

A Pre-Clinical Fellow Is:

An individual who has completed a master’s or doctoral degree in marriage and family therapy from a regionally accredited educational institution, or an equivalent course of study, and is completing the post degree supervised clinical hours toward licensure for independent practice.

Pre-Clinical Fellows may remain in this category for a maximum of five (5) years or until they have completed Clinical Fellow membership requirements (whichever comes first). Transfer to Affiliate if not ready for Clinical Fellow membership at the end of 5 years.

Applicants can attain Pre-Clinical Fellow status in the AAMFT through either our Licensure Track or Evaluative Track Process as described below.

Description of Application Process

<p>The licensure track is designed for individuals who have earned a graduate degree in marriage and family therapy or a related mental health discipline and are working on the clinical hours required for the highest level of MFT licensure in a US state and AAMFT Clinical Fellow status. This category includes individuals who have an associate, intern, or graduate license or certification in MFT in a US state.</p>	<p><i>The Evaluative track is designed for</i> individuals who have a degree in marriage and family therapy but who do not have a license in marriage and family therapy and are not working toward licensure as an MFT but meets our evaluative standards for the Pre-Clinical Fellow category and would like to work toward Clinical Fellow status OR an individual who has a degree in marriage and family therapy or a related mental health field and meets all education requirements.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the application 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A **qualifying** Graduate degree in MFT or a related field from a regionally accredited institution. • COAMFTE degree automatically accepted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit proof of current and active MFT license 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of at least 8 of the 11 specific courses that cover 5 different topic areas (Marriage and Family Therapy, Marriage and Family Studies, Human Development, Research Methods, and Professional Ethics). • COAMFTE graduates have completed all 11 courses.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreement to abide by the AAMFT Code of Ethics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervised client-contact practicum hours requirement (Minimum of 300 client contact hours) • COAMFTE practicum automatically accepted.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreement to abide by the AAMFT Code of Ethics

****Please note that in order for a degree to be considered as a “qualifying graduate degree” it must be an integrated course of study which must include five (5) of the core courses from any of the five (5) educational requirements. The degree must also include a practicum of at least 300 clinical hours. The five areas are:**

- Marriage and Family Studies
- Marriage and Family Therapy
- Human Development
- Professional Ethics in Marriage and Family Therapy
- Research

This requirement is not intended to infer that all five courses can be fulfilled in any one area, but rather, five courses are accepted from a combination of all of the core areas.

****For Canadian Applicants:** in order for a degree to be considered as a “qualifying graduate degree”, the school needs to be BOTH affiliated with the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) or be affiliated with an AUCC accredited college or university, and fulfill the aforementioned educational requirements.

*****Note:** ATS schools who meet the aforementioned education requirements will be considered eligible.

****For Overseas Applicants:** in order for a degree to be considered as a “qualifying graduate degree”, the program needs to be BOTH determined by a credentialing service (member of NACES) to be equivalent to a US graduate degree, and fulfill the aforementioned educational requirements.

Requirements to advance to Clinical Fellow Membership include:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proof of current license or certification as an MFT.• Completion of 11 specific courses that cover 5 different topic areas (Marriage and Family Therapy, Marriage and Family Studies, Human Development, Research Methods, and Professional Ethics), COAMFTE accredited program graduates do not need to document courses.• Completion of required practicum.• At least 2 years of post-graduate experience which includes 1000 hours of client contact concurrently completed with 200 hours of supervision with an AAMFT Approved Supervisor (or someone who meets equivalent criteria) of which at least 100 of the supervision hours must be individual. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agreement to abide by the AAMFT Code of Ethics |