C. Only with board approval

D. Depends on the practice setting

The correct response indicates that LPC Interns cannot retain payments made by clients directly to them. This policy is guided by the ethical guidelines and regulations established by the Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors. LPC Interns are required to operate under the supervision of a licensed professional and typically work as part of a larger organization or practice setting. As such, any payments made by clients should generally be directed to the supervising professional or the organization employing them, instead of being retained by the interns themselves. This ensures proper financial management within the practice and accountability for the services provided. Moreover, this requirement is intended to protect clients and ensure that the financial transactions are handled in a controlled and professional manner. By funneling payments through the appropriate channels, it mitigates the risk of financial misconduct or misunderstandings regarding fees. While certain exceptions may exist in specific scenarios, generally, payments should not be retained by LPC Interns, aligning with responsible practice management and regulatory standards.

6. Which action falls under the definition of conduct that is sexual in nature based on conversation initiation?

A. Making comments about potential sexual performance unless pertinent to sexual function in counseling

B. Requesting details of sexual history or sexual likes and dislikes when not necessary for counseling of the individual

C. Belief in the development of whole self, including a healthy balance of mental, social/emotional, and physical well-being

D. Ask the students to complete pretests and posttests for the lesson

The action that falls under the definition of conduct that is sexual in nature based on conversation initiation is indeed the request for details of sexual history or sexual likes and dislikes when not necessary for counseling of the individual. This is because such inquiries are inherently personal and can easily be interpreted as an invasive exploration into an individual's sexual life, especially if they are not relevant to the therapeutic process. The counselor's role is to focus on the client's well-being, and discussions should be confined to what is necessary for the therapeutic relationship. If these inquiries do not serve a therapeutic purpose, they stray into inappropriate territory, reflecting a breach of professional boundaries and ethical standards. In contrast, making comments about potential sexual performance, unless part of sexual function counseling, also signifies inappropriate sexual conduct, but the emphasis here is on unnecessary inquiries into personal sexual history, which directly highlights a sexual nature in conversation initiation. The other options relate to appropriate practices or neutral topics that do not reflect sexual conduct.

7. What is the significance of informed consent in the counselor-client relationship?

- A. It ensures clients receive free services**
- B. It guarantees a specific outcome from therapy**
- C. It ensures clients understand the counseling process, risks, and their rights**
- D. It enables clients to choose their own counselor**

Informed consent is a critical element of the counselor-client relationship as it involves a clear and comprehensive understanding between the client and the counselor regarding the therapeutic process. This means that clients are adequately informed about what to expect during therapy, which includes explaining the nature of the therapeutic methods employed, the potential risks and benefits of these methods, confidentiality limits, and the client's rights within this relationship. Providing informed consent respects the autonomy of clients, allowing them to make educated decisions about their participation in therapy. This process builds trust and establishes an ethical foundation for the therapeutic alliance. Understanding the counseling process empowers clients to engage fully and participate actively in their treatment, making the informed consent process essential for effective counseling. Other options, while they may touch upon aspects of the counseling relationship, do not precisely capture the fundamental purpose and significance of informed consent. For instance, ensuring free services or guaranteeing specific outcomes does not address the broader ethical implications of ensuring clients are informed and consenting participants in their therapy.

8. Can a licensee give or accept a gift from a client or a relative of a client valued at more than \$50?

- A. YES**
- B. NO**
- C. Maybe**
- D. Depends on the value**

In general, a licensee should not give or accept gifts valued at more than \$50 from a client or relative of a client. Doing so may create a conflict of interest and undermine the licensee's duty to act in the best interest of their client. Options A and C are incorrect because they suggest that a licensee can accept gifts of any value, which is not the case. Option D is also incorrect because the value of the gift is not the determining factor in whether or not it is appropriate to accept it. Option B is the best choice because it accurately reflects the restrictions placed on licensees in regards to accepting gifts from clients or their relatives.

9. Which of the following represents conduct that is sexual in nature regarding making comments?

- A. Making comments about individual sexual orientation**
- B. Making a request for a date**
- C. Initiating conversation regarding the sexual problems, preferences, or fantasies of the licensee**
- D. Making sexually demeaning comments about a person's body**

The correct answer reflects the understanding that sexually demeaning comments about a person's body are inherently sexual in nature. Such comments not only objectify and belittle individuals but also create an inappropriate and uncomfortable environment. Making demeaning remarks related to someone's physical appearance or body can have a significant negative impact on the individual's mental and emotional well-being. This type of conduct violates ethical standards for professional interactions and can lead to a hostile or abusive environment. In contrast, while comments about a person's sexual orientation, requests for dates, and discussions of sexual problems or preferences may carry implications of a sexual nature, they do not inherently represent sexual conduct if conducted appropriately and consensually. The key difference lies in the intention and the impact of the comments; making derogatory remarks about someone's body is explicitly harmful and demeaning, fitting the classification of sexual conduct.

10. When must LPCs report changes in their professional status?

- A. Only when required by the client**
- B. If there are changes that affect their ability to provide care**
- C. Never; professional status is personal**
- D. Only during renewal of their license**

Licensed Professional Counselors (LPCs) are required to report changes in their professional status if such changes affect their ability to provide care. This requirement is rooted in the need to maintain the integrity and safety of the counseling profession. LPCs must ensure that their clients receive competent and ethical care; therefore, any change in status that could limit their ability to fulfill their professional responsibilities—such as changes in licensure status, legal issues, or mental health—needs to be reported promptly. This practice helps to uphold professional standards and safeguards the interests of clients, ensuring that they are treated by qualified professionals who are in good standing. Failure to report relevant changes could pose risks to clients and undermine public trust in the counseling profession. Thus, the stipulation for reporting changes is crucial in creating a responsible and ethical therapeutic environment.