

## **LLU Doctoral Programs Disclosure Regarding Qualifying Degree Programs**

### **Defining Qualifying Degree**

A qualifying degree for licensure is defined as an academic program leading to licensure or credentialing as an MFT. A qualifying degree for licensure may not be an approved qualifying degree program in all 50 states and may only be an approved qualifying degree in the state in which the university is located. Therefore, a qualifying degree for licensure program may or may not be approved by all state licensing boards as a qualifying degree for licensure.

### **The LLU Doctoral programs (DMFT and PhD) are NOT a Qualifying Degree Program for Licensure**

Although the coursework for the doctoral programs at Loma Linda University are NOT designed to meet MFT licensure requirements in California or any of the 50 states, it is important for you to understand that each state has different licensure requirements, as discussed in the above paragraphs. LLU doctoral graduates from the Department of Counseling and Family Sciences (CFS) often obtain employment in positions of clinical or academic leadership. In their capacity as team leaders, clinical supervisors, clinical/academic program directors, or other leadership positions, LLU CFS doctoral graduates must understand the definition of a qualifying degree for licensure and that each state has different requirements for licensure. It is important for you to be familiar with the licensing board in your state of employment and/or be able to provide MFT supervisees or mentees with resources for the licensing board in their intended state of licensure, if not the same as your state of employment.

### **Disclosure of Information Related to Qualifying Degree Program Tracks**

Admission into programs leading to licensure and credentialing does not guarantee students will obtain a license or credential. Agencies and States set licensure and credentialing requirements that are not controlled by or affiliated with the university, and requirements can change at any time. For example, licensure or credentialing requirements can include evidence of the right to work in the United States (e.g., social security number or taxpayer identification number) or successfully passing a criminal background check. Applicants and students in qualifying degree program tracks are responsible for determining whether they can meet licensure or credentialing requirements in their intended state of licensure.

Furthermore, Couples, Marriage, and Family Therapy is a profession that leads to licensure in all 50 states, however, each state has its own laws and regulations about what is needed to become licensed as an MFT in that state. Additionally, not every state will accept a degree, and supervised hours earned in another state. Therefore, you are encouraged to review license requirements in the state you intend to practice in as soon as possible so that you understand what different states may or may not accept. Here is the link to each state's licensure resources MFT State/Provincial Resources:

[https://aamft.org/Advocacy/State\\_Resources/MFT\\_State\\_Resources.aspx](https://aamft.org/Advocacy/State_Resources/MFT_State_Resources.aspx)

I acknowledge that I have been informed and am aware that admission into one of the LLU CFS doctoral programs does NOT lead to licensure as it is not a qualifying degree for licensure in any of the 50 states. I have also been informed that in my capacity in leadership roles in the MFT profession, I am responsible for understanding that each state has its own licensing requirements and licensing boards, and it is my responsibility to provide resources to MFT supervisees or mentees about the licensing requirements in their intended state of licensure and practice.

**Please acknowledge you have read this disclosure by signing below and providing the date**