

**MONDAY, JULY 15, 2002**  
RULE ADOPTION  
LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

**STATE BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS  
EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

Adopted Amendment: N.J.A.C. 13:34-4.3

Proposed: July 16, 2001 at 33 N.J.R. 2404(a).

Adopted: October 11, 2001 by the State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners, James Verser, President.

Filed: June 13, 2002 as R.2002 d.219, without change.

Authority: N.J.S.A. 45:8B-18.

Effective Date: July 15, 2002.

Expiration Date: October 22, 2003.

**Summary of Public Comment and Agency Response:**

The Board did not receive any comments.

**Federal Standards Statement**

A Federal standards analysis is not required because the amendments are adopted pursuant to New Jersey State statute and are not subject to any Federal requirements or standards.

**Full text of the adoption follows:**

<< NJ ADC 13:34-4.3 >>

**13:34-4.3 Educational requirements**

(a) (No change.)

(b) To satisfy the basic educational requirements for admission to an examination, an applicant shall complete a minimum of:

1. Eight courses from Areas I, II and III as specified in (c) below;
2. One course from Area IV as specified in (c) below;
3. One course from Area V as specified in (c) below; and
4. One course taken in one semester from Area VI as specified in (c) below.

(c) The following are the required areas of course work prior to admission to an examination:

1. Area I: Theoretical Foundations (a minimum of two, three semester hour or equivalent quarter hour, courses.) Course work in this area shall include topics which deal with the historical development, theoretical foundations and contemporary conceptual directions of the field of marriage and family therapy. Course work in this area shall enable students to conceptualize and distinguish the critical epistemological issues in marriage and family therapy. Course work shall be related conceptually to clinical concerns.
2. Area II: Clinical Practice (a minimum of four, three semester hour or equivalent quarter hour, courses.) Course work in this area shall provide a comprehensive survey and substantive understanding of the major models of marriage and family therapy. Courses shall address marriage and family therapy practice and be related conceptually to theory. Course work in this area shall address a wide variety of presenting clinical problems and include assessment, marriage and family therapy methods and major mental health assessment methods and instruments.
3. Area III: Individual Development and Family Relations (a minimum of two, three semester hour or equivalent quarter hour, courses.) Course work in this area shall include:
  - i. Material on individual development, family development and family relationships;
  - ii. Material on issues of sexuality as they relate to marriage and family therapy theory and practice, including sexual dysfunctions and difficulties;
  - iii. Issues of gender and sexual orientation as they relate to marriage and family therapy theory and practice; and
  - iv. Material on issues of ethnicity, race, socioeconomic status and culture as they relate to marriage and family therapy theory and practice.
4. Area IV: Professional Identity and Ethics (a minimum of one, three semester hour or equivalent quarter hour, course.) Course work in this area shall include material on professional identity, including professional socialization, professional organizations, licensure, certification and ethical issues related to the practice and profession of marriage and family therapy. Generic courses in ethics shall not meet this requirement. Such course work shall inform applicants about legal responsibilities and liabilities of clinical practice and research, family law, confidentiality issues, ethics and the interface between therapist responsibility and the professional, social and political context of treatment.
5. Area V: Research (a minimum of one, three semester hour or equivalent quarter hour, course.) Course work in this area shall include significant material on quantitative and qualitative research in marriage and family therapy. Course work in this area shall focus on research methodology, data analysis and the evaluation of research.
6. Area VI: Additional Learning (a minimum of one, three semester hour or equivalent quarter hour, course.) Course work in this area shall be elective and chosen from a variety of disciplines. This area shall seek to augment an applicant's individual interest and background in marriage and family therapy. The applicant may choose courses from a variety of disciplines.

(d) (No change.)

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