

License Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT)

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) related to temporary licensure and continuity of care

UPDATED JULY 19, 2021

- 1. Will the temporary licenses issued under Executive Order 57 be extended or can I renew the temporary license?** No. Executive Order 57 specifically states that the temporary license expired on September 8, 2020.
- 2. If I received a temporary license from the Board and it has expired, can I still provide my client with services after September 8, 2020?** No. Executive Order 57 which allowed continuity of care for the duration of Executive Order 51 (State of Emergency) expired on June 30, 2021. You must hold a current Virginia license in order to provide clinical marriage and family therapy services to clients located in Virginia.
- 3. If I received a temporary license and established a new client relationship with a client in Virginia during the existence of Executive Order 57 (April 17, 2020 – September 8, 2020), can I provide continuity of care after September 8, 2020?** No. Establishment of new client relationships during Executive Order 57 requires you to hold a Virginia permanent license or transition patients to Virginia-licensed practitioner. (See question #7 for information on how to apply for permanent licensure in Virginia.)
- 4. If I did not receive a temporary license but have a current client that has moved, visiting, or will be temporarily located in Virginia, can I provide continuity of care via telehealth?** No. Executive Order 57 which allowed continuity of care for the duration of Executive Order 51 (State of Emergency) expired on June 30, 2021. You must hold a current Virginia license in order to provide clinical marriage and family therapy services to clients located in Virginia.
- 5. How will I know when Executive Order 51 will end?** Executive Order 51 expires on June 30, 2021.
- 6. If I am licensed as an associate (or hold a license that requires supervision-not an independent license) in another state, can I provide continuity of care to a client in Virginia via telehealth?** No. Executive Order 57 which allowed continuity of care for the duration of Executive Order 51 (State of Emergency) expired on June 30, 2021. You must hold a current Virginia license in order to provide clinical marriage and family therapy services to clients located in Virginia.
- 7. How do I apply for a full permanent license?** If you hold an equivalent license in another state, you can apply by endorsement by mailing in a completed paper LMFT by Endorsement application. (Online applications are not applicable to those who hold a temporary license. Please email Board staff at coun@dhp.virginia.gov for a paper application.) You are

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encouraged to review the [Regulations Governing the Practice of Marriage and Family Therapy \(6-23-2021\)](#) and the [LMFT Licensure Process Handbook](#) for more information on the requirements for applying by endorsement.

8. **Is there a grace period?** No, in order to provide clinical services to clients located in Virginia you must hold a current license in Virginia.
9. **Where do I find the laws and regulations related to this license?** The Laws and Regulations can be found on our website at https://www.dhp.virginia.gov/counseling/counseling_laws_regs.htm.
10. **How long does the process take to gain a permanent license?** Once you submit a complete application, the review process can take up to 30 days.