645—31.5(154D) Clinical experience requirements for marital and family therapists.

31.5(1) The supervised clinical experience shall:

a. Be a minimum of two years of full-time, postgraduate supervised professional work experience in marital and family therapy.

b. Be completed following completion of the practicum, internship, and all graduate coursework, with the exception of the thesis.

c. Include successful completion of at least 3,000 hours of marital and family therapy that shall include at least 1,500 hours of direct client contact and 200 hours of clinical supervision. Applicants who entered a program of study prior to July 1, 2010, shall include successful completion of 200 hours of clinical supervision concurrent with 1,000 hours of marital and family therapy conducted in person with couples, families and individuals.

d. Be completed in person or by electronic means.

(1) Up to 50 percent of all supervision may be completed by telephone.

(2) Supervision by electronic means is acceptable if the system utilized is a confidential, interactive, secure, real-time system that provides for visual and audio interaction between the licensee and the supervisor.

e. Include in the 200 hours of clinical supervision at least 100 hours of individual supervision.

f. Follow and maintain a plan throughout the supervisory period established by the supervisor and the licensee. Such a plan must be kept by the licensee for a period of five years following receipt of the permanent license and must be submitted to the board upon request. The plan for supervision shall include:

(1) The name, license number, date of licensure, address, telephone number, and email address (when available) of the supervisor;

(2) The name, license number, address, telephone number, and email address (when available) of supervisee;

(3) Employment setting in which experience will occur;

(4) The nature, duration and frequency of supervision;

(5) The number of hours of supervision per month;

(6) The supervisor/licensees type (individual/group) and mode (face-to-face/electronic) of supervision;

(7) The methodology for secure transmission of case information;

(8) The beginning date of supervised professional practice and estimated date of completion;

(9) The goals and objectives for the supervised professional practice; and

(10) The signatures of the supervisor and licensee, and the dates of signatures.

g. Have only supervised clinical contact credited for this requirement.

31.5(2) To meet the requirements of the supervised clinical experience:

a. The supervisee must:

(1) Meet with the supervisor for a minimum of four hours per month;

(2) Offer documentation of supervised hours signed by the supervisor;

(3) Compute part-time employment on a prorated basis for the supervised professional experience;

(4) Have the background, training, and experience that is appropriate to the functions performed;

(5) Have supervision that is clearly distinguishable from personal psychotherapy and is contracted in order to serve professional/vocational goals;

(6) Have individual supervision that shall be in person with no more than one supervisor to two supervisees;

(7) Have group supervision that may be completed with up to ten supervisees and a supervisor; and

(8) Not participate in the following activities which are deemed unacceptable for clinical supervision:

1. Peer supervision, i.e., supervision by a person of equivalent, but not superior, qualifications, status, and experience.

2. Supervision, by current or former family members, or any other person, in which the nature of the personal relationship prevents, or makes difficult, the establishment of a professional relationship.

3. Administrative supervision, e.g., clinical practice performed under administrative rather than clinical supervision of an institutional director or executive.

4. A primarily didactic process wherein techniques or procedures are taught in a group setting, classroom, workshop, or seminar.

5. Consultation, staff development, or orientation to a field or program, or role-playing of family interrelationships as a substitute for current clinical practice in an appropriate clinical situation.

b. Effective October 1, 2020, the supervisor shall:

(1) Be an Iowa-licensed marital and family therapist with a minimum of three years of clinical experience following licensure or shall be a supervisor or supervisor candidate approved by the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Commission on Supervision; or

(2) Be an Iowa-licensed mental health counselor in Iowa with at least three years of clinical experience following licensure or shall be approved by the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) as a supervisor; or

(3) Be an Iowa-licensed social worker independent level with at least three years of clinical experience following licensure at the independent level; and

(4) Have completed at least a six-hour continuing education course in counseling supervision or one master's level course in counseling supervision; and

(5) Meet a minimum of four hours per month with the supervisee; and

(6) Provide training that is appropriate to the functions to be performed; and

(7) Ensure that therapeutic work is completed under the professional supervision of a supervisor; and

(8) Not supervise any marital and family therapy or permit the supervisee to engage in any therapy that the supervisor cannot perform competently.

c. Exceptions to paragraph 31.5(2)*"b"* shall be made on an individual basis. Requests for alternative supervisors must be submitted in writing, and the board must approve the supervisor prior to commencement of the supervision.

31.5(3) An applicant who has obtained American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT) clinical membership is considered to have met the clinical experience requirements of rule 645—31.5(154D). The applicant shall request that proof of current clinical membership be sent directly from AAMFT to the board.

[**ARC 7673B**, IAB 4/8/09, effective 4/30/09; **ARC 8152B**, IAB 9/23/09, effective 10/28/09; **ARC 9547B**, IAB 6/1/11, effective 7/6/11; **ARC 0777C**, IAB 6/12/13, effective 7/17/13; **ARC 2845C**, IAB 12/7/16, effective 1/11/17; **ARC 5010C**, IAB 3/25/20, effective 4/29/20; **ARC 5795C**, IAB 7/28/21, effective 6/30/21; **ARC 6131C**, IAB 1/12/22, effective 2/16/22]