

## **Boost!** **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

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### **Note: Department of Health Professions (DHP) Supervision Requirements**

**Boost! participants and their Supervisors must follow all DHP requirements and regulations to achieve and maintain licensure (including Supervision requirements) in the Commonwealth for the duration of Boost! participation.**

- For more information about the DHP Supervision and requirements and how to apply for Supervision as a Resident in Counseling and Resident in Marriage and Family Therapy go to: <https://www.dhp.virginia.gov/counseling/>
  - For more information about the DHP Supervision requirements and how to apply for Supervision as a Supervisee in Social Work go to: <https://www.dhp.virginia.gov/social/>
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### **Boost! Applicant Questions**

#### **What is the Boost! application process? When will I hear about my application status?**

Those interested in *Boost!* will need to complete the *Boost! Intent To Apply Form*. This gathers the applicant's personal, contact, financial and demographic information; education and work experience; and Supervision information.

VHCF will review the information provided and invite those who meet key criteria to submit a full application. This includes a [Personal Statement](#), current resume, and [Recommendation Form](#) completed by someone who supervised the applicant for at least 100 internship hours and is familiar with their clinical skills

#### **Where is the program available in Virginia?**

*Boost!* applicants/participants may work in any Virginia locality.

Priority consideration will be given to qualified applicants who best address the needs identified in [VHCF's Assessment of the Capacity of Virginia's Licensed Behavioral Health Workforce](#).

## Who is eligible for *Boost!*?

- Residents in Counseling or Residents in Marriage and Family Therapy licensed by the DHP
- Current Supervisees in Social Work approved by the DHP
- All applicants must be paying out-of-pocket for all or most of their licensure-required Supervision and have applied to or gotten approval from the DHP to begin Supervision before applying to *Boost!*

Please see the [Boost! Participant Guidelines](#), located on the *Boost!* website, for more details.

## For individuals enrolled in *Boost!*, how will Supervisors be paid?

While the *Boost!* applicant is the individual pursuing Virginia licensure as an LPC, LCSW or LMFT, it is the applicant's Supervisor who actually receives payment from the Virginia Health Care Foundation for Supervision hours completed.

## What is required of *Boost!* Supervisors?

A *Boost!* Supervisor will be a contractor of the Foundation.

- Supervisors will review and approve Supervision hours completed each month via the VHCF tracking system. VHCF will pay Supervisors monthly via electronic bank transfer.
- Supervisors will receive an IRS Form 1099 documenting payment by the Foundation for their tax purposes each year of *Boost!* participation.

For the Foundation to continue paying for a *Boost!* participant's Supervision hours, those pursuing licensure as an LPC, LCSW or LMFT must:

- Be making satisfactory progress on fulfillment of required Supervision hours;
- Maintain good standing with the DHP;
- Report Supervision and clinical hours to VHCF in a timely manner; and
- Communicate changes in employment, Supervision, and other key information to the Foundation in a timely manner.

## Does the Foundation pay the same hourly Supervision rate for all *Boost!* participants?

No. We recognize that the hourly rate for licensure-required Supervision varies by Supervisor and by region of the state, as well as for group and individual Supervision. VHCF will pay *Boost!* Supervisors a reasonable rate that is in the average range for their region of the Commonwealth.

## How many hours of Supervision must I complete each month?

Boost enrollees are expected to maintain an average pace of hours (*4 hours monthly for social workers, 8 hours monthly for counselors*).

### **How will I track and report hours monthly?**

VHCF utilizes a tracking software that will allow Boost enrollees to track their clinical and Supervision hours. Instructions on how to use the software will be provided.

### **What happens if I move out-of-state during the Service Commitment and am unable to fulfill the entire 4,000 hour obligation?**

VHCF is deeply committed to increasing access to basic mental health services for *Virginians* by increasing the number of licensed behavioral health professionals who practice in the Commonwealth. If there is the slightest possibility that you will move from Virginia in the next 4 – 5 years, *Boost!* is not a good fit for you.

In the event that a *Boost!* enrollee leaves the state before completing the licensure-required Supervision hours or before fulfilling the commitment to practice in Virginia for 2 years after obtaining licensure, the enrollee will be considered to have breached the *Boost!* contract.

If breach occurs, the enrollee is obligated to repay the full amount expended by VHCF for Supervision PLUS interest set at the prime rate at the time of default. The timeframe for repayment will depend on the amount owed and other relevant factors, such as the number of Service Commitment hours completed.

### **I am working at an agency and do not receive licensure-required Supervision at my job. Do I need to have a DHP-approved Supervisor before I apply to *Boost!*?**

Yes. You must have a DHP-approved Supervisor before you apply to *Boost!* (*per the DHP guidelines, this person does not need to work at the same employer as you*). You must submit your application for Supervision as a Licensed Resident in Counseling or Supervisee in Social Work before you apply to *Boost!*, as well.

If you need help finding a supervisor, the DHP posts approved supervisors on its website ([social work](#), [counseling](#)), and some DHP-approved supervisors have chosen to be on this [list](#).

## ***Boost!* Supervision FAQs**

**I am a DHP-approved Supervisor and would like to provide Supervision for *Boost!* participants, how can I do that?**

Thank you for your willingness to serve as a Supervisor for a *Boost!* participant! To be a *Boost!* supervisor, you must be a DHP approved supervisor AND someone you supervise must apply to the program and be accepted.

**I would like to provide Supervision to a *Boost!* participant. Do I need to have a private practice or an LLC?**

No, a *Boost!* Supervisor will be a contractor of the Foundation. All *Boost!* Supervisors must:

- Possess an active, unrestricted license to practice as an LPC, LCSW or LMFT in Virginia;
- Be approved by the DHP as a Supervisor; and
- Commit to submitting monthly invoices, as required.

**I would love to provide Supervision, however, I am not a DHP-approved Supervisor. How can I become one?**

We are delighted to hear you would like to become a DHP-approved Supervisor! Please refer to the DHP website for more information about how to become one in your profession:

- LPC/LMFT: <https://www.dhp.virginia.gov/counseling/>
- LCSW: <https://www.dhp.virginia.gov/social/>

You may also want to check with your Virginia professional association to see when its next Supervision training will occur.

**Can Supervision be provided virtually?**

Yes, Supervision can be provided virtually, in accordance with DHP guidelines.