

BULLETIN

To: All Health Insurers
Re: Licensed Clinical Professional Counselors
Date: March 26, 1999
Bulletin: Life and Health 99-6

Chapter 132 (House Bill 768) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1998, enacted provisions to *license* clinical professional counselors, clinical marriage and family therapists, and clinical alcohol and drug counselors by the State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors. The provisions are codified as Title 17, Subtitle 3A of the Health Occupations Article. These provisions went into effect October 1, 1998.

Pursuant to §15-701 of the Insurance Article, if an individual or group health insurance policy provides for reimbursement of a service which is within the lawful scope of practice of a *Licensed* Clinical Alcohol and Drug Counselor, *Licensed* Clinical Marriage and Family Therapist, or a *Licensed* Clinical Professional Counselor, the insurer is required to pay benefits for services provided by such *licensed* counselors or therapists. Please note that coverage for the services of such *licensed* counselors or therapists cannot be excluded pursuant to §15-704 of the Insurance Article. §15-704 of the Insurance Article is applicable to *Certified* Professional Counselors who are not *licensed* by the State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors.

If you have any questions about this bulletin, please contact the Maryland Insurance Administration at 410-468-2170.

Donna B. Imhoff
Associate Commissioner
Life and Health