

APA-1
11/96

**TRANSMITTAL SHEET FOR
NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION**

Control _____ Department or Agency: Alabama Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapy

Rule No.: 536-X-6

Rule Title: Required Relevant Professional and Continuing Education Experience

_____ New X Amend _____ Repeal _____ Adopt by Reference

Would the absence of the proposed rule significantly Harm or endanger the public health, welfare, or safety? Yes

Is there a reasonable relationship between the state's Police power and the protection of the public health, Safety, or welfare? Yes

Is there another, less restrictive method of regulation Available that could adequately protect the public? No

Does the proposed rule have the effect of directly or Indirectly increasing the costs of any goods or services Involved and, if so, to what degree? No

Is the increase in cost, if any, more harmful to the public Than the harm that might result from the absence of The proposed rule? No

Are all facets of the rulemaking process designed solely For the purpose of, and so they have, as their primary Effect, the protection of the public? Yes

Does the proposed rule have an economic impact? No

If the proposed rule has an economic impact, the proposed rule is required to be accompanied by a fiscal note prepared in accordance with subsection (f) of Section 41-22-23, Code of Alabama, 1975.

Certification of Authorized Official

I certify that the attached proposed rule has been proposed in full compliance with the requirements of Chapter 22, Title 41, Code of Alabama, 1975, and that it conforms to all applicable filing requirements of the Administrative Procedure Division of the Legislative Services Agency.

Signature of certifying officer  _____

Date: April 20, 2018

(DATE FILED)
(STAMP)

APA-2
11/96

Alabama Board of Examiners in Marriage
And Family Therapy

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

AGENCY NAME: Alabama Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family
Therapy

RULE NO. & TITLE: 536-X-6 Required Relevant Professional and
Continuing Education Experience

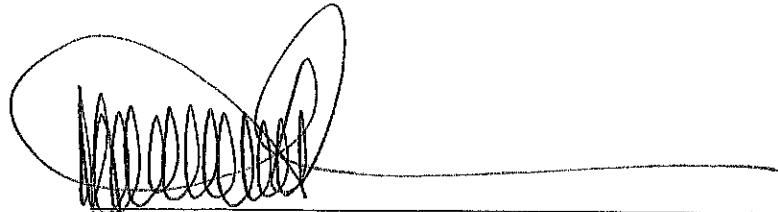
INTENDED ACTION: Amend

SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION: The Board proposes amend the regulations to include teletherapy services within the scope of practice and outline procedures and policies that must be followed by marriage and family therapists. The Board also proposes to update requirements regarding hours of education and training.

TIME, PLACE, MANNER OF PRESENTING VIEWS: Written comments will be received by the Board until 4:00 p.m. on Monday, June 4, 2018. Comments should be directed to Keith E. Warren, Executive Director at 2777 Zelda Road, Montgomery, AL 36106 or via electronic mail at keith@alstateboard.com or via telephone at 334-395-7455.

FINAL DATE FOR COMMENT AND COMPLETION OF NOTICE:
Monday, June 4, 2018.

CONTACT PERSON AT AGENCY: Keith E. Warren
Executive Director
2777 Zelda Road
Montgomery, AL 36106
(334) 395-7455



Keith E. Warren, *Executive Director*
Alabama Board of Examiners of Marriage and
Family Therapy

ALABAMA BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

CHAPTER 536-X-6
REQUIRED RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL AND
CONTINUING EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

536-X-6-.01 Required Relevant Professional And
Continuing Education Experience

536-X-6-.01 Required Relevant Professional And Continuing
Education Experience.

(1) In order for an Intern designation to be renewed, the intern must have completed a minimum of ten (10) contact hours of acceptable Continuing Education or Experience Units during the previous twenty-four months. A minimum of three (3) of these hours must be clinical MFT workshops, a minimum of three (3) of these hours must be in the area of diagnosis and treatment, and a minimum of three (3) of these hours must be in the area of professional issues and ethics. If the MFT Intern is enrolled in a COAMFTE or CACREP MCFC Accredited program, then the continuing education requirement is met.

(2) In order for an Associate License to be renewed, the Associate must have completed a minimum of twenty (20) contact hours of acceptable Continuing Education or Experience Units during the previous twenty-four months. A minimum of five (5) of these hours must be clinical MFT workshops, a minimum of three (3) of these hours must be in the area of diagnosis and treatment, and a minimum of three (3) of these hours must be in the area of professional issues and ethics.

(3) In order for an LMFT license to be renewed, the licensee must have completed a minimum of forty (40) contact hours of acceptable Continuing Education or Experience Units during the previous twenty-four (24) months. A minimum of ten (10) of these hours must be clinical MFT workshops, a minimum of six (6) of these hours must be in the area of diagnosis and treatment, and a minimum of six (6) of these hours must be in the area of professional issues and ethics. LMFT supervisors

must have completed a minimum of five (5) hours of continuing education in the content area of supervision.

(4) Acceptable CEU's include:

(a) National, state or local MFT association training and continuing education activities;

(b) Graduate courses in MFT or cross disciplinary course (one (1) graduate semester = fifteen (15) hours, one (1) graduate quarter = ten (10) hours);

1. NBCC approved courses and continuing education activities sponsored by allied mental health professional associations or agencies;

2. Supervision by an Approved MFT Supervisor under a board approved contract (not more than ten (10) hours);

3. Independent study activities such as: teaching graduate courses in MFT; presenter of MFT material in a recognized professional forum (first time presented); supervising a person for MFT licensure under a Board approved contract; service rendered on professional MFT boards or committees, editing or writing professional books or articles for publication. No more than ten (10) hours of continuing education shall be in independent study.

4. AAMFT, NBCC, or ALAMFT pre-approved distance learning courses that may include web page lectures; class discussions via internet bulletin boards; student interaction; and student to student interactive online communication through electronic mail, television, or video. Distance learning is a convenient mode for Board approved, interactive on-line/video coursework that is designed to provide an alternative to conventional continuing education for MFT members who demonstrate physical impairment, conflicting work schedule, or hardship. Distance learning requires no or limited physical attendance and does not replace face-to-face clinical supervision. No more than twenty (20) hours of continuing education shall be in distance learning.

(5) Documentation of completion will include a written statement of all CEU course information including the name of the sponsoring organization, location of seminar, title/brief description, principal instructor, dates, and number of hours claimed. The Board will audit a number of randomly

selected licensees to assure that the continuing education requirements have been met before the license is renewed. The Board may request verification of credits submitted, including information regarding content certification and attendance. The licensee shall maintain and make available upon request the documentation required by this rule for a period of two (2) years. Failure to substantiate credits submitted or to submit documentation of sufficient continuing education credits will result in refusal by the Board to renew a license.

Author: The Alabama Board of Examiners in Marriage and Family Therapy

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§34-17A-1 thru 34-17A-26.

History: **New Rule:** Filed November 15, 2000; effective December 20, 2000. **Amended:** Filed January 7, 2004; effective February 11, 2004. **Amended:** Filed May 19, 2004; effective June 23, 2004. **Amended:** Filed July 10, 2006; effective August 14, 2006. **Amended:** Filed April 19, 2007; effective May 24, 2007. **Amended:** Filed February 8, 2012; effective March 14, 2012. **Amended:** Filed April 20, 2018.

Ed. Note: Chapter 536-X-5 was renumbered to Chapter 536-X-6 as per certification filed July 10, 2006; effective August 14, 2006.