State Licensure Statutes, Regulations, Forms, and Policies not only change on a regular basis, but may contain contradictory information. It is the responsibility of any individual who may review this document to check with their licensure board regarding all requirements and policies regarding the licensure process.

Does the State require a degree program to include a specific number of credit hours (e.g. 45, 48 or 60 semester credits)? If so, how many credit hours are required?

Alaska rules do not specify a minimum number of required credit hours.

What type of institutional or programmatic accreditation is required?

Alaska requires an applicant for licensure to hold a master’s degree or doctorate in marital and family therapy or allied mental health field from a regionally accredited educational institution approved by the board. Under regulations adopted by the board, a person who holds a master’s or doctorate degree in marital and family therapy or allied mental health field from a regionally accredited educational institution approved by the board, but whose course of degree study did not include all the courses or clinical practice requirements set out in state regulations may substitute post-degree courses or practice, as approved by the board, to satisfy these requirements.

Does the State require the program to have COAMFTE or CACREP Accreditation?

Alaska does not require these accreditations.

Does the State accept a COAMFTE accredited degree without requiring the applicant to list specific courses on the license application?

No.

What courses does the State require an applicant to have taken in order to be have met this educational requirement for licensure?

Alaska requires that a course of study must include the following course work to be considered substantially equivalent: (i) three courses or nine semester hours of course work in marital and family therapy; (ii) three courses or nine semester hours of course work in marital and family studies; (iii) three courses or nine semester hours of course work in human development; (iv) one course or three semester hours of course work in professional studies or professional ethics and law; (v) one course or three semester hours of course work in research; and (vi) one year of supervised clinical practice in marital and family therapy.

How many client contact hours must a student obtain during practicum, and how many of these must be relational hours?

Alaska requires a student to complete direct clinical work with couples and families as part of a graduate degree or completed through a supervised clinical practicum in marital and family therapy obtained subsequent to the granting of a degree in an equivalent course of study. A minimum of 500 hours must
have been spent in direct client contact with couples and families. Direct client contact is face-to-face (therapist and client) engaged in therapeutic intervention.

**How many supervision hours must a student obtain during practicum?**

Alaska does not specify a minimum number of supervision hours during practicum.

**What is the required length of practicum in this State?**

Alaska requires a one-year practicum that includes nine semester hours or approximately 15 hours per week for one year.

**Post-Graduation Requirements**

**What are the minimum number of years of clinical experience a graduate needs to obtain a license, the minimum number of client contact hours, and how many of these hours must be relational hours?**

After graduating, an individual working toward Alaska licensure in marital and family therapy must complete a minimum of 1,500 hours of direct clinical contact with couples, individuals, and families. In order to practice, an individual must receive a four-year nonrenewable license from the Alaska Board. The holder of this license may practice under supervision in a clinic, social service agency, or other setting approved by the board.

**What are the minimum number of experience hours required by this State?**

Alaska does not specify a minimum number of hours of experience after graduating.

**What are the minimum number of post-graduate supervision hours required by this State, and how many of these hours must be individual supervision?**

Alaska requires that an applicant for licensure must have been supervised for at least 200 hours, including 100 hours of individual supervision and 100 hours of group supervision approved by the board. An associate may practice only under the direct supervision of a supervisor approved by the Board.

**What are the State requirements for an individual to be qualified as a supervisor?**

A person may not supervise a person unless approved by the board to be a supervisor. A person who supervises a licensee must (1) have practiced marital and family therapy for five years; (2) be licensed in Alaska; and (3) meet the minimum standards established by the board for approved supervisors. These minimum requirements include submission of the following: (a) a complete, notarized application on a form provided by the department; (b) verification of a current Alaska license to practice marital and family therapy; (c) documentation of having practiced as a licensed marital and family therapist for five continuous years; and (d) documentation of having completed at least six contact hours of education related to the practice of supervising a marital and family therapist within the last two years.
Does the state require the National Examination offered by the Association of Marital and Family Therapy Regulatory Boards (AMFTRB)?

Yes. An applicant who fails an examination given under this section may not retake the examination for a period of six months from the date of the examination the applicant failed. In addition, Alaska requires an oral examination administered by the board. The board will revoke a license for supervised practice if the person fails the examination required two or more times.

Does the State have specific training requirements beyond the graduate degree?

Alaska requires verification of at least six contact hours of training related to domestic violence. Documentation may be a notarized copy of the transcript, certification, or letter (original) from the instructor. The following courses are acceptable: A. postgraduate courses given by a regionally accredited academic institution, either audited or for credit; B. courses offered by the American Association of Marital and Family Therapy; C. courses offered by the Alaska Association for Marital and Family Therapy; D. seminars, workshops, or mini-courses offered by professional organizations; E. cross-disciplinary courses, seminars, or workshops in fields of medicine, law, behavioral sciences, ethics, or other disciplines; F. courses, seminars, or workshops in substance abuse, domestic violence, cross-cultural issues, gender issues, or child abuse; G. other courses not covered under (A) - (F) specifically approved by the board.

Can an individual with a criminal history request board review before actually having to apply for licensure?

It is unclear if Alaska has a process to pre-preapprove applications.

How can someone contact the Board in this state?

Telephone: 907-465-3811

Fax: 907-465-2974

E-mail: kevin.odell@alaska.gov; license@alaska.gov

Address: Board of Marital and Family Therapy, P.O. Box 110806, Juneau, AK 99811-08

Every state has a "definitions" section of their rules and/or statutes. Are there any definitions that might be important for an applicant to pay attention? (Note: this is not a complete list, please review definitions in your state)

Alaska has posted the following notice regarding e-therapy on their website: Anyone considering utilizing e-therapy or on-line therapy needs to know that if you are living in Alaska and receiving e-therapy, or on-line therapy, from a therapist outside of Alaska, there is no process available for regulations of that therapist. Please inquire with the therapist as to their credentials and license.