

1 AN ACT relating to marriage and family therapists.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 335.330 is amended to read as follows:

4 **(1)** An applicant for licensure as a marriage and family therapist shall pay the board an
5 initial fee which shall be established by administrative regulation promulgated by
6 the board. The applicant shall show the board that the applicant has:

7 **(a)**~~[(1)]~~ Completed a master's or doctoral degree program in marriage and family
8 therapy, from a regionally-accredited educational institution, or a master's,
9 post-master's, or doctoral program approved by the Commission on
10 Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education or any of its
11 successor organizations, or an equivalent course of study as defined by the
12 board by promulgation of administrative regulations, **subject to the**
13 **following:**~~[-]~~

14 **1.**~~[(a)]~~ The degree or equivalent course of study shall contain specific
15 coursework on psychopathology and the Diagnostic and Statistical
16 Manual; and

17 **2.**~~[(b)]~~ In determining equivalency, the board shall use the criteria for
18 marriage and family therapy education and clinical training approved by
19 the United States Department of Education;

20 **(b)**~~[(2)]~~ Completed each of the following:

21 **1.**~~[(a)]~~ At least two (2) years' experience in the practice of marriage and
22 family therapy, acceptable to the board and subsequent to being granted
23 a master's degree; and

24 **2.**~~[(b)]~~ A minimum of two hundred (200) hours of clinical supervision
25 acceptable to the board and subsequent to being granted a master's
26 degree; and

27 **(c)**~~[(3)]~~ Passed a written examination prescribed by the board by promulgation

1 of administrative regulations.

2 **(2) If the board identifies any technical error in the application;**

3 **(a) The board shall notify the applicant of the error within one (1) week of its**
 4 **discovery;**

5 **(b) The applicant shall correct the error within two (2) weeks; and**

6 **(c) The board shall review the correction within one (1) week of the submitted**
 7 **correction.**

8 **(3) The board shall issue the license within two (2) weeks of the date the application**
 9 **is complete.**

10 ➔Section 2. KRS 335.332 is amended to read as follows:

11 (1) A person who fills all of the requirements of KRS 335.330 shall apply to the board
 12 for a marriage and family therapist associate permit in order to practice and earn the
 13 experience required for license application.

14 (2) A marriage and family therapy associate shall engage in the practice of marriage
 15 and family therapy while receiving qualifying experience ~~{by contracting, in~~
 16 ~~writing, }~~with an approved supervisor **or an approved acting supervisor**, as defined
 17 by the board in administrative regulations, who shall assume responsibility for and
 18 supervise the marriage and family therapy associate's practice as directed by the
 19 board by promulgation of administrative regulations. **A marriage and family**
 20 **therapy associate shall not engage in the practice of marriage and family therapy**
 21 **without a board approved supervisor or an approved acting supervisor**~~{No~~
 22 ~~marriage and family therapy associate shall enter into a practice of marriage and~~
 23 ~~family therapy until this contract has been approved by the board, and the marriage~~
 24 ~~and family therapy associate shall cease the practice of marriage and family therapy~~
 25 ~~immediately upon termination of the contract. At the termination of the contract, the~~
 26 ~~marriage and family therapy associate shall apply for licensure as a marriage and~~
 27 ~~family therapist or request an extension of the contract from the board}.~~

1 (3) The fees and all other requirements for a marriage and family therapist associate
2 permit shall be established by the board by promulgation of administrative
3 regulations.

4 ➔Section 3. KRS 335.340 is amended to read as follows:

5 (1) (a) Licensure issued under KRS 335.330 shall be renewed annually upon
6 payment of a fee to be established by administrative regulation promulgated
7 by the board not to exceed one hundred fifty dollars (\$150).

8 (b) The board shall issue the renewal licensure within two (2) weeks after
9 receiving the renewal request.

10 (2) On January 1, 1999, all persons authorized to use the title "certified marriage and
11 family therapist" shall be deemed "licensed marriage and family therapists" until
12 the date of their second annual license renewal. As of that date, each formerly
13 certified licensee seeking license renewal shall provide the board with verification
14 of education or experience relating to psychopathology, as determined by
15 administrative regulations promulgated by the board, to include:

16 (a) Coursework in psychopathology;

17 (b) Supervised experience with a focus on diagnosis; or

18 (c) Completion of equivalent continuing education units relating to
19 psychopathology.

20 This subsection shall not apply to license renewals for those persons also licensed
21 or certified by another mental health profession which authorizes diagnosis within
22 its scope of practice.

23 (3) A ninety (90) day grace period shall be granted during which time licensees may
24 continue to practice and may renew their licenses upon payment of the renewal fee
25 plus a late renewal fee as promulgated by administrative regulation of the board.
26 Any license not renewed during this period shall expire. The board may reinstate an
27 expired license within three (3) years of its expiration date upon payment of the

1 renewal fee and satisfaction of other requirements.

2 (4) A suspended license is subject to expiration and termination and shall be renewed
3 as provided in this chapter. Renewal shall not entitle the licensee to engage in the
4 practice of marriage and family therapy until the suspension has ended, or is
5 otherwise removed by the board and the right to practice is restored by the board.

6 (5) A revoked license is subject to expiration or termination but may not be renewed. If
7 it is reinstated, the licensee shall pay the renewal fee as set forth in subsection (1) of
8 this section.

9 (6) A person who fails to reinstate his or her license within three (3) years of its
10 termination may not have it renewed, restored, reissued, or reinstated. A person
11 may apply for and obtain a new license by meeting the current requirements of this
12 chapter.

13 (7) The board shall require that a person applying for renewal or reinstatement of
14 licensure show evidence of completion of continuing education as prescribed by the
15 board by administrative regulations, not to exceed twenty (20) clock hours per
16 renewal period.

17 ➔Section 4. A NEW SECTION OF KRS 335.300 TO 335.399 IS CREATED TO
18 READ AS FOLLOWS:

19 **(1) The board shall grant a reciprocal license to an applicant who:**

20 **(a) Holds an active license from another state to practice as an independent**
21 **marriage and family therapist;**

22 **(b) Is in good standing with the certifying or licensing board of that state;**

23 **(c) Is of good moral character;**

24 **(d) Has not had disciplinary actions of a serious nature brought against them**
25 **by a registration, certification, or licensing board or agency;**

26 **(e) Has met the examination requirement in Section 1 of this Act; and**

27 **(f) Has paid the application fee to the board.**

- 1 (2) The applicant shall be exempt from the requirements of subsection (1)(a) and (b)
2 of Section 1 of this Act.