

CHAPTER 119

AN ACT concerning the licensure of marriage and family therapists and supplementing P.L.1968, c.401(C.45:8B-1 et seq.).

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

C.45:8B-24.1 Continuing education requirements for marriage and family therapists.

1. a. The State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners shall require each marriage and family therapist, as a condition of biennial license renewal pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1972, c.108 (C.45:1-7), to complete any continuing education requirements imposed by the board pursuant to this section.

b. The board shall:

(1) Promulgate rules and regulations for implementing continuing education requirements as a condition of license renewal for licenses issued under its jurisdiction;

(2) Establish standards for continuing education, including the subject matter and content of courses of study, and the number and type of continuing education credits required of a licensee as a condition of biennial license renewal;

(3) Recognize the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, the New Jersey Division of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy and other organizations as providers of continuing education, and accredit educational programs, including, but not limited to, meetings of constituents and components of marriage and family therapy associations recognized by the board, examinations, papers, publications, presentations, teaching and research appointments, and shall establish procedures for the issuance of credit upon satisfactory proof of the completion of these programs. In the case of education courses or programs, each hour of instruction shall be equivalent to one credit; and

(4) Approve only those continuing education programs as are available to all marriage and family therapists in this State on a reasonable nondiscriminatory basis.

C.45:8B-24.2 Waiver of continuing education requirement.

2. The board may, in its discretion, waive requirements for continuing education on an individual basis for reasons of hardship, such as health or other good cause.

C.45:8B-24.3 Continuing education credits not required for initial registration.

3. The board shall not require completion of continuing education credits for initial registrations. The board shall not require completion of continuing education credits for any registration periods commencing within 12 months of the effective date of this act. The board shall require completion of continuing education credits on a pro rata basis for any registration periods commencing more than 12 but less than 24 months following the effective date of this act.

4. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved September 13, 2000.