



FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions...

(with answers!)

I've read through the website. What's the next step?

Here are some important things to consider before we set up a time to meet, see the office, sign a contract and get you a key and a listing on the website, We call them the "Who/What/When/Where" of Wise Counsel & Comfort....

1. **WHO** do you want to work with? What's your ideal client population? You may choose to be a 'general' practitioner and/or have a special focus of practice. If you plan on working with a specialized population (ex: children, youth, families, couples, etc.), you must have sufficient education and clinical experience to do so.
2. **WHAT** days/hours do you want to practice? Weeknight evenings and weekend appointments are slightly more in demand by clients, and with many clinicians as well. Knowing times you prefer to see clients is necessary to help you find a location that will meet your needs. If you need very specific hours/days, you may need to be more flexible about which location you practice at.
3. **WHEN** do you want to begin? We sign contracts NO EARLIER than 2 weeks before your start date, and you can begin mid-month. If you aren't planning on starting until a few months from now, we can talk with you and make tentative plans. But, be aware that the hours and days available today at a particular location may well not be available a month or two down the line.
4. **WHERE** do you want to practice? We have 17 locations, 65+ offices and ALL have colleagues with thriving practices. There is no one location that is better or more profitable than another. Each location has it's own unique feel and features. Some clinicians prefer to practice close to home or close to their other job, others enjoy being in a different part of town. You may choose the location based on ease of mass-transit, parking or disability access. It will be worth it to look at the interactive map, understand the parking, neighborhood, and general 'feel' of the area before deciding where you want to practice. If you have a strong preference for a specific location, you may need to be flexible with the hours you work.

Once you answer these questions, feel free to contact Courtney Woodward at courtneywoodward@yahoo.com to nail down the particulars and schedule a time to meet.

Wait, I'm not licensed yet! Can I still be a part of Wise Counsel & Comfort?

Certainly you can, but we require that you have already initiated the process of registration with your licensure board. You will need to have selected and signed an agreement with a clinical supervisor (we have some great LPC/LCSW/LMFT supervisors available through WCC who offer discounted fees for WCC colleagues). Once that's accomplished, we can help you in establishing a "practice location" which is required for registration as an intern.

Wait, I'm not a "counselor" - I'm a life coach/hypnotherapist/Reiki practioner/spiritual director/...

Can I still practice with WCC? Most likely, the answer is yes, as long as you've completed appropriate professional training and carry professional liability insurance.

So, what are my overall costs to get started?

Here's a breakdown of your initial costs at the signing of the contract:

1. First month's rent (or prorated portion if you begin mid-month)
2. \$100 refundable key/damage deposit
3. \$50 for each initial website listing (for portland-therapist.com and/or portland-couplescounseling.com)\$150-\$200 in deposit/fees

If the overall costs of beginning seem daunting, please talk to us about a payment plan for the deposit & web fees.

What if I change my mind during the contract year?

It's important to realize that you are signing a 1 year legally binding contract. The expectation is that you will fulfill the entirety of the contract, unless there are EXTREME circumstances.

What if I want to change locations? Can I be in 2 different locations?

Wise Counsel clinicians practice at just one location. However, if you choose to change locations and there is availability, we will certainly support you in making that change. All you need to do is pay the \$35 web change fee.

What if I want to change my hours? Can I add just one more hour to the schedule?

If there's availability, you're welcome to change your scheduled hours. There is a \$25 fee to cover the costs of the schedule change. Colleagues schedules are only set in 5 hour increments (5/10/15/20/25 +) If you have a client that needs to be seen on a regular basis outside of your schedule (rather than a crisis or make up appointment), you either need to change your schedule to accommodate that or add an additional 5hrs/week. If you are regularly seeing pro-bono client, we are glad to block that extra hour outside your schedule