

MARITAL AND FAMILY THERAPIST

Licensing Authority	<p>Paulette Lappe Board of Behavioral Science Iowa Department of Public Health Lucas State Office Bldg 5th Fl 321 E 12th St Des Moines IA 50319-0075 Phone: (515) 281-4422 Fax: (515) 281-3121 E-mail: plappe@idph.state.ia.us</p>
Legal Authority	<p>Iowa Code Chapter 154D; Iowa Administrative Code 645, Chapters 30-34</p>
Job Description	<p>Marital and family therapists apply counseling techniques in the assessment and resolution of emotional conditions. This includes the alteration and establishment of attitudes and patterns of interaction relative to marriage, family life, and interpersonal relationships. They collect and analyze information about clients to determine advisability of counseling or referral to other specialists or institutions; review notes and information collected to identify problems and concerns; and, evaluate the results of counseling methods to determine reliability and validity of the treatment used. Therapists interact with other professionals to discuss therapy or treatment, new resources or techniques and to share information.</p>
Education & Experience Required	<p>An applicant must hold a 45-hour master's degree or doctoral degree in Marital and Family Therapy or its equivalent from an accredited college or university, have two years of supervised clinical experience, and obtain a passing score set by the national exam service on the Examination in Marital and Family Therapy.</p> <p>An applicant who has obtained American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy clinical membership is considered to have met the education and clinical experience requirements.</p> <p>Provisions for licensure by interstate endorsement have been made if another state's requirements are equivalent to Iowa's.</p> <p>Since April 2, 1998, licensure to practice the profession of Marital and Family Therapy has been mandatory. Qualified members of other professions may provide services of a marital and family therapy nature consistent with the accepted standards of their respective professions, but these persons shall not use a title or description denoting that they are licensed marital and family therapists without first securing licensure. The Iowa Department of Public Health can be contacted to ascertain the various exemptions associated with this Act.</p>
Continuing Education	<p>Forty hours of continuing education are required biennially for license renewal.</p>
Examination	<p>After receiving approval from the Board, applicants are sent information regarding how to make arrangements to take the Association of Marital and Family Therapy Regulatory Board (AMFTRB) Examination.</p>

Fees	Application: \$100 Duration: Two years Renewal: \$100 Exam: \$295
SOC Code, Title & Avg. Hourly Wage	21-1013 – Marriage and Family Therapists (\$15.83)
Number of Licenses Issued	Total number of licenses active as of December 31, 2003: 155 2002: 217 2001: 191 2000: 168
For Additional Information	Iowa Department of Public Health Web site: www.idph.state.ia.us/licensure