**20:80:05:12.  LAC requirement exemption.** An applicant for LAC is exempt from the requirements in § 20:80:05:10 if the applicant holds certification as a Certified Chemical Dependency Counselor Level III (CCDC III) before April 1, 2014.

 An applicant for LAC is exempt from the requirements in § 20:80:05:10 if the applicant holds certification as a Certified Chemical Dependency Counselor Level II (CCDC II) before April 1, 2014, and successfully completes one of the following options before April 1, 2014:

 (1)  A minimum of a master's degree in a behavioral science field, evidenced by transcript, from an accredited post secondary institution;

 (2)  A minimum of a bachelor's degree in a behavioral science field, evidenced by transcript, from an accredited post secondary institution and five years of clinical addiction counseling experience;

 (3)  A minimum of an associate's degree in a behavioral science field, evidenced by transcript, from an accredited post secondary institution and 10 years of clinical addiction counseling experience; or

 (4)  A minimum of a high school diploma or general education diploma and 15 years of clinical addiction counseling experience.

 Any applicant who holds certification as a CCDC II and meets the requirements above shall submit an application and official transcripts showing proof of degree with the board prior to July 1, 2014, on a form and in the manner prescribed by the board. The years of clinical addiction counseling experience must be years accrued after initial certification.

 **Source:** 40 SDR 58, effective October 9, 2013.

 **General Authority:** SDCL 36-34-12(1)(3).

 **Law Implemented:** SDCL 36-34-12(1)(3).