What is QMHP and how does it impact my career eligibility?

In Virginia and other states, mental health service providers require new employees to be QMHP-credentialed. For graduates with only an undergraduate social science degree, such as psychology or family and child development, this requirement presents a challenge when applying for jobs in the field. When looking at entry level positions, one will often see “1 year of experience” as a requirement; this requirement usually refers to QMHP qualification.

Human Services Degrees include social work, psychology, psychiatric rehabilitation, sociology, counseling, vocational rehabilitation, human services counseling, or other degrees deemed equivalent to those described.

Clinical Experience includes providing direct behavioral mental health services and treatment to individuals. In addition, the supervising clinician must be appropriately credentialed for the field (for example, being licensed, QMHP qualified, or other having other relevant certifications).


Further questions can be directed to Virginia’s DBHDS’ Licensure Office: (804) 786-1747