

Marriage & Family Therapists

Occupational Profile

WHAT THEY DO

Diagnoses and treats mental and emotional disorders, whether cognitive, affective, or behavioral, within the context of marriage and family systems theories and techniques in the delivery of services to individuals, couples, and families for the purpose of treating such diagnosed nervous and mental disorders. Belongs to the Human Services cluster and Counseling and Mental Health Services pathway.

SKILLS YOU NEED

Transferable Skills (applicable in other careers):

- High level**
 - Diagnosing diseases and disorders
- Interviewing people to obtain information
- Preparing and organizing verbal records
 - Preparing case reports
 - Providing social services
- Treating physical or mental problems

Workplace Skills:

- High level**
 - Complex Problem Solving
- Judgment and Decision Making
 - Service Orientation
 - Social Perceptiveness
- Medium level**
 - Coordination
 - Instructing
- Management of Personnel Resources
 - Negotiation
 - Operations Analysis
 - Persuasion
 - Systems Analysis
 - Systems Evaluation
 - Time Management

Additional skills for this occupation may be found at <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/career-exploration-resources>



IS THIS FOR YOU?

Work Interests are described in the following categories (compatible with Holland's Model) by people who tend to succeed in this career:

- **Investigative** – You are a "thinker". When you have a problem, you like to analyze it and look at different ways to solve it. You like to work by yourself, and you don't like explaining your ideas to other people.
- **Social** – You are a "helper". You like being around people and helping them with problems. Socializing is fun for you.
- **Artistic** – You are a "creator". You enjoy things like art, music and books, and express your feelings easily. You don't like rigid rules and structure.

Work Values are aspects of work that are satisfying to you. The following work values are generally associated with this career.

- **Independence** – It's very important to you that your work allows you to make decisions on your own. You want to try out your own ideas and work with little supervision.
- **Achievement**—It's very important to you that your work allows you to use your best abilities. You want to see the results of your work and get a feeling of accomplishment.
- **Working Conditions**—It's very important to you that your work satisfies your needs in areas like salary, job security and your working style preferences, such as working alone, staying busy all the time or having variety in your work tasks.
- **Recognition** – It's very important to you that your work satisfies your need for prestige and leadership opportunities, as well as opportunities for advancement.
- **Relationships** – It's very important to you that you have friendly co-workers. You would like to be of service to others without compromising your sense of right and wrong.

Aptitudes reflect a person's ability to acquire skills and knowledge. The following aptitudes are important for success in the career:

- **General Learning Ability**
- **Verbal Aptitude**

Source: <https://secure.ihaveaplaniowa.gov/>

ESTIMATED & PROJECTED EMPLOYMENT

Occupational Title	2012 Estimated Employment	2022 Projected Employment	2012-22 Employment Change	Annual Growth Rate (%)	Total Annual Openings
Total, All Occupations	1,758,205	1,955,480	197,275	1.1	61,665
Community & Social Service Occupations	25,495	30,165	4,670	1.8	1,050
Marriage & Family Therapists	430	540	110	2.6	20

Source: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections>

2015 WAGE & SALARY (\$)

Occupational Title	Average Wage	Average Salary	Entry Wage	Entry Salary	Experienced Wage	Experienced Salary
Total, All Occupations	19.77	41,122	9.55	19,858	24.88	51,755
Community & Social Service Occupations	19.62	40,811	11.44	23,792	23.71	49,320
Marriage & Family Therapists	21.22	44,141	14.00	29,111	24.83	51,656

Source: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-employment-and-wages>

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Education	Work Experience	Job Training
Master's Degree	None	Internship/Residency

A master's degree is required for most marriage and family therapist positions including sufficient internship experience. Licenses, certificates, and/or commissions required.

Sources: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections>, https://www.bls.gov/emp/ep_education_training_system.htm, and <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/iowa-licensed-occupations>

NATIONAL CAREER READINESS CERTIFICATE (NCRC)

Skill	Median Skill Level	Minimum Skill Level	Maximum Skill Level
Applied Mathematics	4	3	5
Locating Information	4	3	6
Reading for Information	4	3	7
Applied Technology	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Business Writing	4	3	5
Workplace Observation	3	2	4
Listening for Understanding	4	3	4

An ACT assessment-based credential issued in determining essential work skills needed for employment success across industries and occupations. The greater the score, the greater the skill level (Bronze = 3, Silver = 4, Gold = 5, Platinum = 6 & higher). Source: <http://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/workkeys-for-employers/assessments.html>

ADDITIONAL SOURCES:

This workforce product was funded by a grant by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The product was created by the recipient and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Department of Labor. The Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability, or ownership. This product is copyrighted by the institution that created it. Internal use by an organization and/or personal use by an individual for non-commercial purposes is permissible. All other uses require the prior authorization of the copyright owner. This publication was produced by the Labor Market and Workforce Information Division of Iowa Workforce Development. Updates, revisions, and/or corrections made periodically. Inquiries may be directed to Brent Paulson at 515.281.3439 or Brent.Paulson@iwd.iowa.gov. Visit www.iowalmi.gov to obtain the latest workforce data and trends including this document. Published 9/2017.

PRIMARY INDUSTRY SECTORS

(Where are Marriage & Family Therapists Employed?)

Social Assistance
Nursing and Residential Care
Hospitals
Self Employed

Source: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections>