



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

April 7, 2009

Shelley Drogin, Ed.D.  
President  
Leadership Institute of Seattle  
14506 Juanita Drive NE  
Kenmore, WA 98028-4966

Dear Dr. Drogin,

We request your assistance in addressing a letter of concern our department has received regarding the educational standards at Leadership Institute of Seattle and Bastyr University.

Since July, 2001, our department has issued mental health counselor and marriage and family therapist licenses to applicants who have graduated from approved educational programs.

For the mental health counselor license, an approved educational program means any college or university accredited by an accreditation body recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) or its successor, at the time the applicant completed the required education. (WAC 246-809-210)

For the marriage and family therapist license, an approved educational program means (a) any college or university accredited by a national or regional accrediting body recognized by the Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation or its successor; or (b) a program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE), at the time the applicant completed the required education. (WAC 246-809-110)

Bastyr University is listed in both the CHEA directory and the directory of Accredited Institutions of Postsecondary Education. It appears that the Leadership Institute of Seattle is not listed in either of these directories, nor is it on the list of COAMFTE training programs.

We noted that the Leadership Institute of Seattle is referenced on Bastyr's "Official Transcript Key" as follows: "The LIOS / Bastyr MA ABS in Counseling meets the course work requirements for state of WA Mental Health Counselor Certification." In addition, we noted the following statement on the Leadership Institute of Seattle website: "LIOS curriculum currently meets state of Washington requirements for licensing as a Mental Health Counselor, and meets curriculum requirements for licensing as a Marriage and Family Therapist with the addition of one elective course, also offered by LIOS."

We therefore request written clarification and confirmation that the LIOS / Bastyr programs currently meet the above standards and have met such standards since the time of the first graduating class in these programs.

We would appreciate receiving this information by April 29<sup>th</sup>. The letter of concern has tentatively been added to the agenda of the May 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Washington state mental health counselors, marriage and family therapists, and social workers advisory committee. The advisory committee provides our department with assistance and consultation on topics and issues related to their professions.

Advisory committee meetings are open and public. The meeting on May 1<sup>st</sup> will be at our department's facility at 20435 72nd Ave S, Suite 200, Kent, WA. 98032. A map and directions to the Kent facility is available at this internet address: <http://www.doh.wa.gov/DOHDirections/Kent.htm>

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



ROBERT J. NICOLOFF  
Executive Director  
Health Professions and Facilities, Section One

Cc: Bastyr University  
Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities