

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

CLIENT-CENTERED ADVOCACY FOR LICENSED MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY (LMFT) APPLICANTS

1) How has the law changed regarding gaining hours of client-centered advocacy experience for LMFT applicants?

The change in law limits the maximum amount of client centered advocacy that can be gained as experience for licensure to 500 hours.

Below is a summary of how the law has changed:

Previous Law	New Law
<p>1. No more than 1,250 hours of experience in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Direct Supervisor Contact;• Professional Enrichment Activities; and,• Client Centered Advocacy <p>2. No more than 250 hours of experience in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Administering/evaluating psychological tests; and,• Writing clinical reports, progress notes, and/or process notes	<p>Effective January 1, 2012</p> <p>1. No more than 1,000 hours of experience in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Direct Supervisor Contact; and,• Professional Enrichment Activities <p>2. For hours gained on or after January 1, 2012, no more than 500 hours of experience in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Administering/evaluating psychological tests;• Writing clinical reports, progress notes, and/or process notes; and,• Client centered advocacy

2) When does this law go into effect?

The new law becomes effective on January 1, 2012.

3) Why was this law passed?

The law was passed due to concerns that applicants for LMFT licensure could potentially gain a large number of client centered advocacy hours to use toward the experience hours required for licensure. However, future clients, as well as the public, would be better protected if the applicants were gaining experience through a wider variety of training activities.

4) I'm an LMFT applicant with more than 500 client centered advocacy hours. What if I sent my application in to the Board before January 1, 2012 but I am waiting for the Board to review my application?

As long as the hours were gained prior to January 1, 2012, the new requirements do not apply to you.

5) I have more than 500 client centered advocacy hours. What if I send in my application after January 1, 2012?

If the hours were gained prior to January 1, 2012, then the requirements of the new law do not apply to you.

6) I have 750 hours of client centered advocacy. Of that amount, 700 hours were gained prior to January 1, 2012, and 50 hours were gained after January 1, 2012. Can I count all of those hours?

No. The 700 hours gained prior to January 1, 2012 would count. However, the 50 hours gained after January 1, 2012, are above and beyond the 500 hours allowed under the new law and will not count.