

§ 4757.30. Marriage and family therapist license; independent therapist license.

(A) The counselor, social worker, and marriage and family therapist board shall, after reviewing the report submitted to it by the marriage and family therapist professional standards committee, issue a license as a marriage and family therapist to a person who has done all of the following:

- (1) Properly completed an application for the license;
- (2) Paid the required fee established by the board under section 4757.31 of the Revised Code;
- (3) Achieved one of the following:
 - (a) Received from an educational institution accredited at the time the degree was granted by a regional accrediting organization recognized by the board a master's degree or a doctorate in marriage and family therapy;
 - (b) Completed a graduate degree that includes a minimum of ninety quarter hours of graduate level course work in marriage and family therapy training that is acceptable to the committee;
- (4) Passed an examination administered by the board for the purpose of determining the person's ability to be a marriage and family therapist;
- (5) Completed a practicum that includes at least three hundred hours of client contact.

(B) To be accepted by the committee for purposes of division (A)(3)(b) of this section, marriage and family therapist training must include instruction in at least the following: research, professional ethics, marriage and family studies, marriage and family therapy, human development, appraisal of individuals and families, and systems theory.

(C) The board shall, after reviewing the report submitted to it by the marriage and family therapist professional standards committee, issue a license as an independent marriage and family therapist to a person who meets all of the requirements of division (A) of this section and, after meeting the requirements under division (A)(3) of this section, completes at least two calendar years of work experience in marriage and family therapy, including one thousand hours of documented client contact in marriage and family therapy.

Two hundred hours of the one thousand hours must be supervised by a supervisor whose training and experience meets standards established by the board in rules adopted under section 4757.10 of the Revised Code and one hundred hours of the two hundred hours of supervision must be individual supervision.

(D) The board shall waive the requirements of divisions (A)(4) and (B) of this section for an applicant seeking licensure under division (A) or (C) of this section for the two years immediately following the effective date of this section if the applicant presents satisfactory evidence of both of the following:

- (1) That the applicant engaged in the practice of marriage and family therapy for a total of not less than five years prior to the effective date of this section;
- (2) That, at the time of application, the applicant is an associate or clinical member of the American association of marriage and family therapists.

(E) An independent marriage and family therapist or a marriage and family therapist may engage in the private practice of marriage and family therapy as an individual practitioner or as a member of a partnership or group practice.

(F) A marriage and family therapist may diagnose and treat mental and emotional disorders only under the supervision of a psychologist, psychiatrist, professional clinical counselor, independent social worker, or independent marriage and family therapist. An independent marriage and family therapist may diagnose and treat mental and emotional disorders without supervision.

(G) Nothing in this chapter or rules adopted under it authorizes an independent marriage and family therapist or a marriage and family therapist to admit a patient to a hospital or requires a hospital to allow a marriage and family therapist to admit a patient.

**HISTORY: 149 v H 374. Eff 4-7-2003.
§ 4757.301.**