

**OREGON BOARD OF LICENSED  
PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS & THERAPISTS**

**WHO NEEDS TO BE LICENSED UNDER OREGON'S PRACTICE ACT FOR COUNSELORS  
AND THERAPISTS (2009 HB 2506)?**

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**New Practice Definitions:**

**“Marriage and family therapy”** means the assessment, diagnosis and treatment of mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders within the context of marriage and family systems, involving the application of psychotherapeutic and family systems theories and techniques in the delivery of services to individuals, couples and families.

**“Professional counseling”** means the assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders, and the provision of counseling services to address personal growth and wellness, provided through the therapeutic relationship to individuals, couples, children, families, groups, or organizations, based on the principles of mental health, behavioral science including statistical analysis, human growth and development throughout the life span, career development, group dynamics, and cultural and social diversity, using cognitive, affective, behavioral, and systemic intervention strategies.

**Do you have a masters degree in counseling or marriage and family therapy that meets current OBLPCT requirements for licensure? If your answer is:**

- **No:** You **may not** be licensed.
- **Yes:** You **must be** licensed if you fit category 1 or 2 below.

**Category 1.** You have training that meets requirements for licensure and you practice or plan to practice what is in either of the definitions of “marriage and family therapy” or “professional counseling”.

**Category 2.** You have training that meets requirements for licensure and you practice what is in either of the definitions of “marriage and family therapy” or “professional counseling” and you add treatment interventions not included in the definitions, such as art therapy or EMDR.

**You are not required to have a license if you fit category 3.**

**Category 3.** You have training that meets requirements for licensure but you do **not** diagnose and treat mental disorders.