

How Do I Become A Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist In Michigan?



Congratulations! You have completed your graduate degree and want to become a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist in the State of Michigan. This brief guide is intended to give you a quick overview of the process that will help guide your career over the next several years. If you have a MFT license from another state, welcome to Michigan! Your process will look different. Please refer to the Full License By Endorsement information on the State of Michigan website (see URL below).

Step One: Become a Limited Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LLMFT)

- Complete the application and fee for the State of Michigan to become a Limited License Marriage and Family Therapist. You will need to renew this every year.
- You will also need to submit fingerprints and undergo a criminal background check. These forms can be found on the State of Michigan website (see URL below).
- You will also need to provide official transcripts from your graduate academic program(s).

If you did not attend a COAMFTE graduate program:

Provide course descriptions or syllabi of the course work listed on your application

Complete Section 1 of the Supervisor's Evaluation of Applicant's 300 Hours of Direct Client Contact form and have your supervisor(s) complete Section II. *Note: The form MUST be submitted to the state by your supervisor.*

- The licensure process for the State of Michigan is administered by the following agency:
Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs
Board of Marriage and Family Therapy
PO Box 30670
Lansing, MI 48909
(517) 335-0918
- The application forms and additional information can be found at the following website:
www.michigan.gov/healthlicense (pull down 'Marriage and Family Therapists' on the box on right)

Step Two: Complete the Requirements for Licensure

1,000 direct client contact hours—200 hours of supervision

- Find a way to provide therapy whether an internship opportunity or paid employment. **You will need to complete 1,000 hours of direct clinical contact (post-master's). 500 client contact hours must be completed with families or couples.**
- **All of your clinical contact hours must be supervised by a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist. You must obtain 200 hours of supervision. 100 of these hours must be provided individually or in a dyad. The remaining 100 supervision hours can be in group supervision format.** One way to find a supervisor is through AAMFT Approved Supervisor Directory. Approved Supervisors have obtained extensive supervisor training.

Step Three: Take the National MFT Exam

- After your application for your LLMFT has been approved, the State of Michigan will send you an application for the AMFTRB Examination in Marital & Family Therapy. Registration information will be included. If you have already taken the exam in another state, you can request a form to transfer your scores.

Step Four: Apply for a Full MFT License

- After your direct client contact hours, supervision hours, and successful completion of the exam are completed and documented, complete the same application that you completed initially, but check 'full license by examination'. Submit the application and the fee to the State of Michigan. This license is also valid for two years. You do not have to resubmit the fingerprints, background check, transcripts, or syllabi if you did so initially unless you are new to the state.
- Complete Section 1 of the Supervisor's Evaluation of Applicant's 1,000 Hours of Direct Client Contact form and have your supervisor(s) complete Section II. Note the form **MUST** be submitted to the state by your supervisor. *Note: You do not have to verify these hours if you graduated from a COAMFTE MFT doctoral program.*
- Submit verification of any prior MFT licenses/registrations directly from their licensing boards (not a copy of license)

Tips

- Keep all of your documentation. Make sure you keep detailed records of your clinical and supervision hours (including the type of therapy— individual, couple, family, group), the dates and length of time, the facility/ setting and your supervisor.
- Follow up with the State of Michigan when needed. Don't be afraid to ask clarification questions.
- Plan ahead. The State of Michigan estimates their processing time at 6-8 weeks.
- Prepare for the national exam. There are numerous resources available to help you prepare.
- Always keep your contact information current with the State of Michigan as well as MAMFT.
- Network and get involved with MAMFT, your state chapter of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy. Once you become a member of the national organization, AAMFT, you automatically become a member of your state organization. This will help you remain current in the field as well as provide opportunities to network with other MFT's.

Need Help?

We have all been through the process. MAMFT is here to help with support if needed.

Michigan Association for Marriage and Family Therapy

<http://www.michiganfamilytherapy.org>

(248) 763-6537

mamftmi@yahoo.com

