



**Rules of
Department of Commerce and
Insurance**

**Division 2233—State Committee of Marital and
Family Therapists
Chapter 2—Licensure Requirements**

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**Title 20—DEPARTMENT OF
COMMERCE AND INSURANCE
Division 2233—State Committee of
Marital and Family Therapists
Chapter 2—Licensure Requirements**

20 CSR 2233-2.010 Educational Requirements

PURPOSE: This rule defines the educational requirements to be licensed as a marital and family therapist.

(1) To apply for licensure or supervision, an applicant shall have received a graduate degree at the master, specialist or doctoral level with either a major in marriage and family therapy or an equivalent graduate course of study in a mental health discipline from a regionally accredited institution acceptable to the United States Department of Education.

(A) For the purpose of this rule, a master's or doctoral degree in marital and family therapy from a program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE) or its successor organization meets the educational requirements for licensure. A master or doctoral degree awarded prior to COAMFTE accreditation meets the educational requirement for licensure if the degree was awarded within two (2) years of the program receiving accreditation.

(B) For the purpose of this rule, a master's or doctoral degree from a program in marriage, couple, and family counseling accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) or its successor organization meets the education requirements for licensure. A master's or doctoral degree awarded prior to CACREP accreditation meets the educational requirement for licensure if the degree was awarded within two (2) years of the program receiving accreditation.

(C) A graduate program in marriage and family therapy that is not COAMFTE or CACREP accredited shall consist of at least forty-five (45) semester hours or sixty (60) quarter hours of study in the area of marriage and family therapy; or

(D) An equivalent graduate course of study in a mental health discipline shall consist of at least forty-five (45) semester hours or sixty (60) quarter hours of study. The applicant shall have completed graduate or postgraduate course work in each core area as defined in 20 CSR 2233-2.010(7)(A)–(F).

(2) When evaluating transcripts based on a quarter hour system, the state committee

shall consider a quarter hour of academic credit as two-thirds (2/3) of a semester hour. A semester hour of credit shall be defined as fifteen (15) clock hours of regularly scheduled classroom study.

(3) An applicant for licensure or supervision shall have completed the following:

(A) Three (3) semester hours or five (5) quarter hours of study in the area of theoretical foundations of marriage and family therapy; and

(B) Twelve (12) semester hours or twenty (20) quarter hours of study in the area of the practice of marriage and family therapy; and

(C) Six (6) semester hours or ten (10) quarter hours of study in the area of human development and family studies; and

(D) Three (3) semester hours or five (5) quarter hours of study in the area of ethics and professional studies; and

(E) Three (3) semester hours or five (5) quarter hours of study in the area of research methodology; and

(F) Six (6) semester hours or ten (10) quarter hours of practicum in marital and family therapy, including at least five hundred (500) hours of client contact.

(G) Three (3) semester hours or five (5) quarter hours of study in the area of diagnostic systems either within the curriculum leading to a master, doctoral, or specialist degree, or post master's graduate level course work prior to the issuance of a license.

(4) Graduate course work in marriage and family therapy or a course of study in a mental health discipline from a school, college or university or other institution of higher learning outside the United States may be considered in compliance with these rules if, at the time the applicant was enrolled and graduated, the school, college, university or other institution of higher learning maintained a standard of training substantially equivalent to the standards of training of those institutions accredited by one (1) of the regional accrediting commissions recognized by the United States Department of Education. An official transcript from the college, university, or other institution of higher learning outside of the United States must be sent to the committee. If the applicant's official transcript is not in English, the applicant shall obtain a credential evaluation from a nationally recognized translation service that compares the courses listed on the transcript with U.S. standards, in order to determine content and equivalency in terms of U.S. education. The applicant shall authorize the release of the translation to the committee. Any costs associated with the translation are the appli-

cant's responsibility.

(A) A graduate program in marriage and family therapy shall consist of at least forty-five (45) semester hours or sixty (60) quarter hours of study in the area of marriage and family therapy; or

(B) An equivalent graduate course of study in a mental health discipline shall consist of at least forty-five (45) semester hours or sixty (60) quarter hours of study comprised of graduate or postgraduate course work in each core area as defined in 20 CSR 2233-2.010(8)(A)–(G).

(5) A course shall be counted once in granting credit for a core area and be an in-depth study solely devoted to a particular core area. No core area credit shall be given for courses which contain only a component or some aspects of a core area. The core areas are defined as follows:

(A) Theoretical Foundations of Marriage and Family Therapy—Courses in this area cover the development, theoretical foundations, contemporary conceptual directions, and critical philosophical issues of marriage and family therapy;

(B) The Practice of Marriage and Family Therapy—Courses in this area cover the historical development, theoretical foundations, contemporary conceptual directions, and critical philosophical issues of marriage and family therapy and applied marriage and family therapy practice. Within the context of systems theory and marriage and family therapy, courses will cover assessment, evaluation and treatment of dysfunctional relationship patterns and mental disorders consistent with the scope of practice as defined in section 337.700(7), RSMo and include marriage and family therapy assessment methods and instruments;

(C) Human Development and Family Studies—Courses in this area cover the life cycle of individuals, couples and families and the modification of relationship dynamics over time from a systems perspective. Courses shall address issues of relationships, normal development and dysfunctional patterns, as well as issues of sexuality, gender, ethnicity, race, socioeconomic status, religion, culture and other issues of diversity which emerge in a pluralistic society;

(D) Ethics and Professional Studies—Courses in this area cover the development of professional commitment, identity, and accountability. Studies include professional socialization and professional organizations, licensure and credentials, legal responsibilities and liabilities of clinical practice and research, business ethics in professional practice, family law, confidentiality, professional



marital and family therapy codes of ethics, and cooperation with members of other mental health professions specific to the practice and profession of marriage and family therapy;

(E) Research Methodology—Courses in this area cover an understanding of research methodology and data analysis with the ability to evaluate research. Course content shall include both qualitative and quantitative research;

(F) Practicum in Marriage and Family Therapy—The practicum or internship consists of direct, face-to-face client contact to include couple and family formats. Individual supervision with one (1) or two (2) students in face-to-face consultation with a supervisor shall be provided. Students shall be trained to make relevant assessments of client systems; and

(G) Diagnostic Systems—Courses in this area provide an understanding and a working knowledge of psychodiagnostics using classification systems with an emphasis on the current edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (DSM). Course content regarding the DSM must include understanding the organizational structure, professional terminology used in the manual, and competence in its application as it is used in the assessment process and subsequent treatment planning relative to the practice of marital and family therapy.

(6) Distance learning includes cyber/distance (electronic) learning/education and must be a formal education process in which instruction occurs when the student and the instructor are not located in the same place and uses technology such as on-line learning tools, e-mail, video conferencing, and other related technologies.

(A) Any course or graduate program offered primarily via distance learning shall be evaluated by the state committee in the same manner as onsite graduate programs or course work as defined in 20 CSR 2233-2.010.

(7) Independent studies, courses listed on the transcript as a seminar, and readings courses shall be clearly delineated on the transcript and shall be submitted to the state committee for review and approval. It is the applicant's responsibility to document that the course work is in compliance with the core course requirements defined in 20 CSR 2233-2.010 (8)(A)–(G). The applicant may submit course descriptions from course catalogs, syllabi, bulletins or through written documentation from an appropriate school official stating that the course was an in-depth study of a

particular core area.

(8) Undergraduate level course work is in compliance with core requirements as defined in this rule if the applicant's official transcript clearly shows that the course was awarded graduate credit by the school.

(9) Courses provided by a post-degree institute accredited by an accrediting body which has been approved by the United States Department of Education may be acceptable as meeting core course requirements defined in 20 CSR 2233-2.010. It is the applicant's responsibility to document that the course work is in compliance with the core course requirements defined in this rule. The applicant may submit course descriptions from course catalogs, syllabi, bulletins, or through written documentation from an appropriate official stating that the course was an in-depth study of a particular core area.

(10) The applicant has the burden of demonstrating that the academic course work and training constituted a program of study in marriage and family therapy or a mental health discipline. A final determination of whether the program of study which formed the basis of the applicant's degree was marriage and family therapy or a mental health discipline is within the discretion of the state committee.

(11) The state committee shall review an applicant's educational credentials upon request from an applicant and upon receipt of official educational transcripts received directly from the university or post-degree institute accredited by an accrediting body which has been approved by the United States Department of Education and upon payment of the fee as defined in 20 CSR 2233-1.040(1)(H). All information shall be submitted to the state committee no later than thirty (30) days prior to a regularly scheduled state committee meeting to be reviewed at that meeting.

(12) The state committee shall review an applicant's proposed plan for obtaining an appropriate educational degree and/or course work upon receiving a request from an individual, receipt of the photocopies of official school documents, such as course syllabi or catalog descriptions of course work and degree programs, and upon payment of the fee as defined in 20 CSR 2233-1.040(1)(H). All information shall be submitted to the state committee no later than thirty (30) days prior to a regularly scheduled state committee meeting to be reviewed at that meeting.

AUTHORITY: section 337.715, RSMo 2016, and section 337.727, RSMo Supp. 2019. This rule originally filed as 4 CSR 233-2.010. Original rule filed Dec. 31, 1997, effective July 30, 1998. Amended: Filed May 22, 2001, effective Nov. 30, 2001. Moved to 20 CSR 2233-2.010, effective Aug. 28, 2006. Amended: Filed Nov. 15, 2007, effective May 30, 2008. Amended: Filed Sept. 5, 2019, effective March 30, 2020.*

**Original authority: 337.715, RSMo 1995, amended 2004, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2013 and 337.727, RSMo 1995, amended 2009, 2010, 2018.*

20 CSR 2233-2.020 Supervised Marital and Family Work Experience

PURPOSE: This rule defines the requirements for obtaining supervised experience in marital and family therapy for licensure as a marital and family therapist.

(1) The phrase supervised clinical experience as used in section 337.715.1(2), RSMo, means post-degree training in the practice of marital and family therapy as defined in section 337.700(7), RSMo, beginning after the satisfactory completion of the educational requirements set forth in 20 CSR 2233-2.010 and obtained under the supervision of an acceptable supervisor as defined in 20 CSR 2233-2.021.

(2) The effective date of a registration of supervision or a change of supervision shall be determined by the state committee with consideration given to when the application is complete with all required documentation. The state committee will inform the applicant of the effective date of supervision or change of supervision in writing.

(A) The following must be on file with the state committee for an application for supervision or change of supervision application to be considered complete and officially filed:

1. A registration of supervision or change of supervision application form, provided by the state committee, that is legible and printed in black or blue ink;

2. Application for supervision or change of supervision application fee;

3. Official graduate transcript(s) sent to the state committee by the educational institution(s);

4. When applicable, a written agreement, affiliating the licensure supervisor to the setting where the supervised marital and family therapist or provisionally licensed marital and family therapist will obtain licensure supervision; and

5. Background check with submission of fingerprints to the Missouri State Highway



Patrol's approved vendor(s) for both a Missouri State Highway Patrol and Federal Bureau of Investigation criminal background check. Any fees due for the background check shall be paid by the applicant directly to the Missouri State Highway Patrol or its approved vendor(s).

(3) A provisional licensed marital and family therapist (PLMFT) or supervised-marital and family therapist (S-MFT) shall notify the state committee within fifteen (15) days of changing supervisors or settings by filing a change of supervision form and paying the fee as defined in 20 CSR 2233-1.040(1)(J).

(4) A provisional license issued to an applicant with a master's degree in compliance with 20 CSR 2233-2.010 is valid for at least three (3) years from the date of issuance and until the expiration date of the license or upon termination of supervision, whichever occurs first or unless the license is disciplined by the state committee. Upon written request from the applicant and prior to the expiration date of the provisional license, the state committee may extend a provisional license for good cause at the discretion of the state committee.

(5) Applicants for supervised experience in marital and family therapy shall complete all education requirements as defined in 20 CSR 2233-2.010(5).

(A) For the purpose of this rule, if an applicant for supervision is deficient in any of the core areas pursuant to 20 CSR 2233-2.010(3)(A)-(G) supervision may be approved by the state committee and the applicant may begin prior to the completion of all required course work.

(6) A supervisor shall not be a relative of the applicant. For the purpose of this rule a relative is defined as a parent, spouse, child, sibling of the whole or half blood, grandparent, grandchild, aunt, uncle, or cousin of the applicant, or one who is or has been related by marriage.

(7) A supervisor shall be licensed as a marital and family therapist, professional counselor, psychologist, clinical social worker, or psychiatrist in Missouri for supervised experience in this state to be considered for licensure. For the purpose of this rule an inactive, provisional, expired, temporary, or retired license shall not meet this requirement.

(8) The characteristics of acceptable supervision shall include in no less than twenty-four (24) calendar months and no more than sixty (60) calendar months:

(A) A minimum fifteen hundred (1,500)

hours of supervised experience in marital and family therapy direct client contact. The PLMFT or S-MFT must obtain at least fifteen (15) hours of supervised experience within a calendar month in order for the experience to be considered by the state committee and must be in compliance with 20 CSR 2233-2.020; and

1. For the purpose of these rules, direct client contact is face-to-face interaction between the client and PLMFT or S-MFT.

(B) A minimum of two (2) hours every two (2) weeks or one (1) hour every week of face-to-face supervision with the registered supervisor. For the purpose of this regulation an hour of individual face-to-face supervision is no less than fifty (50) continuous minutes and two (2) hours is no less than one hundred (100) continuous minutes.

1. At least half of the supervision shall be individual face-to-face supervision which may consist of no more than two (2) PLMFTs or S-MFTs meeting with the registered supervisor.

2. The remaining supervision may be group supervision. For the purpose of this rule, group supervision may consist of at least three (3) and no more than six (6) PLMFTs or S-MFTs or combination thereof.

3. The PLMFT or S-MFT must complete a minimum of two hundred (200) hours of supervision, at least half of which one hundred (100) hours must be in individual face-to-face supervision.

4. An applicant for supervision may submit a request for supervision by electronic methods to meet the face-to-face supervision requirements of this rule. When using electronic methods for supervision, the supervisor and S-MFT or PLMFT shall ensure that the system utilized for communications is a secure, real-time system that provides for visual and audio interaction between the S-MFT or PLMFT and supervisor and all data storage and communications are private and protected consistent with all applicable laws and rules; and

(C) The services provided by a PLMFT or S-MFT shall be performed under the registered supervisor's full order, control, oversight, and guidance. The PLMFT or S-MFT shall remain under the supervision until licensed as a marital and family therapist.

1. A PLMFT or S-MFT shall not engage in independent, private practice or offer therapy that is not affiliated with the supervisor approved by the state committee for licensure supervision.

2. A PLMFT or S-MFT shall not engage in marketing or advertising services without including the name and license number of the registered supervisor.

3. A PLMFT or S-MFT shall not bill clients for therapeutic services. Billing and payment for marital and family therapy provided by the PLMFT or S-MFT shall be facilitated by the supervisor approved by the state committee for licensure supervision.

4. While receiving licensure supervision and providing marital and family therapy as defined in section 337.700(7), RSMo, or representing themselves as a PLMFT, a provisional licensed marital and family therapist shall use one (1) of the following terms: PLMFT or provisional licensed marital and family therapist.

5. A person shall use one (1) of the following terms while under supervision for licensure and not provisionally licensed: S-MFT or supervised marital and family therapist.

6. The registered supervisor shall read and cosign all written reports, to include their license number, including treatment plans and progress notes prepared by the PLMFT or S-MFT. If the setting prohibits the cosign/signing of reports, it is the responsibility of the PLMFT or S-MFT to document that written reports, to include treatment plans and progress notes, have been reviewed by the registered supervisor.

(9) The supervisor and PLMFT or S-MFT shall be employed by or affiliated by contract with the same licensure supervision setting and the licensure supervision setting shall not include private practice in which the PLMFT or S-MFT operates, manages, or has an ownership interest in the private practice.

(10) During the period of supervised experience in marital and family therapy, the PLMFT or S-MFT shall inform the client that the PLMFT or S-MFT is under supervision for licensure, along with the name and address and license number of the registered supervisor.

(11) Any PLMFT or S-MFT who has not applied for licensure within that period of time is prohibited from providing services pursuant to section 337.700(7), RSMo unless the PLMFT or S-MFT continues licensure supervision approved by the committee.

(12) For individuals applying for supervised experience in marital and family therapy on the basis of a doctoral or specialist's degree in marriage and family therapy or a mental health discipline as defined in 20 CSR 2233-2.010(1)(A) or (B) or based upon thirty (30) graduate hours of post-master's course work in marital and family therapy or a mental health discipline as defined in



20 CSR 2233-2.010(1)(A) or (B), additional supervised experience in marital and family therapy shall include the following to be completed in no less than twelve (12) months and no more than twenty-four (24) calendar months:

(A) At least seven hundred fifty (750) hours of supervised experience in marital and family therapy direct client contact in which the applicant for supervision shall engage in the practice of marital and family therapy as defined in section 337.700(7), RSMo; and

(B) The PLMFT or S-MFT must obtain at least fifteen (15) hours of supervised experience within a calendar month in order for the experience to be considered by the state committee and must be in compliance with 20 CSR 2233-2.020(10), (11), and (12); and

(C) A provisional license issued to an applicant with thirty (30) semester hours of post-degree graduate course work, specialist, or doctoral degree in compliance with 20 CSR 2233-2.010 is valid for at least two (2) years from the date of issuance and is valid until the expiration date or termination of supervision, whichever occurs first, or unless the license is disciplined by the state committee. Upon written request from the applicant and prior to the expiration date of the provisional license, the state committee may extend a provisional license for good cause at the discretion of the state committee.

(D) If a supervisor is deceased or cannot be located by the applicant, the applicant shall provide documentation verifying supervised hours and time providing marital and family therapy. Approval of the supervised experience shall be at the discretion of the state committee.

AUTHORITY: sections 337.700 and 337.715, RSMo 2016, and section 337.727, RSMo Supp. 2019. This rule originally filed as 4 CSR 233-2.020. Original rule filed Dec. 31, 1997, effective July 30, 1998. Amended: Filed May 22, 2001, effective Nov. 30, 2001. Moved to 20 CSR 2233-2.020, effective Aug. 28, 2006. Amended: Filed Nov. 15, 2007, effective May 30, 2008. Amended: Filed Nov. 15, 2011, effective May 30, 2012. Amended: Filed Sept. 5, 2019, effective March 30, 2020.*

**Original authority: 337.700, RSMo 1995, amended 2007, 2008, 2010; 337.715, RSMo 1995, amended 2004, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2013; and 337.727, RSMo 1995, amended 2009, 2010, 2018.*

20 CSR 2233-2.021 Registered Supervisors and Supervisory Responsibilities

PURPOSE: This rule specifies the documen-

tation needed to qualify as a supervisor.

(1) A supervisor may not have more than a combined total of ten (10) supervisees including S-MFTs, PLMFTs and/or licensure supervision candidates from other mental health disciplines at the same time. In order to provide supervision for a provisional licensed marital and family therapist (PLMFT) or supervised-marital and family therapist (S-MFT), a supervisor shall document the following to the state committee:

(A) A graduate degree with a major in marital and family therapy or mental health discipline from a regionally accredited institution acceptable to the United States Department of Education; and

(B) Five (5) years clinical experience in providing marital and family therapy as defined in section 337.700(7), RSMo. For the purpose of this regulation, clinical experience shall not include practicum or internships associated with the graduate degree required in 20 CSR 2233-2.021(1)(A); and

(C) For supervision occurring in Missouri, the supervisor shall document to the state committee that the supervisor has the following:

1. Current license in Missouri or another state as a marital and family therapist, professional counselor, psychologist, clinical social worker, or psychiatrist for at least two (2) years. For the purpose of this regulation an inactive, provisional, expired, temporary, or retired license shall not meet this requirement; and

2. Designation as an approved supervisor by the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy; or

3. A minimum of two hundred (200) hours of clinical supervision of individuals seeking licensure as a professional counselor pursuant to sections 337.500 to 337.540, RSMo, psychologist pursuant to sections 337.010 to 337.090, RSMo, clinical social worker pursuant to sections 337.600 to 337.689, RSMo, or graduate practicum or internship student enrolled in master's, specialist, or doctoral degree program in compliance with section 337.510.1(1), RSMo, (professional counselor), section 337.021.1, RSMo, (psychologist), section 337.615.1, RSMo, (social worker), or section 337.715.1(1), RSMo, (marital and family therapist).

A. A minimum of one hundred (100) hours of the two hundred (200) hours of supervised experience shall be supervising individuals within the context of systems therapy and marital and family therapy.

B. One (1) graduate semester hour in marital and family supervision or fifteen (15)

continuing education hours in a comparably organized and integrated series of workshops and supervised studies of marital and family therapy supervision.

C. A minimum of twenty (20) hours of supervision-of-supervision and/or in the process of receiving supervision-of-supervision. For the purpose of this regulation, the major emphasis of supervision-of-supervision shall be the development of the licensee's supervisory skills from a systemic perspective and shall include theories of supervision, supervision practice, and professional ethics.

(2) An individual with a state-issued professional license that has been subject to probation, suspension, or revocation may be denied from providing supervision for a PLMFT or S-MFT.

(3) The supervisor and/or applicant for supervision have the burden of demonstrating that the supervisor has the required education and experience outlined within this rule.

AUTHORITY: sections 337.700 and 337.715, RSMo 2016, and section 337.727, RSMo Supp. 2019. This rule originally filed as 4 CSR 233-2.021. Original rule filed Dec. 31, 1997, effective July 30, 1998. Amended: Filed May 22, 2001, effective Nov. 30, 2001. Moved to 20 CSR 2233-2.021, effective Aug. 28, 2006. Amended: Filed Nov. 15, 2007, effective May 30, 2008. Rescinded and readopted: Filed Nov. 15, 2011, effective May 30, 2012. Amended: Filed Sept. 5, 2019, effective March 30, 2020.*

**Original authority: 337.700, RSMo 1995, amended 2007, 2008, 2010; 337.715, RSMo 1995, amended 2004, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2013; and 337.727, RSMo 1995, amended 2009, 2010, 2018.*

20 CSR 2233-2.030 Application for Licensure

PURPOSE: This rule outlines the procedure for application for licensure as a licensed marital and family therapist.

(1) A licensed marital and family therapist application shall be made on the forms provided by the state committee and may be obtained by writing the state committee at PO Box 1335, Jefferson City, MO 65102 or by calling (573) 751-0870 or from the state committee's web site at <http://pr.mo.gov/marital.asp>. The TDD number is (800) 735-2966.

(2) The following must be on file with the state committee for an application for licensure to be considered complete and officially filed:



(A) An application for licensure on a form, provided by the state committee, that is legible and printed in black or blue ink;

(B) Application for licensure fee;

(C) Official graduate transcript(s) sent to the state committee by the educational institution(s);

(D) Documentation of post degree supervised experience in compliance with 20 CSR 2233-2.020;

(E) Official scores from the Examination in Marital and Family Therapy as developed by the Association of Marital and Family Therapy Regulatory Boards or its successor organization; and

(F) Background check with submission of fingerprints to the Missouri State Highway Patrol's approved vendor(s) for both a Missouri State Highway Patrol and Federal Bureau of Investigation criminal background check.

(3) The completed application, including all documents, supporting material, examination results, and official transcripts sent by the school, shall be received at least thirty (30) days before the meeting of the State Committee of Marital and Family Therapists. Applications received less than thirty (30) days before a state committee meeting may be reviewed at the state committee's discretion.

(4) Following review, the applicant will be informed in writing of the decision regarding the application for licensure.

(5) An applicant with a license to engage in the practice of marital and family therapy in another state or territory as defined in section 337.715.2, RSMo, may apply for licensure in Missouri upon submitting acceptable evidence of his/her qualifications to the division.

(A) An application for licensure shall be reviewed by the state committee, and the applicant informed, in writing, of the state committee's decision.

(B) For the purpose of this rule, "acceptable evidence" includes, and is not limited to, a completed application for licensure on forms provided by the state committee, documentation of licensure which contains information concerning the requirements for licensure, the method of licensing including examination results, date of original licensure, current status of the applicant's license, and payment of the applicable fee.

(6) Applicants for licensure from states without marital and family therapy laws or states with marital and family therapy laws which are not substantially equivalent to Missouri's

requirements may qualify for licensure pursuant to section 337.715.1, RSMo.

AUTHORITY: sections 337.700(9) and 337.706.2, RSMo 2016, and section 337.727(6) and (10), RSMo Supp. 2019. This rule originally filed as 4 CSR 233-2.030. Original rule filed Dec. 31, 1997, effective July 30, 1998. Moved to 20 CSR 2233-2.030, effective Aug. 28, 2006. Amended: Filed Nov. 15, 2007, effective May 30, 2008. Amended: Filed Nov. 15, 2011, effective May 30, 2012. Amended: Filed Sept. 5, 2019, effective March 30, 2020.*

**Original authority: 337.700, RSMo 1995, amended 2007, 2008, 2010; 337.706, RSMo 1995, amended 2004, 2010; and 337.727, RSMo 1995, amended 2009, 2010.*

20 CSR 2233-2.040 Examination Requirements

PURPOSE: This rule establishes the examination for licensure required by the division and the passing score.

(1) The division shall adopt the Examination in Marital and Family Therapy developed by the Association of Marital and Family Therapy Regulatory Boards or its successor organization.

(A) The division shall adopt the passing score, known as the criterion referenced passing point on the national examination in marital and family therapy, as established by the Association of Marital and Family Therapy Regulatory Boards or its successor organization, as the minimum passing score for Missouri applicants.

(2) In order to apply to take the Examination in Marital and Family Therapy, a person must have an application for supervision or licensure filed with the state committee.

(3) An applicant for licensure by examination shall submit a request to take the examination on a form provided by the Missouri Division of Professional Registration or the state committee and may be obtained by writing the division or state committee at PO Box 1335, Jefferson City, MO 65102 or by calling (573) 751-0870. The TDD number is (800) 735-2966.

(4) The applicant shall submit the required examination fee to the examination service responsible for administering the examination.

(5) The applicant shall comply with the examination provider's rules for test administration related to applicant conduct and secu-

rity and authorize the examination provider to submit the examination results to the state committee along with a report of any adverse incident(s) involving the applicant's conduct. Any cost associated with taking the approved examination or sending the examination results to the board is the applicant's responsibility. Any challenge, and cost related to such challenge, to an examination question, the method of examination, or any other matters concerning the examination shall be addressed to the examination provider.

AUTHORITY: section 337.727.1(1), (3), (6), and (10), RSMo Supp. 2019. This rule originally filed as 4 CSR 233-2.040. Original rule filed Dec. 31, 1997, effective July 30, 1998. Amended: Filed May 22, 2001, effective Nov. 30, 2001. Moved to 20 CSR 2233-2.040, effective Aug. 28, 2006. Amended: Filed Nov. 15, 2007, effective May 30, 2008. Amended: Filed Sept. 5, 2019, effective March 30, 2020.*

**Original authority: 337.727.1, RSMo 1995, amended 2009, 2010, 2018.*

20 CSR 2233-2.050 Renewal of License

PURPOSE: This rule provides information to licensed marital and family therapists regarding renewal of that license.

(1) A licensed marital and family therapist shall renew the license on or before the expiration of the license by submitting the renewal notice and fee.

(A) A renewal postmarked after the expiration date of the license shall be subject to a late fee as defined in 20 CSR 2233-1.040(1)(D)1. or 2., in addition to paying the renewal fee.

(2) Failure to receive the notice and application to renew the license shall not excuse the licensed marital and family therapist from the requirement of section 337.712.2, RSMo, to renew that license.

(3) Any licensed marital and family therapist failing to renew the license shall not practice marital and family therapy as defined in section 337.700(7), RSMo.

(4) A licensed marital and family therapist failing to renew the license may request information on reinstating the license on the state committee.

(5) A licensed marital and family therapist shall document and obtain forty (40) contact hours of continuing education (CE) prior to



the expiration date of a license and with at least twenty (20) hours of formal continuing education hours. The balance of hours can be self-study or additional formal continuing education hours. For the purpose of this a contact hour shall consist of fifty (50) minutes.

(A) Formal continuing education shall consist of one (1) or a combination of any of the following:

1. Postgraduate course work offered by a regionally accredited educational institution relevant to marital and family therapy as defined in section 337.700(7) and (8), RSMo, and not graduate course work required for licensure. One (1) semester hour of graduate credit constitutes fifteen (15) hours of continuing education;

2. Presenting research at a formal professional meeting. No credit is granted for any subsequent presentation on the same subject matter during the same renewal period. The licensee may include hours of research associated with the presentation;

3. Attending relevant professional meetings when such meetings include verification of attendance. Such meetings can be international, national, regional, state, or local, and must be related to the profession;

4. Attending work shops, seminars, or continuing education courses relevant to marital and family therapy as defined in section 337.700(7) and (8), RSMo. Upon request by the state committee the licensee shall provide verification of attendance such as a certificate or letter of attendance indicating the date, time, and number of hours of continuing education from the workshop, seminar, or course provider;

5. Written contributions to relevant professional books, journals, or periodicals;

6. Presenting at relevant professional meetings such as international, national, regional, state, or local professional associations;

7. A licensed marital and family therapist who is a faculty member at an accredited educational institution may receive up to a maximum of twenty (20) hours per year of continuing education credit for teaching at the educational institution. The area(s) taught by the licensee must relate to the following core areas: Theoretical Foundations of Marriage and Family Therapy, The Practice of Marriage and Family Therapy, Human Development and Family Studies, Ethics and Professional Studies, and Research Methodology; or

8. A licensed marital and family therapist teaching formal continuing education hours may receive up to a maximum of four (4) hours per biennial cycle of continuing

education credit. The CE must relate to the following core areas: Theoretical Foundations of Marriage and Family Therapy, The Practice of Marriage and Family Therapy, Human Development and Family Studies, Ethics and Professional Studies, Diagnosis, or Research Methodology.

(B) A licensed marital and family therapist may obtain up to twenty (20) hours of self-study continuing education. Self-study of professional material includes relevant books, journals, periodicals, tapes, and other materials and preparation for relevant lectures and talks to public groups. Preparation credit may not be claimed pursuant to this regulation for presentations that are used for CE in the aforementioned paragraphs 1., 2., 6., 7., or 8.

(6) Providing marital and family therapy, workshops on personal growth, supervision of individuals for licensure or employment, or services provided to professional associations or organizations will not be considered for continuing education contact hours.

(7) Included, but not limited to the following, is a list of approved continuing education providers:

(A) American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT) and any chapter or division of AAMFT;

(B) American Counseling Association (ACA) and any chapter or division of ACA;

(C) American Medical Association (AMA) and any chapter or division of AMA;

(D) American Mental Health Counselors Association (AMHCA) and any chapter or division of AMHCA;

(E) Local, state, regional, or national psychological associations;

(F) Local, state, regional, or national social worker associations;

(G) National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC); and

(H) Regionally accredited colleges and universities.

(8) For the license renewal the licensed marital and family therapist shall verify the number of CE hours earned during the last two (2) years immediately preceding the expiration date of the license on a form provided by the state committee. The licensed marital and family therapist does not need to submit the actual record of CE attendance to the state committee except in the case of a continuing education audit or when requested by the state committee.

(9) Each licensed marital and family therapist shall maintain a complete record of all CE

hours earned for four (4) years. Formal CE credit hours shall be documented by the sponsor or CE provider and maintained by the licensee. The licensee is responsible for maintaining the record of CE hours earned and such documentation shall contain, at a minimum, the number of hours earned and separated into the various categories defined in subsection (5)(A) of this regulation. The state committee may conduct an audit of the documentation to verify compliance with the continuing education requirement. A licensed marital and family therapist shall assist the state committee in its audit by providing timely and complete responses to the state committee's inquiries. A response is considered timely if received in the committee office within thirty (30) days of a written request by the state committee for such information.

(10) A licensed marital and family therapist unable to complete the requisite number of CE hours because of personal illness, military service, or other circumstances beyond the licensed marital and family therapist's control may apply to the state committee for an extension of time to complete the continuing education requirements or a waiver. Any extension of time to complete the continuing education requirements or waiver shall be granted solely in the discretion of the state committee. The licensed marital and family therapist must make a written application for extension of time at least thirty (30) days before the expiration date of the license and provide full and complete written documentation.

AUTHORITY: section 337.700, RSMo 2016, and sections 337.712 and 337.727(1) and (10), RSMo Supp. 2019. This rule originally filed as 4 CSR 233-2.050. Original rule filed Dec. 31, 1997, effective July 30, 1998. Moved to 20 CSR 2233-2.050, effective Aug. 28, 2006. Amended: Filed Nov. 15, 2007, effective May 30, 2008. Amended: Filed Nov. 15, 2011, effective May 30, 2012. Amended: Filed Sept. 5, 2019, effective March 30, 2020.*

**Original authority: 337.700, RSMo 1995, amended 2007, 2008, 2010; 337.712, RSMo 1995, amended 2004, 2009, 2018, 2019; and 337.727.1(1) and (10), RSMo 1995, amended 2009, 2010, 2018.*