

Part 3

Marriage and Family Therapist Licensing Act

58-60-301 Title.

This part is known as the "Marriage and Family Therapist Licensing Act."

Enacted by Chapter 32, 1994 General Session

58-60-302 Definitions.

In addition to the definitions in Sections 58-1-102 and 58-60-102, as used in this part:

- (1) "Assess" means the use of diagnostic procedures, tests, and interview techniques generally accepted as standard in mental health therapy to diagnose any condition related to mental, emotional, behavioral, and social disorders or dysfunctions.
- (2) "Practice of marriage and family therapy" includes:
 - (a) the process of providing professional mental health therapy including psychotherapy to individuals, couples, families, or groups;
 - (b) utilizing established principles that recognize the interrelated nature of individual problems and dysfunctions in family members to assess, diagnose, and treat mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders;
 - (c) individual, premarital, relationship, marital, divorce, and family therapy;
 - (d) specialized modes of treatment for the purpose of diagnosing and treating mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders, modifying interpersonal and intrapersonal dysfunction, and promoting mental health; and
 - (e) assessment utilized to develop, recommend, and implement appropriate plans of treatment, dispositions, and placement related to the functioning of the individual, couple, family, or group.

Amended by Chapter 420, 2024 General Session

58-60-304 License classifications.

The division shall issue licenses to individuals qualified under this part in the classification of:

- (1) marriage and family therapist; or
- (2) associate marriage and family therapist.

Amended by Chapter 214, 2010 General Session

58-60-305 Qualifications for licensure.

- (1) An applicant for licensure as a marriage and family therapist shall:
 - (a) submit an application on a form the division approves;
 - (b) pay a fee determined by the department under Section 63J-1-504;
 - (c) produce certified transcripts evidencing completion of a master's or doctorate degree in marriage and family therapy from:
 - (i) a program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education; or
 - (ii) an accredited institution meeting criteria for approval established by rule under Section 58-1-203;

- (d) if required under federal law for any licensee as a marriage and family therapist to qualify as an eligible professional under CMS rules for Medicare payment, document completion of:
 - (i) not less than 3,000 hours of clinical supervision, which includes hours accrued under Subsection (1)(e); or
 - (ii) not less than two years of clinical supervision;
 - (e) document successful completion of not less than 1,200 direct client care hours:
 - (i) obtained after completion of the education requirements under Subsection (1)(c);
 - (ii) subject to Subsection (1)(e)(iii), not less than 100 of which are direct clinical supervision hours under the supervision of a clinical supervisor obtained after completion of the education requirements under Subsection (1)(c);
 - (iii) not less than 25 of which are direct observation hours; and
 - (iv) not more than 25 of which are group supervision hours concurrently with more than one other applicant for licensure;
 - (f) document successful completion of not less than two hours of training in suicide prevention obtained after completion of the education requirements under Subsection (1)(c) via a course that the division designates as approved;
 - (g)
 - (i) pass the examination requirement the division establishes by rule under Section 58-1-203; or
 - (ii) satisfy the following requirements:
 - (A) document at least one examination attempt that did not result in a passing score;
 - (B) document successful completion of not less than 500 additional direct client care hours, not less than 25 of which are direct clinical supervision hours, and not less than five of which are direct observation hours by a mental health therapist or supervisor;
 - (C) submit to the division a recommendation letter from the applicant's direct clinical supervisor; and
 - (D) submit to the division a recommendation letter from another licensed mental health therapist who has directly observed the applicant's direct client care hours and who is not the applicant's direct clinical supervisor; and
 - (h)
 - (i) consent to, and complete, a criminal background check, described in Section 58-1-301.5;
 - (ii) meet any other standard related to the criminal background check described in Subsection (1)(h)(i), that the division establishes by rule in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act; and
 - (iii) disclose any criminal history the division requests on a form the division approves.
- (2) An applicant for licensure as an associate marriage and family therapist shall comply with the provisions of Subsections (1)(a) through (c) and (h).

Amended by Chapter 443, 2025 General Session

58-60-305.5 Qualification for licensure before May 1, 2000.

- (1) A person who was licensed under this chapter as of May 1, 2000, may apply for renewal of licensure without being required to fulfill the educational requirements described in Subsection 58-60-305(1)(c).
- (2) A person who seeks licensure under this chapter before July 1, 2002, need comply only with the licensure requirements in effect before May 1, 2000.

Amended by Chapter 339, 2020 General Session

58-60-306 Qualifications for admission to examination.

All applicants for admission to any examination qualifying an individual for licensure under this part shall:

- (1) submit an application on a form provided by the division;
- (2) pay the fee established for the examination; and
- (3) certify under penalty of perjury as evidenced by notarized signature on the application for admission to the examination that the applicant has completed the education requirement and been awarded the earned degree required for licensure.

Enacted by Chapter 32, 1994 General Session

58-60-308 Scope of practice -- Limitations.

- (1) A licensed marriage and family therapist may engage in all acts and practices defined as the practice of marriage and family therapy without supervision, in private and independent practice, or as an employee of another person, limited only by the licensee's education, training, and competence.
- (2)
 - (a) To the extent an individual has completed the educational requirements of Subsection 58-60-305(1)(c), a licensed associate marriage and family therapist may engage in all acts and practices defined as the practice of marriage and family therapy if the practice is:
 - (i) within the scope of employment as a licensed associate marriage and family therapist with a public agency or a private clinic as defined by division rule; and
 - (ii) under the supervision of a licensed mental health therapist who is qualified as a supervisor under Section 58-60-307.
 - (b) A licensed associate marriage and family therapist may not engage in the independent practice of marriage and family therapy.

Amended by Chapter 339, 2020 General Session