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**OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
ALASKA**

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Sara Chambers, Boards and Regulations Advisor
Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development

FROM: April Simpson, Alaska Administrative Code Coordinator 
Office of the Lieutenant Governor

DATE: May 21, 2025

RE: Filed Permanent Regulations: Board of Marital & Family Therapy

Board of Marital & Family Therapy regulations re: Continuing Ed.; Definitions; HB 126 updates (12 AAC 19.110 - .990)

Attorney General File:	2025200028
Regulation Filed:	5/21/2025
Effective Date:	7/1/2025
Print:	254, July 2025

cc with enclosures: Beth Parsons, Paralegal 2
Department of Law

Bob Dame, Alaska Legal Analyst
LexisNexis

Sylvan Robb, Division Director
Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development

Stefanie Davis, Stefanie Davis
Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Law

CIVIL DIVISION

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May 16, 2025

The Honorable Nancy Dahlstrom
Lieutenant Governor
State of Alaska
P.O. Box 110015
Juneau, AK 99811-0015

Re: *12 AAC 19.110 - .990: Board of Marital & Family Therapy - Continuing
Ed.; Definitions; HB 126 updates*
Our file: 2025200028

Dear Lieutenant Governor Dahlstrom:

The Department of Law has reviewed the attached regulations of the Board of Marital and Family Therapy against the statutory standards of the Administrative Procedure Act. Based upon our review, we find no legal problems. This letter constitutes the written statement of approval under AS 44.62.060(b) and (c) that authorizes your office to file the attached regulations. The regulations were adopted by the Board of Marital and Family Therapy after the close of the public comment period.

The regulations update continuing education requirements, definitions, and other requirements to implement secs. 9 - 12, ch. 44, SLA 2024 (SCS HB 126(FIN) am S).

The certification of adoption order sets a July 1, 2025 special effective date for the regulations. Accordingly, we respectfully request that your office file the regulations on or before May 30, 2025 and use the special effective date in the filed regulations.

The March 23, 2025 public notice and the May 6, 2025 certification of adoption order both state that this action is not expected to require an increased appropriation. Therefore, a fiscal note under AS 44.62.060 is not required.

We have made a technical correction to conform the regulations in accordance with AS 44.62.060. The correction is incorporated into the attached copy of the regulations.

Sincerely,

TREG TAYLOR
ATTORNEY GENERAL

By: **Rebecca C. Polizzotto**
Rebecca C. Polizzotto
Chief Assistant Attorney General
Legislation, Regulations, and
Legislative Research Section

Digitally signed by
Rebecca C. Polizzotto
Date: 2025.05.16
10:51:38 -08'00'

RCP/SCW

CC w/enclosure: Stefanie Davis, Regulations Specialist
Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development

Harriet D. Milks, Assistant Attorney General
Department of Law

Steven C. Weaver, Assistant Attorney General
Department of Law

ORDER CERTIFYING THE CHANGES TO
REGULATIONS OF THE BOARD OF MARITAL AND FAMILY THERAPY

The attached eight pages of regulations, dealing with clarifying and streamlining language, aligning regulations with statute changes from HB126, updating approved continuing education activities, and updating definitions, are certified to be a correct copy of the regulation changes that the Board of Marital and Family Therapy adopted at its May 5, 2025 meeting, under the authority of AS 08.63.050, AS 08.63.100, and AS 08.63.110, and after compliance with the Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.62), specifically including notice under AS 44.62.190 and 44.62.200 and opportunity for public comment under AS 44.62.210.

This action is not expected to require an increased appropriation.

Although no public comments were received, the Board of Marital and Family Therapy paid special attention to the cost to private persons of the regulatory action being taken.

The regulation changes described in this order take effect on July 1, 2025, as provided in AS 44.62.180.

DATE: 5/6/2025

Signed by:

Noah Shields

Noah Shields, LMFT, Chair
Alaska Board of Marital and Family Therapy

April Simpson for
↓

FILING CERTIFICATION

I, Nancy Dahlstrom, Lieutenant Governor for the State of Alaska, certify that on May 21, 2025 at 4:10 P.m., I filed the attached regulations according to the provisions of AS 44.62.040 - 44.62.120.

Nancy Dahlstrom
for Nancy Dahlstrom, Lieutenant Governor

Effective: July 1, 2025

Register: 254, July 2025

FOR DELEGATION OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S AUTHORITY

I, NANCY DAHLSTROM, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA, designate the following state employees to perform the Administrative Procedures Act filing functions of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor:

April Simpson, Regulations and Initiatives Specialist

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have
signed and affixed the Seal of the State of
Alaska, in Juneau, on May 15th, 2023.**



A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Nancy Dahlstrom", is written over a horizontal dotted line.

**NANCY DAHLSTROM
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**

Chapter 19. Board of Marital and Family Therapy.

12 AAC 19.110(d) is amended to read:

(d) To show fulfillment of the training requirement **set out under** [IN]

AS 08.63.100(a)(3)(D), the applicant **shall** [MUST] document at least six contact hours of training related to domestic violence in **course work** [COURSES] approved by the board under **12 AAC 19.320(b)(1) - (5)** [12 AAC 19.320(b)(1) - (7)].

12 AAC 19.110(f) is amended to read:

(f) An applicant may substitute post-degree **course work** [COURSES] or practice as allowed in 12 AAC 19.120 to meet the course of study requirements **set out under** [IN] AS 08.63.100(a)(3)(B)(i) - (vi).

12 AAC 19.110(g) is amended to read:

(g) To be scheduled for and **to** take an examination, an applicant **shall** [MUST] meet the requirements of this section. An **applicant who has been** [INDIVIDUAL] approved **for a license for supervised practice** by the board under AS 08.63.110 [FOR A LICENSE FOR SUPERVISED PRACTICE] may **request a test number from the department and** schedule [AND TAKE] the Professional Examination Service's Examination in Marital and Family Therapy by **means of electronic mail** [FILING WITH THE DEPARTMENT A COMPLETE APPLICATION SHOWING FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS IN AS 08.63.100(a)(1), (2), AND (3)(A) AND (B)].

(Eff. 10/1/93, Register 127; am 8/24/2002, Register 163; am 1/2/2014, Register 209; am 4/24/2016, Register 218; em am 5/8/2020 - 9/4/2020, Register 234; am 11/17/2020, Register

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236; am 7 / 1 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 08.63.050 AS 08.63.100 AS 08.63.120

12 AAC 19.120 is amended to read:

12 AAC 19.120. Substitution of post-degree course work [COURSES] or practice.

(a) The board **may** [WILL, IN ITS DISCRETION,] accept post-degree **course work**

[COURSES] to satisfy the course of study requirements **set out under**

AS 08.63.100(a)(3)(B)(i) - (vi) [IN AS 08.63.100(a)(3)(B)(i) - (a)(3)(B)(vi)] if **the substituted course work**

(1) **meets** [THE SUBSTITUTED COURSES MEET] the requirements **set out under 12 AAC 19.320(a) and (b)(1) or (2)** [OF 12 AAC 19.320(a) AND (b)(1) - (4)];

(2) **is** [THE SUBSTITUTED COURSES ARE] in the same subject area as the educational requirement for which **the substituted course work is submitted** [THEY ARE BEING SUBSTITUTED]; and

(3) [THE SUBSTITUTED COURSE] hours are equivalent to the **required** hours of course work **for** [OF] the educational requirement for which **the substituted course work is submitted, as set out under** [THEY ARE BEING SUBSTITUTED AS DETERMINED BY] 12 AAC 19.310(d).

(b) The board **may** [WILL, IN ITS DISCRETION,] accept post-degree practice as a marital and family therapist to satisfy the course of study requirements **set out under AS 08.63.100(a)(3)(B)(i) - (iii)** [LISTED IN AS 08.63.100(a)(3)(B)(i) - (a)(3)(B)(iii)] as follows: [;]

(1) three years of continuous practice is equivalent to [ONE COURSE OR] three

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semester hours or four quarter hours of course work;

(2) the same three years of practice may not be used to substitute for more than three semester hours or four quarter hours of course work [ONE COURSE].

(c) An applicant who wishes [WISHING] to substitute post-degree course work [COURSES] or practice for a course of study requirement set out under AS 08.63.100(a)(3)(B)(i) - (vi) [IN AS 08.63.100(a)(3)(B)(i) - (a)(3)(B)(vi)] shall submit a completed equivalency worksheet to the board [A COMPLETED EQUIVALENCY WORKSHEET] on a form provided by the department. (Eff. 10/1/93, Register 127; am 7 / 1 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 08.63.050 AS 08.63.100 [AS 08.63.100(b)]

The introductory language of 12 AAC 19.130(a) is amended to read:

12 AAC 19.130. Supervised experience. (a) The board may [WILL, IN ITS DISCRETION,] approve the supervised experience of an applicant to satisfy the requirements of AS 08.63.100(a)(3)(B)(vi) and (C)(ii) [AS 08.63.100(a)(3)(B)(vi) AND (a)(3)(C)(ii)] if the supervisor

...

(Eff. 10/1/93, Register 127; am 6/24/2012, Register 202; am 7 / 1 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 08.63.050 AS 08.63.100

12 AAC 19.200 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(h) The board will extend a license for the supervised practice of marital and family therapy if the license holder demonstrates to the board's satisfaction that an extension is

necessary for the holder to complete the supervised experience set out under AS 08.63.100 due to reasonable cause or excusable neglect. (Eff. 10/1/93, Register 127; am 4/24/2016, Register 218; em am 5/8/2020 - 9/4/2020, Register 234; am 11/17/2020, Register 236; am

7 / 1 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 08.63.050 AS 08.63.110 AS 08.63.120

12 AAC 19.320(b) is amended to read:

(b) The following continuing education activities are acceptable if they are related to marital and family therapy in accordance with (a) of this section:

(1) postgraduate **course work** [COURSES] given by a regionally accredited academic institution, either audited or for credit;

(2) [COURSES OFFERED BY THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR MARITAL AND FAMILY THERAPY;

(3) COURSES OFFERED BY THE ALASKA ASSOCIATION FOR MARITAL AND FAMILY THERAPY;

(4)] seminars, workshops, or mini-courses offered by professional organizations;

(3) [(5)] cross-disciplinary courses, seminars, or workshops in the fields of medicine, law, behavioral sciences, ethics, or other disciplines;

(4) [(6)] courses, seminars, or workshops in substance abuse, domestic violence, cross-cultural issues, gender issues, or child abuse;

(5) [(7)] other courses not covered under **(1) - (4)** [(1) — (6)] of this subsection that are specifically preapproved by the board, up to a maximum of 15 contact hours;

(6) [(8)] first-time preparation and presentation of a marital and family therapy

course, seminar, or workshop, up to a maximum of 10 contact hours allocated among all marital and family therapists and other professionals involved; and

(7) [(9)] first-time presentation or publication of an article or book chapter related to the practice of marital and family therapy that was presented at a state or national association meeting or published by a publisher recognized by the profession, up to a maximum of 10 contact hours allocated among all marital and family therapists and other professionals involved
[; AND

(10) COMPLETION OF A FORMAL CORRESPONDENCE PROGRAM, VIDEO TAPE PROGRAM, AUDIO CASSETTE PROGRAM, OR OTHER INDIVIDUAL STUDY PROGRAM; THE NUMBER OF HOURS OF CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDIT AWARDED WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE BOARD USING THE CONTACT HOUR STANDARDS DESCRIBED IN 12 AAC 19.310(d)(1), NOT TO EXCEED ONE-HALF OF THE TOTAL CONTACT HOURS OF CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIRED FOR LICENSE RENEWAL UNDER 12 AAC 19.310; A PROGRAM UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH IS ACCEPTABLE ONLY IF

(A) THE PROGRAM REQUIRES REGISTRATION AND PROVIDES EVIDENCE OF SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION; OR

(B) THE LICENSEE SUBMITS A SIGNED STATEMENT VERIFYING THAT THE LICENSEE HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE PROGRAM FROM A LICENSEE WHO IS A SUPERVISOR APPROVED UNDER 12 AAC 19.210 AND HAS SUPERVISED THE LICENSEE'S STUDY PROGRAM UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH].

12 AAC 19.320 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(e) Continuing education contact hours may be received either synchronously or through individual study. Individual study

(1) may not exceed more than one-half of the requirements for renewal;

(2) may be conducted through completion of

(A) a formal correspondence program;

(B) asynchronous video or streaming; or

(C) another individual study program; and

(3) will only be accepted if

(A) the program requires registration and provides evidence of successful completion; or

(B) the licensee submits a signed statement verifying that the licensee has successfully completed the program from a licensee who is a supervisor approved under 12 AAC 19.210 and has supervised the licensee's study program under this subsection.

(Eff. 10/1/93, Register 127; am 6/21/97, Register 142; am 4/24/2016, Register 218; am

7 / 1 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 08.63.050 AS 08.63.100

12 AAC 19.340(c) is repealed:

(c) Repealed 7 / 1 / 2025 [IN THIS SECTION, "REASONABLE CAUSE OR EXCUSABLE NEGLIGENCE" INCLUDES

(1) CHRONIC ILLNESS;

(2) RETIREMENT;

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(3) MILITARY SERVICE;

(4) LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM ACTIVE PRACTICE DURING THE
CONCLUDING LICENSING PERIOD; AND

(5) HARDSHIPS RECOGNIZED BY THE BOARD]. (Eff. 6/21/97, Register
142; am 7 / 1 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 08.63.050 AS 08.63.100

12 AAC 19.990(4) is amended to read:

(4) "one year of supervised clinical practice" means **a minimum of 12 months of
active clinical practice;** [ONE ACADEMIC YEAR.]

12 AAC 19.990(5) is amended to read:

(5) **"asynchronous"** ["ASYNCHRONOUS," WITH REGARD TO AN
INTERACTION,] means [THE TRANSMISSION OF A CLIENT'S INFORMATION FROM
AN ORIGINATING SITE TO A LICENSED MARITAL AND FAMILY THERAPIST AT A
DISTANT SITE NOT OCCURRING AT EXACTLY THE SAME TIME;] no real-time
communication is present or **utilized** [ABLE];

12 AAC 19.990(9) is amended to read:

(9) **"synchronous"** ["SYNCHRONOUS," WITH REGARD TO AN
INTERACTION,] means a real-time interaction **in person or by live streaming;** [BETWEEN A
CLIENT AND A LICENSED MARITAL AND FAMILY THERAPIST OCCURRING AT
EXACTLY THE SAME TIME, DURING WHICH THE CLIENT AND THERAPIST ARE

ABLE TO COMMUNICATE IN REAL TIME.]

12 AAC 19.990 is amended by adding new paragraphs to read:

(10) "jurisdiction" means a state or territory of the United States, unless the context requires otherwise;

(11) "reasonable cause or excusable neglect" includes

(A) chronic illness;

(B) retirement;

(C) military service;

(D) a leave of absence from active practice during the concluding licensing period; or

(E) a hardship recognized by the board. (Eff. 10/1/93, Register 127; am 4/24/2016, Register 218; am 6/22/2019, Register 230; am 7/1/2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 08.63.050

((Publisher: Please change the period that follows 12 AAC 19.990(3) to a semicolon.)))