The establishment of provider selection criteria is a required activity of County MHPs.¹ MHPs are authorized to establish additional requirements “as part of a credentialing or other evaluation process”². This Scope of Practice specifies the required credentials, supervision and approved activities for Psychiatrists, Nurse Practitioners, Registered Nurses, Psychiatric Technicians, Licensed Mental Health Professionals (LMHPs), Interns, Trainees, Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialists (MHRSSs), and Designated Mental Health Workers (DMHWs).

### MEDICAL

**PSYCHIATRIST (MD, DO)**
A Psychiatrist shall have a license to practice as a physician and surgeon granted by the California Medical Board or by the Board of Osteopathic Examiners³. A Psychiatrist must possess a valid, unrestricted DEA registration and a NPI number with a valid taxonomy.

### NURSING

**NURSE PRACTITIONER (NP)**
A nurse practitioner is a registered nurse who possesses additional preparation and skill in physical diagnosis, psycho-social assessment and management of episodic and chronic mental illness. NPs are certified by the State of California, Board of Registered Nursing to practice under standardized procedure⁴ and to furnish drugs and devices⁵. NPs must possess a valid, unrestricted DEA registration and a NPI number with a valid taxonomy.

**REGISTERED NURSE (RN)**
A registered nurse shall have a license as a registered nurse by the State of California, Board of Registered Nursing.⁶ RNs must possess a NPI number with a valid taxonomy.

**PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIAN (PT)**
A licensed psychiatric technician shall have a license as a psychiatric technician by the State of California, Board of Vocational Nurses and Psychiatric Technician Examiners.⁷ LPTs must possess a NPI number with a valid taxonomy.

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¹ CCR, Title 9, §1810.435
² CCR, Title 9, §1810.435(b)(6)
³ Title 9, §782.39
⁴ CCR, Title 16, §1474
⁵ BPC Section 4076
⁶ Title 9, §782.44
⁷ Title 9 §782.28
RNs and PTs cannot conduct assessments and individual or group psychotherapy but are able to provide group rehab; PTs can only facilitate with Licensed Mental Health Professionals (LMHP).

**LICENSED MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS (LMHP)**

**PSYCHOLOGIST (PhD, PsyD)**
A Psychologist shall have obtained a license to practice as a psychologist granted by the State of California Board of Psychology. Psychologists must possess a NPI number with a valid taxonomy.

**SOCIAL WORKER (LCSW)**
A Social Worker is licensed as a clinical social worker by the State of California, Board of Behavioral Science Examiners. LCSWs must possess a NPI number with a valid taxonomy.

**MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPIST (LMFT)**
A Marriage & Family Therapist shall have obtained a license to practice as marriage, family and child therapist by the State of California, Board of Behavioral Sciences. LMFTs must possess a NPI number with a valid taxonomy.

Licensed Mental Health Professionals can authorize services as directed by the MHP; can conduct comprehensive assessments and provide a diagnosis without co-signature; can co-sign the work of other staff members within their scope of practice. Not required but recommend weekly supervision with clinical supervisor/manager.

**INTERN**

**PSYCHOLOGIST INTERN (PhD and PsyD Waivered)**

**Post-Doctoral Interns**
A Post-Doctoral intern must possess an earned doctorate degree in psychology, in education psychology, or in education with the field of

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8 Title 9, §782.42
9 Title 9, §782.48
10 Title 9, §782.32
11 Refer to Contra Costa County Scope of Practice Grid
specialization in counseling psychology or educational psychology in order to obtain supervised post-doctoral hours towards licensure as a psychologist. The Post-Doctoral intern can be registered with the State of California, Board of Psychology as a Registered Psychologist/Registered Psychological Assistant or sign an official Supervision Agreement in a formal internship placement or as an employee of an exempt setting. Post-doctoral Interns must earn a minimum of 1500 supervised hours of experience within 30 consecutive months. A Post-Doctoral intern must possess a NPI number with a valid taxonomy.

Pre-Doctoral Interns
A Pre-Doctoral Intern is one who is in the process of earning a doctoral degree with a formal internship. A Pre-Doctoral Intern is not required to be registered with the State of California, Board of Psychology if working in a governmental agency. Pre-doctoral Interns may earn a maximum of 1500 supervised hours of experience within 30 consecutive months. A Pre-Doctoral Intern must possess a NPI number with a valid taxonomy.

Waiver Requirements
All qualifying Pre- and Post-Doctoral Interns are required to obtain a waiver from the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). The Waiver is granted up to five consecutive years from the initial date of approval with DHCS. The waiver allows the intern to provide services equivalent to those of a licensed mental health professional while acquiring experience towards clinical licensure. DMH Letter 10-03 provides the following guidelines:

- Each psychologist candidate must obtain a waiver – even if he/she is registered with his/her licensing board.
- In order to be eligible for such a waiver, the psychologist candidate must have successfully completed 48 semester/trimester or 72 quarter units of graduate coursework, not including thesis, internship, or dissertation. An official copy of a transcript reflecting completion of this coursework requirement must be submitted with the waiver application.
- There is no statutory provision for extension of psychologist candidate waivers beyond the five-year limit.

Supervision Requirements
An Intern must accrue 3000 hours of supervised professional experience. At least 1500 hours of supervised professional experience must be accrued post-doctorally. A minimum of one hour of face-to-face supervision per week is required. The total weekly supervision required must account for 10% of total hours worked to a maximum of forty (44) hours per week including supervision time.

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12 CA Bus & Prof Code § 2914 (2016)
13 CCR, Title 16, §1367(a)(1)(A)-(D)
14 CCR, Title 16, §1387)(a)(1)(A)-(E)
15 CCR, Title 16, §1387(b)(4)-(S)
Qualifications and Responsibilities of a Primary Supervisor

All primary supervisors shall be licensed psychologists. Primary supervisors must possess and maintain a valid, active license free of any formal disciplinary action. Primary supervisors who are licensed by the board shall complete a minimum of six (6) hours of supervision coursework every two years.\(^\text{16}\)

Primary supervisors are responsible for ensuring compliance and monitoring the welfare of the Intern’s clients, as well as for monitoring the performance and professional development of the interns.\(^\text{17}\)

The primary supervisor must be employed in the same work setting at least half the time as the Intern and be available to the Intern 100% of the time he/she is accruing supervised professional experience.\(^\text{18}\) Primary supervisors shall ensure that each client or patient is informed prior to the rendering of services by the Intern (1) that the Intern is unlicensed and is functioning under the direction and supervision of the supervisor; (2) that the primary supervisor shall have full access to the treatment records in order to perform supervision responsibilities and (3) that any fees paid for the services of the Intern must be paid directly to the primary supervisor or employer.\(^\text{19}\)

Qualifications and Responsibilities of a Delegated Supervisor

Primary supervisors may delegate supervision to other qualified psychologists or to other qualified mental health professionals including licensed marriage and family therapists, licensed educational psychologists, licensed clinical social workers and board certified psychiatrists.\(^\text{20}\) However, the primary supervisor remains responsible for the minimum one hour per week of direct, individual face-to-face supervision.\(^\text{21}\)

Delegated supervisors are responsible for monitoring the welfare of the intern’s clients while under their delegated supervision and abide by the all provisions of the California Code of Regulations §1387.2.

Approved Activities: Psychologist Interns can conduct comprehensive assessments and provide a diagnosis with co-signature by a licensed mental health professional while under the waiver. They can claim for all Mental Health Services (15/30), Case Management/Brokerage (15/01), Crisis Intervention (15/70), and Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS) (15/58) within their scope of practice.\(^\text{22}\)

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\(^\text{16}\) CCR, Title 16, §1387.1(b)
\(^\text{17}\) CCR, Title 16, §1387.1
\(^\text{18}\) CCR, Title 16, §1387(b)(6)
\(^\text{19}\) CCR, Title 16, §1387.1(g) and 1392.6(b)
\(^\text{20}\) CCR, Title 16, §1387(c)(1)
\(^\text{21}\) CCR, Title 16, §1387(c)(2)
\(^\text{22}\) Refer to Contra Costa County Scope of Practice Grid
ASSOCIATE MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST (AMFT)

An Associate Marriage and Family Therapist (AMFT) must possess a Master’s in Marriage and Family Therapy from an accredited graduate school program that prepares the student for licensure as a marriage and family therapist. AMFTs must be registered with the State of California, Board of Behavioral Sciences and must possess a NPI number with a valid taxonomy.

Required Supervision: The State of California, Board of Behavioral Sciences requires 3000 hours of supervised professional experience and 104 weeks of supervision to qualify for MFT licensure. Of the 104 weeks required, 52 weeks must be weeks in which the AMFT received at least one hour of one-on-one, individual face-to-face supervision. Any week in which an AMFT participates in one hour of individual, face-to-face supervision or two hours of group face-to-face supervision, counts as one supervised week. Group supervision sessions shall include no more than eight (8) persons receiving supervision, even if there are two or more supervisors present. Group supervision can be broken into one-hour sessions, as long as both increments (full two hours) are provided in the same week as the experience being claimed.  

Supervision ratio for AMFTs: AMFTs are required to obtain a minimum of one unit of supervision per week to count work experience toward licensure in a work setting. AMFTs must receive an additional unit of supervision in any week during which more than 10 hours of direct counseling/psychotherapy are performed. An AMFT providing direct counseling/psychotherapy services in more than one work setting must meet the minimum supervision requirements for each setting.

Qualifications and Responsibilities of Supervisor: The qualifications differ depending on the license type of the potential supervisor. Listed below are the licensed mental health professionals authorized to supervise AMFTs and some of the general qualifications needed to provide supervision to an AMFT.

Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT) – LMFTs must:
- possess a current and valid California license for at least two years prior to the commencement of supervision;
- complete a 6-hour supervision training within the two-year period immediately preceding supervision and every renewal period when supervising. NOTE: If the supervisor has never taken this course, it must be taken within 60 days of commencement of supervision; and

23 Source: Board of Behavioral Sciences Important Answers to Frequently Asked Questions for Marriage & Family Therapist Trainees and Interns

24 One unit of supervision is equivalent to one hour of individual supervision; one unit of supervision is equivalent to two hours of group supervision.
• have practiced psychotherapy or directly supervised trainees, interns, or associate clinical social workers who perform psychotherapy as part of their clinical practice in two of the past five years immediately preceding the commencement of supervision.

**Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW)** – LCSWs must:
• possess a current and valid California license for at least two years prior to the commencement of supervision;
• complete a 6-hour supervision training within the two-year period immediately preceding supervision and every renewal period when supervising, **NOTE: If the supervisor has never taken this course, it must be taken within 60 days of commencement of supervision;** and
• have practiced psychotherapy or directly supervised trainees, interns, or associate clinical social workers who perform psychotherapy as part of their clinical practice in two of the past five years immediately preceding the commencement of supervision.

**Licensed Psychologist (licensed through the Board of Psychology)** – Psychologists must:
• possess a current and valid California license for at least two years prior to the commencement of supervision; and
• have practiced psychotherapy or directly supervised trainees, interns, or associate clinical social workers who perform psychotherapy as part of their clinical practice in two of the past five years immediately preceding the commencement of supervision.

**Licensed Physicians certified in psychiatry by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology** – Psychiatrists must:
• possess a current and valid license for at least two years prior to the commencement of supervision; and
• have practiced psychotherapy or directly supervised trainees, interns, or associate clinical social workers who perform psychotherapy as part of their clinical practice in two of the past five years immediately preceding the commencement of supervision.

**Approved Activities:** AMFTs can conduct comprehensive assessments and provide a diagnosis with co-signature by a licensed mental health professional. They can claim for all Mental Health Services (15/30), Case Management/Brokerage (15/01), Crisis Intervention (15/70), and Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS) (15/58) within their scope of practice. AMFTs may count a maximum of 40 hours of experience in any seven consecutive day period.

**ASSOCIATE SOCIAL WORKER (ASW)**

An Associate Social Worker (ASW) must possess a Master’s in Social Work from an accredited graduate school program that prepares the student for licensure as a social worker. ASWs must be registered with the State of California, Board of Behavioral Sciences and possess a NPI number with a valid taxonomy.

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25 Refer to Contra Costa County Guidelines for Scope of Practice
26 4980.43 BBS Statutes and Regulations
**Required Supervision:** The State of California, Board of Behavioral Sciences requires 3200 hours of supervised work experience and 104 weeks of supervision. A total of 1700 hours must be gained under the supervision of a LCSW. Of the 104 supervised weeks required, 52 weeks must be weeks in which the ASW met with an individual supervisor for at least 1 hour. Of the 52 required weeks of individual supervision, 13 weeks must be with a LCSW supervisor.

ASWs are required to obtain one hour of individual supervision or two hours of group supervision during any week in which supervised experience is gained. If the ASW provides more than 10 hours of direct psychotherapy during a given week, he or she will need to obtain one additional hour of individual supervision or two additional hours of group supervision to cover the additional direct psychotherapy hours for that week.

**Qualifications and Responsibilities of Supervisor:** The qualifications differ depending on the license type of the potential supervisor. Listed below are the licensed mental health professionals authorized to supervise Associate Social workers and some of the general qualifications needed to provide supervision to an ASW.

*Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT)* – LMFTs must:
  - possess a current and valid California license for at least two years prior to the commencement of supervision;
  - complete a 6-hour supervision training within the two-year period immediately preceding supervision and every renewal period when supervising, **NOTE:** If the supervisor has never taken this course, it must be taken within 60 days of commencement of supervision; and
  - have practiced psychotherapy or directly supervised trainees, interns, or associate clinical social workers who perform psychotherapy as part of their clinical practice in two of the past five years immediately preceding the commencement of supervision.

*Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW)* – LCSWs must:
  - possess a current and valid California license for at least two years prior to the commencement of supervision;
  - complete a 6-hour supervision training within the two-year period immediately preceding supervision and every renewal period when supervising, **NOTE:** If the supervisor has never taken this course, it must be taken within 60 days of commencement of supervision; and
  - have practiced psychotherapy or directly supervised trainees, interns, or associate clinical social workers who perform psychotherapy as part of their clinical practice in two of the past five years immediately preceding the commencement of supervision.

*Licensed Psychologist (licensed through the Board of Psychology)* – Psychologists must:
  - possess a current and valid California license for at least two years prior to the commencement of supervision; and
  - have practiced psychotherapy or directly supervised trainees, interns, or associate clinical social workers who perform psychotherapy as part of their clinical practice in two of the past five years immediately preceding the commencement of supervision.
Licensed Physicians certified in psychiatry by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology – Psychiatrists must:
• possess a current and valid license for at least two years prior to the commencement of supervision; and
• have practiced psychotherapy or directly supervised trainees, interns, or associate clinical social workers who perform psychotherapy as part of their clinical practice in two of the past five years immediately preceding the commencement of supervision.

Approved Activities: ASWs can conduct comprehensive assessments and provide a diagnosis with co-signature by a licensed mental health professional. They can claim for all Mental Health Services (15/30), Case Management/Brokerage (15/01), Crisis Intervention (15/70), and Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS) (15/58) within their scope of practice.  

<table>
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<tr>
<th>PSYCHOLOGIST TRAINEE</th>
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<tr>
<td>A psychologist trainee is a pre-degree practicum student participating in a field placement while enrolled in an accredited Doctoral (PhD or PsyD) program that prepares the student for licensure as a Psychologist.</td>
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In order to gain experience as a Psychologist Trainee, the student must have a field placement agreement with their graduate school and the CCMHP. There must be an individual contract signed by the student, individual supervisor and/or training coordinator and school field placement liaison that specifies the duration of the contract. There is no minimum experience level required and the hours worked cannot be counted toward licensure. Students are provided with a minimum of one hour of individual supervision by a licensed psychologist and weekly group supervision.

Approved Activities: Psychologist Trainees can conduct comprehensive assessments and provide a diagnosis with co-signature by a licensed mental health provider. They can claim for all Mental Health Services (15/30), Case Management/Brokerage (15/01), Crisis Intervention (15/70), and Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS) (15/58) within their scope of practice.

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST (MFT) TRAINEE

A Marriage and Family Therapist (MFT) Trainee is a pre-masters practicum student participating in a field placement while enrolled in an

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27 Refer to Contra Costa County Guidelines for Scope of Practice
28 Refer to Wright Institute and California School of Professional Psychology Office of Professional Training description of clinical practice.
29 Refer to Contra Costa County Guidelines for Scope of Practice
accredited Master’s degree program in marriage and family therapy that prepares the student for licensure as a marriage and family therapist.

In order to gain experience as a MFT Trainee, the practicum student must have completed a minimum of 12 semester or 18 quarter units of coursework in a qualifying MFT degree program. In addition, there must be 1) a field placement agreement with the school and CCMHP and 2) an individual contract signed by the student, individual supervisor and/or training coordinator and school field placement liaison that specifies the duration of the contract. There is no minimum experience required and no BBS registration is required; however, MFT Trainees must be enrolled in a practicum course in order to provide counseling services. The only condition under which a MFT trainee may provide counseling services while not enrolled in a practicum course is if the period of time is less than 90 calendar days AND the 90-day or shorter period is immediately preceded by enrollment in practicum and immediately followed by enrollment in practicum or completion of the degree program. MFT Trainees must possess a NPI number with a valid taxonomy.

**Required Supervision:** The State of California, Board of Behavioral Sciences requires 3000 hours of supervised professional experience and 104 weeks of supervision to qualify for MFT licensure. Of the 104 weeks required, 52 weeks must be weeks in which the MFT Trainee received at least one hour of one-on-one, individual face-to-face supervision. Any week in which an MFT Trainee participates in one hour of individual, face-to-face supervision or two hours of group face-to-face supervision, counts as one supervised week. Group supervision sessions shall include no more than eight (8) persons receiving supervision, even if there are two or more supervisors present. Group supervision can be broken into one-hour sessions, as long as both increments (full two hours) are provided in the same week as the experience being claimed.

**Supervision ratio:** MFT Trainees must receive a minimum of one unit of supervision per week to count work experience in a work setting. Trainees are required to obtain one unit of supervision for every five hours of direct counseling experience earned in each setting.

**Qualifications and Responsibilities of Supervisor:** The qualifications differ depending on the license type of the potential supervisor. Listed below are the licensed mental health professionals authorized to supervise Associate Marriage & Family Therapists and some of the general qualifications needed to provide supervision to an MFT Trainee.

*Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT) – LMFTs must:*
  - possess a current and valid California license for at least two years prior to the commencement of supervision;
  - complete a 6-hour supervision training within the two-year period immediately preceding supervision and every renewal period when supervising. **NOTE:** If the supervisor has never taken this course, it must be taken within 60 days of commencement of supervision; and

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30 Source: Board of Behavioral Sciences *Important Answers to Frequently Asked Questions for Marriage & Family Therapist Trainees and Interns*)
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- have practiced psychotherapy or directly supervised trainees, interns, or associate clinical social workers who perform psychotherapy as part of their clinical practice in two of the past five years immediately preceding the commencement of supervision.

**Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW)** – LCSWs must:
- possess a current and valid California license for at least two years prior to the commencement of supervision;
- complete a 6-hour supervision training within the two-year period immediately preceding supervision and every renewal period when supervising, NOTE: If the supervisor has never taken this course, it must be taken within 60 days of commencement of supervision; and
- have practiced psychotherapy or directly supervised trainees, interns, or associate clinical social workers who perform psychotherapy as part of their clinical practice in two of the past five years immediately preceding the commencement of supervision.

**Licensed Psychologist (licensed through the Board of Psychology)** – Psychologists must:
- possess a current and valid California license for at least two years prior to the commencement of supervision; and
- have practiced psychotherapy or directly supervised trainees, interns, or associate clinical social workers who perform psychotherapy as part of their clinical practice in two of the past five years immediately preceding the commencement of supervision.

**Licensed Physicians certified in psychiatry by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology** – Psychiatrists must:
- possess a current and valid license for at least two years prior to the commencement of supervision; and
- have practiced psychotherapy or directly supervised trainees, interns, or associate clinical social workers who perform psychotherapy as part of their clinical practice in two of the past five years immediately preceding the commencement of supervision.

**Approved Activities**: MFT Trainees can conduct comprehensive assessments and provide a diagnosis with co-signature by a licensed mental health professional. They can claim for all Mental Health Services (15/30), Case Management/Brokerage (15/01), Crisis Intervention (15/70), and Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS) (15/58) within their scope of practice. MFT Trainees may count a maximum of 40 hours of experience in any seven consecutive day period.

**SOCIAL WORK TRAINEES**
A Social Work trainee is a pre-master’s student participating in a field placement while enrolled in an accredited master’s level social work program that prepares the student for licensure as a social worker.

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31 Refer to Contra Costa County Guidelines for Scope of Practice
32 4980.43 BBS Statutes and Regulations
33 Accredited master’s level social work programs prepare the student for licensure; however, hours of experience earned pre-degree do not accrue toward licensure as a LCSW.
Community organizations providing field experience for Social Work trainees must have a field placement agreement with the school and CCMHP. In addition, an individual contract signed by the student, individual supervisor and/or training coordinator, and school field placement liaison that specifies the duration of the contract is required. There is no minimum experience required and no BBS registration is required. Social Work trainees must possess a NPI number with a valid taxonomy.

**Required Supervision:** Non-licensed trainees must be under the immediate supervision of a licensed mental health professional (LMHP) who shall be responsible for ensuring that the extent, kind, and quality of services performed are consistent with his or her training and experience and be responsible for the trainee’s compliance with applicable state law.

Social Work trainees must receive a minimum of one hour of individual supervision or two hours of group supervision in any week that direct services are provided. Trainees are required to obtain one hour of individual supervision or two hours of group supervision for every five hours of direct counseling experience earned in each setting.

**Qualifications and Responsibilities of Supervisor:** The qualifications differ depending on the license type of the potential supervisor. Listed below are the licensed mental health professionals authorized to supervise Social Work trainees and some of the general qualifications needed to provide supervision to a Social Work trainee.

**Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) –** LCSWs must:
- possess a current and valid California license for at least two years prior to the commencement of supervision;
- complete a 6-hour supervision training within the two-year period immediately preceding supervision and every renewal period when supervising, **NOTE: If the supervisor has never taken this course, it must be taken within 60 days of commencement of supervision;** and
- have practiced psychotherapy or directly supervised trainees, interns, or associate clinical social workers who perform psychotherapy as

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34 The Board of Behavioral Sciences mandates licensing and supervision requirements for LCSWs and ASWs; however, hours of professional experience earned by students enrolled in an accredited MSW program are not accrued toward licensure and supervision requirements are not specified by the Board. Generally, hours of experience and supervision requirements for pre-master’s social work students are school-specific and based upon Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) standards. CSWE requires that pre-master’s students perform a minimum of 900 hours of field experience under the supervision of a person who holds a master’s degree in social work from a CSWE-accredited program and have 2 years post master’s social work practice experience; clinical licensure of the supervisor is preferred but not required. It should be noted that the CSWE’s primarily concern is that the master’s degree program provides students with educational field opportunities to demonstrate core social work competencies which include but are not limited to clinical work.

35 Department of Health Care Services, MHDUDS Information Notice 17-040, August 24, 2017

36 Supervision requirements are based on BBS supervision requirements for comparable master’s level students enrolled in an accredited Marriage and Family Therapy program.
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part of their clinical practice in two of the past five years immediately preceding the commencement of supervision.

Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT) – LMFTs must:
- possess a current and valid California license for at least two years prior to the commencement of supervision;
- complete a 6-hour supervision training within the two-year period immediately preceding supervision and every renewal period when supervising. NOTE: If the supervisor has never taken this course, it must be taken within 60 days of commencement of supervision; and
- have practiced psychotherapy or directly supervised trainees, interns, or associate clinical social workers who perform psychotherapy as part of their clinical practice in two of the past five years immediately preceding the commencement of supervision.

Licensed Psychologist (licensed through the Board of Psychology) – Psychologists must:
- possess a current and valid California license for at least two years prior to the commencement of supervision; and
- have practiced psychotherapy or directly supervised trainees, interns, or associate clinical social workers who perform psychotherapy as part of their clinical practice in two of the past five years immediately preceding the commencement of supervision.

Licensed Physicians certified in psychiatry by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology – Psychiatrists must:
- possess a current and valid license for at least two years prior to the commencement of supervision; and
- have practiced psychotherapy or directly supervised trainees, interns, or associate clinical social workers who perform psychotherapy as part of their clinical practice in two of the past five years immediately preceding the commencement of supervision.

Approved Activities: Social work trainees can conduct comprehensive assessments and provide a diagnosis with co-signature by a licensed mental health professional. They can also claim for all Mental Health Services (15/30), Case Management/Brokerage (15/01), Crisis Intervention (15/70), and Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS) (15/58) within their scope of practice.37

MENTAL HEALTH REHABILITATION SPECIALIST (MHRS)

A Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist (MHRS) is an individual who meets one of the following requirements:

- An Associate’s degree in the field of psychology or closely related field and six years of experience in a mental health setting as a specialist. Two years of the experience must have been accrued after obtaining the Associate’s degree. Two years of post-associate arts clinical experience requires a sequence where first, an Associate degree is obtained and second, clinical experience is obtained.38

37 Refer to Contra Costa County Guidelines for Scope of Practice
38 CCR, Title 9, §630
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- A Baccalaureate degree in the field of psychology or closely related field and four years of experience in a mental health setting as a specialist.
- A Master’s degree in the field of psychology or closely related field and two years of experience in a mental health setting as a specialist.

MHRSs must possess a NPI number with a valid taxonomy.

**Required Supervision:** MHRSs must receive ongoing oversight which may be satisfied through individual or group supervision.

**Approved Activities:** All approved activities are per the MHP and all documentation requires a co-signature by a licensed mental health professional. MHRSs can claim for Mental Health Services (15/30) except Assessment, Individual Psychotherapy and Group Psychotherapy. They can also claim for Case Management/Brokerage (15/01) and Crisis Intervention (15/70). MHRSs who have completed the CCMHP Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS) training program may provide TBS under the direction of a licensed mental health professional.

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**DESIGNATED MENTAL HEALTH WORKER (DMHW)**

Designated Mental Health Worker (DMHW) is staff that does not meet the MHRS educational and experience requirements. DMHWs must be at least 18 years of age with a high school diploma or equivalent degree. The MHP has the prerogative and program flexibility to integrate and define other staff that can provide direct or supportive specialty mental health services as determined by the Mental Health Director. DMHWs must possess a NPI number with a valid taxonomy.

**Required Supervision:** DMHWs must receive ongoing oversight which may be satisfied through individual or group supervision.

**Approved Activities:** All approved activities are per the MHP and all documentation requires a co-signature by a licensed mental health professional.

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39 “Experience” is defined as verifiable experience, either paid/unpaid, full-time or full-time equivalence, including practicum experiences gained in professional training programs;

40 “Specialist” is defined as a role primarily working with/providing services to clients

41 Refer to Contra Costa County Scope of Practice Grid

42 DMH Information Notice 08-38; California State Plan Amendment (SPA) 12-025
professional. DMHWs can claim for Mental Health Services (15/30) except Assessment, Individual Psychotherapy, and Group Psychotherapy with evidence of on-going supervision, within the scope of the staff member’s ability. They can also claim for Case Management/Brokerage (15/01) and Crisis Intervention (15/70). DMHWs who have completed the CCMHP Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS) training program may provide TBS under the direction of a licensed mental health professional.

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43 Refer to Contra Costa County Scope of Practice Grid
44 DMH Information Notice 08-38; California State Plan Amendment (SPA) 12-025