

Comparison of MFT, Counseling and SW licensure in North Dakota

Terminal Licensure	Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT)	Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC)	Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker (LICSW)
Scope of practice	<p>“Marriage and family therapy” means the diagnosis and treatment of mental and emotional disorders, whether cognitive, affective, or behavioral, within the context of marriage and family systems. Marriage and family therapy involves the professional application of psychotherapeutic and family systems theories and techniques in the delivery of services to individuals, couples, and families for the purpose of treating such diagnosed nervous and mental disorders.” NDCC 43-53-01</p>	<p>"Counseling" means the application of human development and mental health principles in a therapeutic process and professional relationship to assist individuals, couples, families, and groups in achieving more effective emotional, mental, marital, family, and social or educational development and adjustment. The goals of professional counseling are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Facilitate human development and adjustment throughout the lifespan; b. Prevent, assess, and treat emotional, mental, or behavioral disorder and distress which interferes with mental health; c. Conduct assessments for the purpose of establishing treatment goals and objectives; and d. Plan, implement, and evaluate treatment plans using professional counseling strategies and interventions. <p>NDCC 43-47-01</p>	<p>"Social work practice" consists of the professional application of social work values, principles, and techniques in helping people obtain tangible services; counseling; psychotherapy with individuals, families, and groups; helping communities or groups to improve social and health services; providing social casework; directly supervising programs providing social work services; social work education; social work research; or any combination of these. The practice of social work requires knowledge of human development and behavior, of social, economic, and cultural institutions, and the interaction of all these factors.” NDCC 43-41-0</p>
Minimum Education	Master's degree	Master's degree	Master's Degree
Experience	2,000 supervised hours, including a minimum of 1,500 hours of clinical client contact including the assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of mental illness.	3,000 hours of post-graduate clinical supervision 700 hours of clinical training in clinical setting	3,000 post-degree supervised clinical social work experience
Examination	National exam	National exam	National exam
Supervisors	Additional requirements for supervisors include a minimum of 3,000 hours experience, completion of 30 hours of supervisor training, and 3 hours of supervisor continuing education per licensure period.	Supervisors must be licensed professional clinical counselors.	Supervisors must be licensed independent clinical social workers.
Continuing Education	30 hours of continuing education every two years, of which six hours must be ethics.	30 hours of continuing education, with at least ten hours of continued professional education primarily focused on clinical counseling, every two years.	30 hours of continuing education every two years, of which two hours must be ethics.