The Counseling Compact Act (<u>S.610</u>) allowing South Carolina to participate in the national Counseling Compact was enacted by the South Carolina legislature effective May 21, 2024. The Counseling Compact allows eligible licensed professional counselors an alternative method for providing services in other member states.

Once the Compact becomes operational (the end of 2024 or beginning of 2025), upon compliance with Compact Commission requirements, a Licensed Professional Counselor will be eligible to obtain a privilege to practice in a remote member state, rather than having to submit an application for a license in each state or jurisdiction in which they wish to practice in. This will permit practice in a remote member state, both in-person and through telehealth, by licensed professional counselors meeting practice privilege eligibility requirements, including but not limited to holding a valid, unrestricted home state license in a Compact member state. Counselors exercising a practice privilege must adhere to the laws and regulations of the remote member state where the privilege is being exercised, and is subject to the regulatory authority of that state.

The Counseling Compact is not operational at this time, as the national processes and procedures are in the developmental stages. The Board will provide updates, and advise licensees when and how to apply for a privilege to practice. If you are interested in learning more about the Counseling Compact, including information about meetings, rulemaking and any rules open for public comment, please use the following link: https://counselingcompact.org/