



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

4201 Patterson Avenue • Baltimore, Maryland 21215-2299

Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – Joshua M. Sharfstein, M.D., Secretary

October 1, 2014

Dear Licensed Clinical Marriage and Family Therapist:

The Maryland Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists (“the Board”) developed new marriage and family therapists’ supervision regulations for the licensed graduate marriage and family therapist (LGMFT). These regulations became effective April 28, 2014. The regulations establish a new credential, “*Approved Licensed Clinical Marriage and Family Therapy Supervisor*.” The regulations also establish the standards of supervision, set out the criteria for becoming an approved supervisor, define who can be an approved supervisor, and the responsibilities of supervisors and supervisees.

The purpose of the change in regulation is to provide clarity around the requirements for supervised experience with regard to the approved supervisor. Under the new regulations LGMFTs must obtain the required supervision hours under the supervision of an *Approved Licensed Clinical Marriage and Family Therapy Supervisor*.

- In the past, the LGMFT had to obtain 100% of their supervision hours under a licensed clinical marriage and family therapist (LCMFT).
- Under the new regulations an LGMFT is required to obtain a minimum of 80% of their required hours of supervision under an LCMFT, who is an approved supervisor.
- The remainder of the required supervision hours (20%) can be completed under the supervision of another mental health care provider licensed under the Board, who can demonstrate that they have the requisite experience providing marriage and family therapy.
- Alternatively, the remainder of the required supervision hours (20%) can be completed under the supervision of another mental health care provider licensed under the Annotated Code of Maryland, Health Occupations Article, who can demonstrate that they have the requisite experience providing Marriage and Family Therapy and is approved by the Board.

Marriage and Family Therapy Supervision
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To facilitate transition and compliance with the new supervision regulations and the new requirements, the Board is asking interested and qualified Licensed Clinical Marriage and Family Therapists to apply for the approved supervisor credential as soon as possible. After October 1, 2014, the requirement that a Licensed Graduate Marriage and Family Therapist's supervision hours be under the supervision of an approved supervisor, defined above, will be effective.

Enclosed please find the *Approved Licensed Clinical Marriage and Family Therapy Supervisor* application. The application instructions outline the qualifications for the *Approved Licensed Clinical Marriage and Family Therapy Supervisor*. The enclosed application will also outline the required documentation/verification of your clinical experience, supervision experience, and graduate course work in marriage and family therapy supervision. Also, enclosed is a copy of the new supervision regulations.

Please note that there is a non-refundable application fee of \$75.00. Should you have any questions please contact our office at 410-764-4732.

Sincerely,



Carol A. Deel, Ph.D., LCMFT, LCPC
Board Chair

cc: Tracey DeShields, Executive Director
Anna Sullivan, Licensing Administrator