

## MFT Program Policy on Regulatory Alignment

### Policy Availability

The [Policy on Regulatory Alignment](#) is available to the public via the [MFT Homepage > Accreditation > Policies and Handbook](#).

### Statement of MFT Program Alignment with Relevant Regulatory Bodies

The Marriage and Family Therapy (MFT) Master's Degree Program at Valdosta State University is committed to providing comprehensive, high-quality education and training that adheres to the relevant rules, laws, and professional standards set forth by the state of Georgia. This includes compliance with regulations concerning supervision, clinical practice, licensing, mental health services, and MFT education.

In alignment with Georgia state laws and licensing requirements, the MFT program ensures the following:

#### 1. Accreditation and MFT Education

The Marriage and Family Therapy Master's Degree Program at Valdosta State University is designed to comply with the educational standards established by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE). This ensures that the program's curriculum meets national and state-specific standards of excellence in MFT education. In addition to these commitments, the MFT program regularly reviews changes in Georgia state laws and regulations to maintain ongoing compliance and uphold the highest standards of practice and education.

#### 2. Licensing Preparation

The MFT program prepares students to meet the educational requirements for licensure as a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT) in Georgia and other states. The curriculum is designed to meet the educational standards and competencies outlined by the [Georgia Composite Board of Professional Counselors, Social Workers, and Marriage and Family Therapists](#), ensuring graduates are eligible to sit for the licensing examination and pursue licensure in Georgia.

#### 3. Supervision Requirements:

The MFT program abides by the [Georgia Composite Board of Professional Counselors, Social Workers, and Marriage and Family Therapists](#) regulations for clinical supervision. All clinical practice experiences during the program are supervised by licensed marriage and family (LMFTs) faculty. Internship (off campus) supervisors are licensed mental health professionals.








#### 4. Clinical Practice

The program ensures that students receive practical clinical training in settings that comply with Georgia state regulations on mental health practice. This includes observing appropriate ethical standards, clinical competencies, client protection measures, and telehealth practice, in accordance with [Georgia Composite Board](#) guidelines for MFTs.

This policy addresses Standard V12.5, Eligibility Criterion E: Accuracy and Program Transparency in Policies and Publications and Standard III: Curriculum, KE III-E: Program Transparency and Informed Acknowledgement. Updated Spring 2026. Scheduled for update Fall 2030 or sooner if necessary.

## 5. Mental Health Standards

The program aligns with Georgia’s mental health laws to ensure that students are educated in ethical practice, confidentiality, and client safety, as well as the legal standards for diagnosing and treating mental health disorders in accordance with state regulations.

Code Section	Title / Topic	Online Link
Title 37 (All)	Mental Health overall	 <a href="#">Title 37 – Full Code (Justia)</a>
§ 37-2-1	Administration & Purpose	 <a href="#">Chapter 2 (ga.elaws.us)</a>
§ 37-3-1	Definitions (Involuntary)	 <a href="#">§ 37-3-1 (ga.elaws.us)</a>
§ 37-3-40	Emergency Exam / Admission	 <a href="#">Article 3 (ga.elaws.us)</a>
§ 37-3-81.1	Court Disposition for Involuntary	 <a href="#">§ 37-3-81.1 (ga.elaws.us)</a>
§ 37-3-93	Outpatient Court Orders	 <a href="#">§ 37-3-93 (ga.elaws.us)</a>
§ 37-3-160+	Patient Rights (Care/Treatment)	 <a href="#">Patient Rights (ga.elaws.us)</a>