

- LMFT, LCSW, and LPCC applicants must complete specified coursework in human sexuality. (BPC §§25, 4980.41, 4996.2, 4999.32, 4999.33, California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 16 §1807)
- All Board applicants must complete specified coursework in child abuse assessment and reporting (specified to be at least 7 hours). (BPC §§28, 4980.36, 4980.41, 4996.2, 4999.32, 4999.33, 16 CCR §1807.2)
- LMFT, LCSW, and LPCC applicants must complete specified coursework in aging and long-term care. (BPC §§4980.36, 4980.36, 4980.395, 4996.25, 4996.26, 4999.32, 4999.33)
- All Board applicants must complete specified coursework in alcoholism and other substance dependency. (BPC §§4980.36, 4980.41, 4996.2, 4999.32, 4999.33, 16 CCR §1810)
- LMFT, LCSW, and LPCC applicants must complete 7 hours of coursework in assessment and treatment of HIV/AIDS as a one-time requirement. Equivalent coursework or proof of teaching or practice experience may be submitted to the Board in lieu of the coursework requirement. (BPC §32, 16 CCR §1887.3)
- All applicants for a Board license must complete a minimum of 6 hours of coursework or applied experience under supervision in suicide risk assessment and intervention. Current licensees, at their first renewal on or after January 1, 2021, must certify that they have done this. (BPC §4980.396, 4989.23, 4996.27, 4999.66) This is the Board's newest one-time requirement.

Recommendation

The Committee should discuss the language shown in **Attachment A**, and may wish to consider the following in its review:

1. Is 6 hours an appropriate amount of training or coursework?
2. Is the timing of when the training or coursework is required appropriate (at application for licensure for new applicants, at renewal for current licensees)?
3. The proposal does not allow applied experience to count, as the suicide risk assessment and intervention requirement does.
4. Is delayed implementation needed? (If successfully run as legislation next year, the bill would be signed in late September or early October of 2022. It would then become effective January 1, 2023, approximately 3 months later.)

5. Does the training or coursework description used in the proposal, “provision of mental health services via telehealth” accurately capture what the Board is trying to achieve? Should more specific course topics be called out?
6. The language does not address training for supervisors regarding videoconference supervision. If the Committee wishes to address this, it will need to be done separately via regulations.

The Board is in the process of conducting four surveys regarding the practice of telehealth and supervision via videoconferencing. School programs, supervisors, associates, and trainees/interns are being surveyed. The survey contains questions regarding school offerings of coursework regarding delivery of mental health services to clients via telehealth, the adequacy of the offerings, and specific topics covered. The results of the surveys will be discussed at the next Telehealth Committee meeting on September 10th.

References

Attachment A: Proposed Language

Reference 1: [Current Law – BPC §4980.396: Suicide Risk Assessment and Intervention Requirement for LMFT Applicants and Licensees](#)

Reference 2: [Current Law – California Code of Regulations \(CCR\) Title 16, §1887.3\(c\): Assessment and Treatment of HIV/AIDS Continuing Education Requirement for Licensees](#)

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ATTACHMENT A PROPOSED LANGUAGE

ADD BPC § 4980.395. REQUIRED TRAINING OR COURSEWORK: DELIVERY OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES VIA TELEHEALTH

Note: This proposed language is shown for LMFTs only at this time. Once the Committee reviews the language, corresponding language will be drafted for LEPs, LCSWs, and LPCCs

(a) On or after January 1, 2023, an applicant for licensure as a marriage and family therapist shall show, as part of the application, that they have completed a minimum of six hours of training or coursework in the provision of mental health services via telehealth. This requirement shall be met in one of the following ways:

(1) Obtained as part of their qualifying graduate degree program. To satisfy this requirement, the applicant shall submit to the board a written certification from the registrar or training director of the educational institution or program from which the applicant graduated stating that the coursework required by this section is included within the institution's curriculum required for graduation at the time the applicant graduated, or within the coursework that was completed by the applicant.

(2) By taking a continuing education course that meets the requirements of Section 4980.54. To satisfy this requirement, the applicant shall submit to the board a certification of completion.

(b) As a one-time requirement, a licensee prior to the time of their first renewal after January 1, 2023, or an applicant for reactivation or reinstatement to an active license status on or after January 1, 2023, shall have completed a minimum of six hours of training or coursework in the provision of mental health services via telehealth, using one of the methods specified in subdivision (a).

(c) Proof of compliance with subdivision (b) shall be certified under penalty of perjury that they are in compliance with this section and shall be retained for submission to the board upon request.