



STATE OF WISCONSIN

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Governor Scott Walker Secretary Dave Ross

Positions Statements Related to Marriage and Family Therapists Issued by the Joint Board of Marriage & Family Therapy, Professional Counseling and Social Work

WHAT IS THE PRACTICE OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY?

Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 457.01 (5) Marriage and Family Therapy means applying psychotherapeutic and marital or family systems theories and techniques in the assessment, marital or family diagnosis, prevention, treatment or resolution of a cognitive, affective, behavioral, nervous or mental disorder of an individual, couple or family.

Revised: 03/28/2016

HOW MANY HOURS OF SUPERVISED EXPERIENCE DO APPLICANTS NEED?

The minimum requirements are: 3000 hours of marriage and family therapy practice, including at least 1000 hours of face to face client contact with 1 hour of LMFT supervision for every 10 hours of client contact. (See Wis. Stat. § 457.10 (3) and Wis. Admin. Code § MPSW 16.03)

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WHO CAN SUPERVISE APPLICANTS FOR LICENSURE?

A person who meets one of the following requirements as stipulated by Ch MPSW 16.05, Wis Admin Code:

- (1) A LMFT who holds a doctorate degree in Marriage and Family Therapy.
- (2) A LMFT who has engaged in the equivalent of 5 years full-time MFT practice.
- (3) A psychiatrist or psychologist licensed in Wisconsin.
- (4) An AAMFT approved supervisor or AAMFT approved supervisor candidate.
- (5) A person who is **approved in advance** by the MFT Section.

All requests for approval of supervisors are considered by the board on a case-by-case basis. Approval *must* be requested and received *before* starting supervision.

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ARE LMFTS REQUIRED TO CARRY MALPRACTICE INSURANCE?

Yes, LMFT's are required to have professional liability insurance. Exceptions exist for licensees employed in federal, state or local governmental agencies who only work for those agencies. These requirements are outlined in Wis. Stat. § 457.24 and Wis. Admin. Code § MPSW 1.10.

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