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November 8, 2024

Dr. Todd Edwards
Marriage and Family Therapy Program
University of San Diego (MA)

Dear Dr. Edwards:

The Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE), at its October 21-22, 2024 meeting, reviewed the Response to Stipulations submitted by the Marriage and Family Therapy (MA) program at the University of San Diego.

The Commission voted to accept the program's **Response to Stipulations** and to **remove** the following Stipulations:

Key Element II-C
Key Element III-C

The Commission's review of the program materials is below:

STANDARD II: PROGRAM LEADERSHIP, PROGRAM FACULTY, AND PROGRAM CLINICAL SUPERVISORS

Key Element II-C: Core Faculty and Program Clinical Supervisor Sufficiency

The core faculty and program clinical supervisors must be sufficient to implement the program's outcome-based education framework (Standard I), curriculum instruction, and application component.

- *Core faculty sufficiency is demonstrated by
 - a core faculty-to-student FTE ratio of 1:15, OR
 - as an alternative, the program may designate and meet a core faculty-to-student FTE ratio that the program demonstrates to be sufficient to support core faculty responsibilities and institutional and program expectations as reported in Key Element II-B. The program must define sufficiency criteria that support the alternative ratio and demonstrate how these criteria are evaluated, reviewed, and revised as needed. Noncore faculty may be included in this alternative ratio if the program demonstrates defined and ongoing non-core faculty contributions that support core faculty areas of responsibility beyond course instruction and/or clinical supervision.*

- *The program must have a sufficient number of program clinical supervisors to support the program's application component in Key Element III-C, as demonstrated by a ratio the program determines to be sufficient to meet program responsibilities and expectations for program clinical supervisors.*

Commission's Response:

The program meets the requirements of this Key Element. The Stipulation is removed.

STANDARD III: CURRICULUM

Key Element III-C: Foundational and Advanced Application Components

The program must demonstrate it offers an application component with appropriate placement in the curriculum, duration, focus, and intensity consistent with the program's mission, goals, and student learning outcomes.

Foundational Practice Component

Master's degree programs and post-degree programs that teach the foundational curriculum must offer the foundational practice component (practicum and/or internship) with the following requirements:

- *Direct clinical contact hours: Students must acquire a minimum of 300 direct clinical contact hours with individuals, couples, families, or other systems, at least 100 of which must be relational hours that occur over a minimum of twelve months of clinical practice.*
 - *Programs including teletherapy for required direct clinical contact hours must have policies and procedures in place to support student teletherapy practice and its MFT relational/systemic supervision by program clinical supervisors including attention to applicable legal and ethical requirements and current/emerging professional guidelines.*
- *MFT relational/systemic supervision: Students must receive at least 100 hours of MFT relational/systemic supervision from a program clinical supervisor on a regular and consistent basis while seeing clients. When the supervision schedule is interrupted for any reason, the program must have a plan to assure student access to supervisory support. MFT relational/systemic supervision can be individual MFT relational/systemic supervision (one supervisor with one or two supervisees) or group MFT relational/systemic supervision (one supervisor and eight or fewer students) and must include a minimum of 50 hours of MFT relational/systemic supervision utilizing observable data.*
- *Published procedures and agreements with practice sites: Programs must have formal agreements in place that outline the responsibilities of the institution, practice sites and students, and policy in place for managing any difficulties with sites, program clinical supervisors, or students.*

Commission's Response:

The program meets the requirements of this Key Element. The Stipulation is removed.

The program is accredited with no stipulations for the cycle of November 1, 2023 - November 1, 2030.

The following document must be submitted in the required format by the noted deadline:

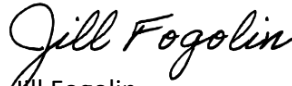
Document	Submission Deadline
Annual Report	July 31, 2025

Please feel free to contact the Accreditation Office by e-mail at coa@aamft.org or by phone at (703) 253-0448 if you have further questions or if you would like any additional information.

Sincerely,



Heather Katafiasz, PhD
COAMFTE Chair



Jill Fogolin
Director of Accreditation