



Date: April 27, 2020

Status: New

Organized by: Alaska Board of Marital and Family Therapy

Adopted by: Alaska Board of Marital and Family Therapy

Purpose: In response to COVID-19 emergency, the Alaska Marital and Family Therapy Board have voted on several changes to support professionals licensed under this chapter who provide mental health services to Alaskans. These changes were done in accordance with Legislative Confirmation of Disaster SB 241 and the COVID-19 emergency.

Expedited Emergency License

The Alaska Marital and Family Therapy Board have ordered an application process to allow for an expedited emergency courtesy license. This emergency license will allow a marital and family therapist, or a marital and family therapy associate, who is licensed in good standing in another State to provide mental healthcare services in Alaska through confidential electronic communications. Applicants must receive notification from the Board that their license has been issued before beginning services.

The emergency license for the COVID-19 emergency will last until November 15, 2020 or until the emergency order has been lifted by the governor. Licensees that are eligible for this emergency license should use clinical judgment on what clientele will be a good fit for their services, due to the finite duration of the license.

Continuing Education

The Alaska Marital and Family Therapy Board have ordered that for the licensing period starting January 1, 2019 and ending on December 31, 2020, continuing education requirements may be entirely obtained through distance means without need for formats that provide live or in-person training. The type and quantity of continuing education must continue to meet requirements for licensing renewal.

Notary Seal Requirement on Applications

A requirement of a notary seal on applications can be completed either through in-person or online with a public notary. Further information will be released on notary seal requirements after the regularly scheduled board meeting for May 4, 2020.