

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS
FOR MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS**

LCB File No. R053-01

July 10, 2001

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets ~~[omitted material]~~ is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §§1-7, NRS 641A.160, 641A.170 and 641A.180.

Section 1. Chapter 641A of NAC is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

- 1. Each therapist shall complete at least 40 units of continuing education every 2 years.*
- 2. Not more than 6 units of the 40 units of continuing education may include instruction received at home from a course or program approved by the board.*
- 3. The executive director of the board may conduct an audit of a therapist to ensure compliance with the requirements set forth in this section.*
- 4. The failure of a therapist to comply with the requirements set forth in this section is grounds for disciplinary action.*

Sec. 2. NAC 641A.075 is hereby amended to read as follows:

641A.075 For the purposes of qualifying for licensure, each applicant's undergraduate and graduate degrees must be from an institution which has been accredited by a recognized regional accrediting organization . ~~[, or has educational and training experience deemed equivalent by the board.]~~

Sec. 3. NAC 641A.085 is hereby amended to read as follows:

641A.085 1. To qualify to take the written examination for licensure, an applicant's graduate education in marriage and family therapy must include the following areas of study:

| Area of Study | Number of Courses | Minimum Number of Semester Hours of Credit | Minimum Number of Quarter Hours of Credit |
|--|-------------------|--|---|
| Human Development <i>(including Sexual Issues)</i> | 2-4 | 6-12 | 8-16 |
| Marital and Family Systems | 2-4 | 6-12 | 8-16 |
| Marital and Family Therapy | 3-5 | 9-20 | 12-20 |
| Ethics and Professional Studies | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| Supervised Clinical Practice <i>(including Diagnosis)</i> | 1-3 | 9 | 12 |
| Research | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| Abuse of Alcohol or Controlled Substances | 1 | 3 | 4 |

2. The applicant must have completed at least 45 semester hours of graduate credit in courses relating to the areas of study described in subsection 1.

3. The board may consider graduate degrees which are comparable to degrees in marriage and family therapy, psychology or social work, and which meet the requirements for course

content listed in subsection 1 regardless of the terminology used in the degree granted by the educational institution.

Sec. 4. NAC 641A.146 is hereby amended to read as follows:

641A.146 1. Except as otherwise provided in NAC 641A.111, before an applicant is eligible for licensure as a therapist, he must complete at least ~~[1,500]~~ **3,000** hours of experience in an approved internship . ~~[, including 200 hours under the direct supervision of a therapist.]~~

The program to provide the experience must be:

(a) Approved by the board before the applicant begins the program; and

(b) Completed within 6 years after the board approves the program.

2. An extension of that period may be granted at the board's discretion. An extension is valid only for the period specified by the board.

3. An intern shall, on or before September 15 and March 15 of each year, submit to the board a written report from his supervisor evaluating his internship. The board may terminate the registration of any intern who fails to file such a written report.

4. To satisfy the requirements of subsection 1, an intern must complete ~~[at least 1,000 hours in marriage and family therapy which includes not more than:~~

~~—(a) Three hundred]~~ :

(a) At least 1,500 hours of direct client contact, not to exceed 20 hours per week;

(b) At least 300 hours of supervision, including at least 160 hours provided by the primary supervisor and at least 40 hours provided by the secondary supervisor; and

(c) At least 1,200 hours that may consist of any of the following activities:

(1) Direct client contact that is supervised by the primary supervisor, not to exceed 20 hours per week.

(2) *Not more than 500 hours of direct client contact that are performed in connection with a graduate program of study, not to exceed 20 hours per week. At least 100 hours must be supervised by a supervisor at the university.*

(3) *Not more than 300 hours of supervision provided by the primary or secondary supervisor.*

(4) *Not more than 300 hours of leading group counseling sessions . ~~f~~*
~~—(b) Fifty]~~

(5) *Not more than 200 hours of experience in teaching that must be approved by the primary supervisor and documented, including leading sessions for parent or family education ~~f; and~~*

~~—(c) One hundred]~~, *leading workshops or participating in a similar teaching activity.*

(6) *Not more than 150 hours of individual counseling or therapy the intern personally receives from a licensed mental health therapist who is not the supervisor of the intern.*

(7) *Not more than 50 hours of additional training that must be approved by the primary supervisor, including graduate work at a university, attending a workshop or engaging in another training or educational activity.*

5. Credit ~~may]~~ *must* not be given for :

(a) *Any experience gained by an intern before ~~[registration as an intern.] the intern is registered pursuant to the provisions of chapter 641A of NAC.~~*

(b) *More than 20 hours per week of direct client contact.*

Sec. 5. NAC 641A.178 is hereby amended to read as follows:

641A.178 1. Each intern must have at least two supervisors approved by the board. During the course of the supervision of the intern:

(a) The primary supervisor shall meet with the intern for at least ~~[100]~~ *160* hours to discuss and evaluate the performance of the intern; and

(b) The secondary supervisor shall meet with the intern for ~~[a minimum of 20]~~ *at least 40* hours.

2. Unless otherwise authorized by the board, no more than:

(a) Six interns may be placed under the supervision of any primary supervisor at one time; and

(b) Ten interns may be placed under the supervision of any secondary supervisor at one time.

3. The time required for supervision includes the time devoted to:

(a) Meetings between the supervisor and the intern where videotapes or audiotapes are reviewed;

(b) Therapy sessions in which the supervisor participates;

(c) Therapy sessions in which the supervisor observes the session from a remote location whereby the supervisor is neither seen nor heard; or

(d) The presentation of a case by the intern and a discussion by the supervisor of the proper management and treatment of the case.

4. The time required for supervision does not include the time devoted to attendance at seminars, workshops or classes.

Sec. 6. NAC 641A.182 is hereby amended to read as follows:

641A.182 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a supervisor of an intern must be a therapist and offer evidence to the board of his training or experience, or both, which qualifies him to supervise.

2. In extenuating circumstances the board may approve as a secondary supervisor a person who is a licensed psychologist, psychiatrist or social worker who has received training in supervision.

3. Each supervisor must:

(a) Have been licensed for at least 3 years.

(b) *Be approved as a supervisor or supervisor-in-training by the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy.*

(c) Be related to the intern by no closer than the fourth degree of consanguinity.

~~(e)~~ (d) Have never professionally provided mental health care to the intern.

~~(d)~~ (e) Agree to be available to consult with the board concerning the professional record, competence in clinical practice, emotional and mental stability or professional and ethical conduct of the intern.

Sec. 7. NAC 641A.252 is hereby amended to read as follows:

641A.252 1. The board hereby adopts by reference the Code of Ethics of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy as it existed on ~~January 12, 1996,~~ *July 1, 1998,* as a standard for professional conduct in the State of Nevada excluding those provisions which apply exclusively to the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy. A violation of the provisions of the code constitutes cause for disciplinary action.

2. The Code of Ethics of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy is available from the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, ~~1100 17th Street N.W., Tenth Floor,~~ *1133 15th Street NW, Suite 300,* Washington, D.C. ~~20036,~~ *20005-2710.* The first copy is provided at no cost ~~[-]~~ *and may be requested by calling (202) 432-0109. The*

Code of Ethics is also available on the website of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy at <http://www.aamft.org/about/ethics.htm>.