

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
HEALTH REGULATION AND LICENSING ADMINISTRATION**

BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY
AUTHORITY FOR GUIDANCE

DECEMBER 6, 2022
DATE OF POLICY

23-001
POLICY NO.

POLICY STATEMENT

**GUIDANCE ON APPLICANTS VIA ENDORSEMENT LICENSED FOR FIVE YEARS
OR MORE - WAIVER OF VERIFICATION FOR POSTGRADUATE SUPERVISION
HOURS FORM**

Pursuant to 17 DCMR 7703.1 and 7703.3 (b), the DC Board of Marriage and Family Therapy requires applicants to complete a minimum of 2000 hours of post-graduate, supervised clinical experience. This verification is currently provided on a form which needs to be completed and signed by the applicant's supervisor. *However*, this requirement has presented an ongoing challenge and impediment in the application process, as many applicants – *particularly those applying via endorsement practicing in other jurisdictions for many years* – are unable to locate supervisors from whom they obtained their supervision hours years ago.

This challenge has been brought to the Board's attention on more than one occasion – wherein, it has been pointed out that often supervisors are deceased; no longer work for the entity or agency where the supervised hours were obtained; or are otherwise unable to be located, in order to obtain their signature, despite significant effort on the part of the applicant. Hence, the Board had decided that these applicants could request of individual State Boards in possession of their records containing the original signed verification of supervision hours to send certified copies of these forms directly to the DC Board. Thus, said forms sent in this manner would be accepted in lieu of the traditional verification of supervised practice forms.

However, given the recent increase in endorsement applications following the end of the waiver period; given that many endorsement applicants encounter obstacles in submitting verification of supervised practice forms signed by their supervisors; and given that some State Boards do not follow through in a timely fashion with sending to the Board copies of the original, verified supervised practice hours, many applicants for licensure are unnecessarily delayed in having their licensure approval processed.

Therefore, the Board of Marriage and Family Therapy has voted to accept the following policy:
With regard to applicants via endorsement who are licensed for five or more years in another jurisdiction; who are in good standing, and who submit verification of good standing from all jurisdictions where the applicant has held or holds a license (active or inactive), the Board will waive the submission of the proof of the 2000 hours of post-clinical supervision form.