



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

***Raised Bill No. 7081***

LCO No. 5305



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:  
(PH)

***AN ACT CONCERNING LICENSURE PORTABILITY FOR MARRIAGE  
AND FAMILY THERAPISTS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General  
Assembly convened:

1       Section 1. Section 20-195c of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2       following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

3       (a) Each applicant for licensure as a marital and family therapist shall  
4       present to the department satisfactory evidence that such applicant has:  
5       (1) Completed a graduate degree program specializing in marital and  
6       family therapy offered by a regionally accredited college or university  
7       or an accredited postgraduate clinical training program accredited by  
8       the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy  
9       Education offered by a regionally accredited institution of higher  
10      education; (2) completed a supervised practicum or internship with  
11      emphasis in marital and family therapy supervised by the program  
12      granting the requisite degree or by an accredited postgraduate clinical  
13      training program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for  
14      Marriage and Family Therapy Education and offered by a regionally  
15      accredited institution of higher education; (3) completed twenty-four

16 months of relevant postgraduate experience, including (A) a minimum  
17 of one thousand hours of direct client contact offering marital and  
18 family therapy services subsequent to being awarded a master's degree  
19 or doctorate or subsequent to the training year specified in subdivision  
20 (2) of this subsection, and (B) one hundred hours of postgraduate  
21 clinical supervision provided by a licensed marital and family therapist;  
22 and (4) passed an examination prescribed by the department. The fee  
23 shall be two hundred dollars for each initial application.

24 (b) Each applicant for licensure as a marital and family therapist  
25 associate shall present to the department satisfactory evidence that such  
26 applicant has completed a graduate degree program specializing in  
27 marital and family therapy offered by a regionally accredited institution  
28 of higher education or an accredited postgraduate clinical training  
29 program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage  
30 and Family Therapy Education and offered by a regionally accredited  
31 institution of higher education. The fee shall be one hundred twenty-  
32 five dollars for each initial application.

33 (c) The department may grant licensure without examination, subject  
34 to payment of fees with respect to the initial application, to any  
35 applicant who is currently licensed or certified as a marital or marriage  
36 and family therapist or a marital and family therapist associate in  
37 another state, territory or commonwealth of the United States. [,  
38 provided such state, territory or commonwealth maintains licensure or  
39 certification standards which, in the opinion of the department, are  
40 equivalent to or higher than the standards of this state.] No license shall  
41 be issued under this section to any applicant against whom professional  
42 disciplinary action is pending or who is the subject of an unresolved  
43 complaint.

44 (d) (1) A license issued to a marital and family therapist issued under  
45 this section may be renewed annually in accordance with the provisions  
46 of section 19a-88. The fee for such renewal shall be two hundred dollars.  
47 Each licensed marital and family therapist applying for license renewal

48 shall furnish evidence satisfactory to the commissioner of having  
49 participated in continuing education programs. The commissioner shall  
50 adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, to (A) define basic  
51 requirements for continuing education programs, which shall include  
52 not less than one contact hour of training or education each registration  
53 period on the topic of cultural competency and, on and after January 1,  
54 2016, not less than two contact hours of training or education during the  
55 first renewal period in which continuing education is required and not  
56 less than once every six years thereafter on the topic of mental health  
57 conditions common to veterans and family members of veterans,  
58 including (i) determining whether a patient is a veteran or family  
59 member of a veteran, (ii) screening for conditions such as post-traumatic  
60 stress disorder, risk of suicide, depression and grief, and (iii) suicide  
61 prevention training, (B) delineate qualifying programs, (C) establish a  
62 system of control and reporting, and (D) provide for waiver of the  
63 continuing education requirement for good cause.

64 (2) A license issued to a marital and family therapist associate (A)  
65 prior to July 1, 2023 shall expire on or before twenty-four months after  
66 the date on which such license was issued, and [.] (B) on or after July 1,  
67 2023 shall expire on or before twelve months after the date on which  
68 such license was issued. Such license may be renewed not more than  
69 two times if issued prior to July 1, 2023, and not more than three times  
70 if issued on or after July 1, 2023, for twelve months in accordance with  
71 the provisions of section 19a-88. The fee for such renewal shall be one  
72 hundred twenty-five dollars. Each licensed marital and family therapist  
73 associate applying for license renewal shall furnish evidence  
74 satisfactory to the commissioner of having satisfied the continuing  
75 education requirements prescribed in subdivision (1) of this subsection.

76 [(e) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, an applicant who  
77 is currently licensed or certified as a marital or marriage and family  
78 therapist in another state, territory or commonwealth of the United  
79 States that does not maintain standards for licensure or certification that  
80 are equivalent to or higher than the standards in this state may

81 substitute three years of licensed or certified work experience in the  
82 practice of marital and family therapy, as defined in section 20-195a, in  
83 lieu of the requirements of subdivisions (2) and (3) of subsection (a) of  
84 this section.]

85 [(f)] (e) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, a person who  
86 is a graduate of a graduate degree program or a postgraduate clinical  
87 training program described in subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this  
88 section may practice marital and family therapy for a period not greater  
89 than one hundred twenty calendar days after the date such person  
90 completed such program, provided such person works under the  
91 clinical supervision of a licensed marital family therapist.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	October 1, 2025	20-195c
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***Statement of Purpose:***

To allow the Department of Public Health to grant licensure without examination to any person who is currently licensed or certified as a marital or marriage and family therapist or a marital and family therapist associate in another state, territory or commonwealth of the United States.

***[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]***