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. For more information please refer to your state licensing board, click here to find your state licensing board website aamftc.org

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?

Hawaii does not specify a minimum number of credit hours, but does require 33 specific credit hours and a practicum.

What type of institutional or programmatic accreditation is required?

Hawaii requires that applicants for licensure must have completed a master’s degree or doctoral degree from an accredited educational institution in marriage and family therapy or in an allied field related to the practice of mental health counseling which includes or is supplemented by graduate level course work comprising a minimum of thirty-three semester hours outlined in Hawaii rules. Hawaii defines an "accredited educational institution" as any educational institution which grants a master's or doctoral degree and is accredited by a regional accrediting body or a post graduate training institute accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Education.

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

No.

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?

Hawaii rules require the following course content areas. Each of the first three content areas require applicants for licensure, to have a minimum of 9 graduate semester hours:

1) Marriage and family studies; Systems Theory, Family Development, Subsystems, Blended Families, Gender Issues in Families, Cultural Issues in Families, etc.

2) Marriage and family therapy; Advanced Family Systems Theories and Systemic Therapeutic Interventions, including Strategic, Structural, Object Relations Family Therapy, Behavioral Family Therapy, Communications Family Therapy, etc.

3) Human development; Human Development, Child/Adolescent Development, Psychopathology, Personality Theory, Human Sexuality, etc.
Hawaii rules require applicants for licensure to have a minimum of 3 graduate semester hours in each of the following areas:

Ethical and professional studies

Research

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

Hawaii requires three hundred hours supervised client contact during practicum.

How many supervision hours must a student obtain during practicum?

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

What is the required length of practicum in this State?

Hawaii requires that practicum be at least one year in length.
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?

Hawaii requires that applicants for licensure must verify completion of 1,000 hours of direct marriage and family therapy experience in not less than 24 months.

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

Hawaii does not specify a minimum number of experience hours.

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

Hawaii requires applicants for licensure to verify completion of 200 hours of clinical supervision in not less than 24 months.

Additional Notes:

CLINICAL members of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT) need NOT submit the education, practicum and post-master’s experience documentation when applying for licensure in Hawaii.

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

Hawaii requires that a qualified supervisor must be an individual who is either:

1) A licensed marriage and family therapist whose license has been in good standing in any state for two years preceding commencement and during the supervision period; OR

2) A licensed mental health professional whose license has been in good standing in any state AND who has been a CLINICAL MEMBER in good standing IN THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY for two years preceding commencement and during the supervision period.

Does the state require the National Examination offered by the Association of Marital and Family Therapy Regulatory Boards (AMFTRB)?

Yes.

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

None are noted in Hawaii.

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

It is unclear if Hawaii has a process that allows this.
How can someone contact the Board in this state?

Executive Officer: Lynn Bhanot  
Telephone: (808) 586-2697  
Residents on the neighbor islands may call by dialing the following toll free numbers followed by the last 5 digits of the phone numbers above and the # sign:  
Kauai  274-3141  
Maui  984-2400  
Hawaii  974-4000  
Lanai & Molokai  1-800-468-4644  
Address: DCCA-PVL, Att: MFT  
P.O. Box 3469  
Honolulu, HI 96801  
Email: mft@dcca.hawaii.gov  
Website: http://hawaii.gov/dcca/pvl/programs/marriage/

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)

None are noted in Hawaii.