Licensing Requirements and Application Checklist
Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT)

This checklist is for applicants who have already completed the required 3000 hours of supervised work experience. Applicants who have not completed 3000 hours of supervised work experience should reference the LMFT candidate application checklist for licensing requirements.

License Requirements for Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist Candidate
Below are the minimum requirements you must meet to be licensed in the state of Montana.

1. You must meet the education requirements as described in either Option 1, Option 2, OR Option 3
   - Option 1: minimum of a master's degree from a program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE)
   - Option 2: minimum of a master's degree in marriage and family counseling from a program accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) or the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE)
   - Option 3: minimum of a master's degree from an accredited institution consisting of a minimum of 60 semester hours or 90 quarter hours. Those hours must include a minimum of 48 semester hours or 72 quarter hours of courses in:
     - foundations of relational/systemic practice, theories, and models;
     - biopsychosocial health and development across the life span;
     - clinical treatment with individuals, couples, and families;
     - ethics in marriage and family therapy;
     - diverse, multicultural, and/or underserved communities; and
     - systemic/relational assessment and mental health diagnosis and treatment

2. Proof of completion of 3,000 hours of supervised work experience in the practice of marriage and family therapy [MCA 37-37-201(1)(c)]

3. Submit fingerprints to the Montana Department of Justice for a fingerprint background check. [MCA 37-37-201(2)]

4. Pass one of the following exams:
   - the Association of Marital and Family Therapy Regulatory Boards (AMFTRB) examination in marriage and family therapy; or
   - does not have to pass exam if already licensed in Montana as a licensed clinical social worker or licensed clinical professional counselor and has practiced marriage and family therapy
     - Note: Exams other than the AMFTRB are reviewed by the board on a case-by-case basis when submitted as part of an application.

Checklist of Required Documents to Submit for Application for LMFT Candidate
The following documents and additional forms are required in addition to the basic application. Some documents may be submitted directly by the applicant as part of the application. Others, such as transcripts, may need to be sent to the board directly from the source.

- Official license verification from states and jurisdictions in which you hold or has ever held a professional license of any type. Montana accepts whatever official form of verification is offered by other states or jurisdictions.
- If you answered yes to the personal history questions, include a detailed explanation on the event(s) and documentation from the source (licensing board, federal agencies/programs, or civil/criminal court proceedings such as initiating/charging documents, final disposition/judgement documents, etc.).
- Certified education transcript(s) sent directly to the department from the college or university.
- Completed fingerprint and background check results sent directly to the department from the Montana Department of Justice (click here to access the forms you will need to submit to the Department of Justice).
- Noncriminal Justice Applicant's Rights form
- Proof of passage of one of the licensing exam directly to the department from the AMFTRB or other approved exam official source.
- Proof of completion of 3000 hours of supervised experience
  - Applicants who earned hours in another jurisdiction may submit that jurisdiction’s documentation for proof or may choose to complete the Montana Evaluation of Supervisory Experience form if that jurisdiction's supervisor is available to sign the form.
  - Note: If you are currently licensed as an LMFT candidate in Montana and have completed your hours under that license you do not need to start a new application for an LMFT license. Contact staff if you have questions on how to proceed.

Application Fee(s) for LMFT Candidate
The following fee(s) must be submitted with your application. Online applicants can pay using a credit card or e-check. If you submit a paper application you must submit a check. Do not mail cash.

- $200 application fee

You can apply for a license online at https://ebiz.mt.gov/POL/ or download a paper application from the website. Online application is recommended.

Please include a valid e-mail address with your application. E-mail is the department's primary form of communication.

If you have any questions about the application process or the licensing requirements please contact the Department of Labor and Industry Professional Licensing Bureau using the contact information at the top of this checklist.