



Minnesota Board of Marriage and Family Therapy

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Biennial Report July 1, 2000 to June 30, 2002

I. General Information

A. Board Mission and Major Functions

The mission of the Board of Marriage and Family Therapy is to promote the public interest by ensuring that competent mental health services are provided throughout the state.

Board Functions:

- Adopt and enforce rules for marriage and family therapy licensing, which shall be designed to protect the public;
- Develop by rule appropriate techniques, including examinations and other methods, for determining whether applicants and licensees are qualified under sections 148B.29 to 148B.30;
- Issue licenses to individuals who are qualified under sections 148B.29 to 148B.39;
- Establish and implement procedures designed to assure that licensed marriage and family therapists will comply with the Board's rules;
- Study and investigate the practice of marriage and family therapy within the state in order to improve the standards imposed for the licensing of marriage and family therapists and to improve the procedures and methods used for enforcement of the Board's standards;
- Formulate and implement a code of ethics for all licensed marriage and family therapists; and
- Establish continuing education requirements for marriage and family therapists.

B. Major activities during the biennium:

The following major activities were accomplished during the biennium:

- The Board has been working with other mental health Boards and professional associations to develop uniform policies on the tele/internet therapy.
- The Board's web site has been expanded to serve the general public, applicants, and licensees. All of the Board's printed materials and forms may be down loaded from the site <http://www.bmft.state.mn.us>. The Board has plans to expand the site to include a directory of licensees for public use. An online license renewal function will also be added.
- Research continued on the portability of the marriage and family therapy license.

- This Board worked with marriage and family therapy licensing Board's nationally to develop a computerized version of the national licensing examination, which became available in 2001. This effort makes the examination more readily available to applicants.

C. Emerging issues regarding marriage and family therapists:

At the time licensure began there were two marriage and family graduate programs in the upper mid-west. Today there are fifteen programs. This increase has drastically increased the numbers seeking licensure to well over 100 per year. The Board is prepared for these increases. The Board should have no problem coping with these increased numbers.

II. Board's Members, Staff, and Budget

A. Board composition

Statute requires the Board to have seven members who are appointed for four-year terms by the Governor. MS 148B.30 specifies that the Board consist of seven members. Of the seven, four must be Licensed Marriage & Family Therapists, one must be engaged in teaching marriage and family therapy and two must be public members who have no direct affiliation with the practice of marriage and family therapy. Members as of June 30, 2000 are as follows:

- Mary Hayes, Ph.D., LMFT, Chair (Minneapolis, Minnesota)
- Matthew Eastwood, Ph.D., LMFT, Vice Chair (Minneapolis, Minnesota)
- Shireen Lee, Secretary (Virginia, Minnesota)
- Charne Davidson, Ph.D., LMFT
- Penny Johnson, BSW (Willmar, Minnesota)
- Brian Nystrom, MSW, LMFT (New Brighton, Minnesota)
- Marlene Reid, BS (Shoreview, Minnesota)

B. Employees

The Board has 1.5 equivalent positions. They are a half time executive director and a full time office manager.

C. Receipts, disbursements, and major fees assessed by the Board

Item	FY 2001	FY 2002
Receipts	\$126,973	138,298
Direct Disbursements	103,793	102,026

Fee	Amount
Application for written examination	220
Application for licensure	110
Annual Renewal (LMFT)	125
Annual LAMFT license	75
Licensure by reciprocity	340

III. Licensing Numbers

A. Persons licensed as of June 30, 2002:

Licensed Marriage & Family Therapists:	715
Licensed Associate Marriage & Family Therapists:	151

B. New licenses issued during the biennium:

Licensed Marriage & Family Therapists	101
Licensed Associate Marriage & Family Therapists	162

IV. Complaints

A. Complaints received

This data contains information on complaints which the Board felt there was probable violation of statute or ethical code.

Item	FY 2001	FY 2002
Complaints received	18	16
Complaints by type		
A. Violation of confidentiality	2	4
B. Lack of professional competence	9	8
C. Sex with client, supervisee or student	1	0
D. Other dual relationship	6	4

B. Open complaints on June 30, 2002

Item	FY 2001	FY 2002
1. Complaints open	6	7
2. Open more than 3 months	2	3
3. Open more than 6 months	2	0

C. Closed complaints on June 30, 2002

Item	FY 2001	FY 2002
1. Number closed	12	11
2. Deposition by type		
a) Revocation	1	1
3. Agreement for corrective action	7	6
4. Dismissal or closure	4	4