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 aamftrc.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?

Vermont requires a minimum of 48 credits of graduate level courses in marriage and family therapy and related areas of study.

What type of institutional or programmatic accreditation is required?

Vermont rules state: "...there is not a universally accepted national educational standard for the training of marriage and family therapists. Some programs, like those accredited by COAMFTE, are viewed by The Board as providing an appropriate educational background. However, not all programs which confer degrees in marriage and family therapy are equal." Graduates from COAMFTE programs are deemed to have satisfied the educational requirements for licensure. Those individuals who have not completed COAMFTE programs must complete a specific list of courses outlined in Vermont rules.

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?

Vermont requires that all applicants to have a course in Diagnosis and Treatment, 3 credit hours of course work in diagnosis and treatment (DSM).

For applicants from non-COAMFTE accredited programs, the Vermont Board requires the following courses:

(a) six graduate credits in course work from a marriage and family therapy/systems perspective;
(b) 3 graduate credits in marriage and family therapy skills;
(c) 3 graduate credits in a marriage and family therapy treatment modality;
(d) 3 graduate credits in human growth and development;
(e) 3 graduate credits in diversity/social and cultural foundations;
(f) 3 graduate credits in research;
(g) 3 graduate credits in professional ethics;
(h) a total of 6 credits in any of the following: (1) Human sexuality; (2) Psychopharmacology; (3) Domestic violence; (4) Sexual abuse; (5) Gender and sexuality; (6) Groups; (7) Crisis intervention; (8) Addictions/chemical dependency; (9) Appraisal and assessment.
(j) Supervised internship: A 500 hour supervised internship or field experience is required for licensure. A degree based on a program of fewer than 500 hours of supervised internship or field experience is not an acceptable degree for licensure.

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

Vermont requires a 500 hour supervised internship or field experience is required for licensure. A degree based on a program of fewer than 500 hours of supervised internship or field experience is not an acceptable degree for licensure in Vermont.

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

Vermont does not specify a minimum number of supervision hours.

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

Vermont does not specify a minimum 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?

Before a MFT license may be issued in Vermont, an applicant for licensure must complete 2,000 hours of direct service, 50 per cent of which must be with couples and/or families over a period of not less than two years. The remaining 1,000 hours must be continued clinical practice or indirect services related to or supporting clinical services.

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

Vermont requires the applicant for licensure to complete 3,000 hours of supervised individual, couple, family, or group therapy from a systems perspective over a minimum two year period. No supervised practice may occur within the State of Vermont until the prospective licensee has been entered on the roster of non-licensed and non-certified psychotherapists.

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

Vermont requires that supervised practice must be accompanied by no fewer than 100 hours of face-to-face supervision. Under no circumstances may any person in supervised practice accumulate more than thirty hours practice without a minimum of one hour face-to-face supervision. Face-to-face supervision is conducted in the formal setting of an office, clinic, or institution, and may be either in an individual setting, between the supervisor and the applicant, or in a group setting, including the supervisor and up to six trainees. Of the 100 hours, at least 50 must be in an individual setting.

Supervisors who provide supervision to a person who is not properly registered and practicing illegally may be subject to disciplinary action in addition to the supervisee.

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

Vermont requires that a person who commences supervision must have no fewer than three years (in good standing) licensed practice in the following professions:

(a) a licensed marriage and family therapist in Vermont; or
(b) a marriage and family therapist in another state who would meet the Vermont licensure requirements; or
(c) a licensed clinical social worker in this state, or in another state who would meet the Vermont licensure requirements; or
(d) future provision: If permitted by statute, the Board may, where a qualified marriage and family therapist is not reasonably available, permit a person licensed as a clinical mental health counselor, clinical social worker, psychologist, or psychiatrist to serve as the supervisor.

The Vermont Board recommends that the supervision experience include at least two supervisors with diverse family therapy theoretical orientations.
Does the state require the National Examination offered by the Association of Marital and Family Therapy Regulatory Boards (AMFTRB)?

Yes. Applicants for licensure as marriage and family therapists are advised to apply as soon as they have met their graduation requirements so that they may be qualified for the licensing examination at the earliest time.

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

None are noted in Vermont.

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

It is unclear if Vermont has a process that allows this.

How can someone contact the Board in this state?

http://vtprofessionals.org/
http://vtprofessionals.org/opr1/allied_mental_health/
Email: dlafaill@sec.state.vt.us
Diane Lafaille, Staff Secretary
Board of Allied Mental Health Practice
26 Terrace St., Drawer 09
Montpellier, VT 05609-1106
802-828-2390
802-828-2465 (Fax)

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 Vermont.