

# QUICK GUIDE to Board Certification in COUPLE & FAMILY PSYCHOLOGY



You've all heard the reasons to reach for the gold standard of excellence as a family psychologist including a pay bonus in certain areas of federal service, recognition as an expert, networking with a fun group of like-minded colleagues, etc., but did you also know that ABPP makes licensure mobility much easier in 35 states.

So, don't delay any further. Go to the [detailed instructions page](#) to start the process, and don't be deterred if you're uncertain about meeting the requirements – contact me and we'll assign a mentor to guide you through. If you're a *senior psychologist*, you'll be on the fast track!

Any questions? You can email me at: Allison Waterworth <[Allison@DrWaterworth.com](mailto:Allison@DrWaterworth.com)>

## Traditional Track

*For individuals who completed most of their education and training in CFP after their doctoral program)*

A doctoral degree from a program in professional psychology (e.g., clinical, counseling, or school psychology) that meets the ABPP generic requirements.

Substantive clinical, research and/or didactic training in couple and family psychology, as evidenced by some combination of the following experiences:

- An internship with a component of CFP focus
- a postdoc with a CFP emphasis
- several graduate courses in CFP
- several hours of didactic CFP training post-graduation
- a period of regular supervision by a Diplomate in CFP
- a period of regular supervision by an expert in CFP (non-diplomate)
- Completion of an APA or CPA accredited internship or an APPIC or CAPIC approved internship;
- Completion of a post-doctoral residency or one year postdoctoral practice (preferably with an emphasis on CFP) supervised by a licensed psychologist.
- A minimum of one hour a week of individual supervision for 48 hours a year is mandatory. Additional supervision or consultation in the specialty is desirable.

## Senior Track

*The senior track is reserved for psychologists who have made substantial, recognized contributions to the field and demonstrated competence in CFP.*

Senior eligibility recognizes the accomplishments and contributions of those who have worked in the field of couple and family psychology for a minimum of 15 years after receiving licensure.

To qualify for application under the senior track, every senior candidate must demonstrate having a professional identity as a couple and family psychologist, in addition to meeting the generic qualifications required by ABPP.

Candidates may demonstrate professional identity in the specialty by submitting a concise summary of evidence, using the illustrative examples provided below as guidance for the type of evidence desired:

- *Conceptual competency in systemic epistemology (ability to use systems theory to inform CFP)*
- *Fellow status in the APA Society for Family Psychology*
- *Completion of an education or training program in CFP*
- *Supervised experience in CFP*
- *Continuing education in CFP*
- *Membership and service in a CFP organization*
- *Presentations on CFP at conferences*
- *Documented systematic and sustained engagement in social policy, programs, and legislation on behalf of CFP*

## Early Entry for Doctoral Students

*For students who plan to specialize in CFP in their career.*

Students will be in the process of earning a doctoral degree from a program in professional psychology (e.g., clinical, counseling, or school psychology) that meets the ABPP generic requirements, or in the process of earning hours for licensure.

ABPP will help students by allowing them to log and bank their credentials. Students who are in the process of obtaining substantive clinical, research and/or didactic training in couple and family psychology, as evidenced by some combination of the following experiences, are welcome to apply:

- An internship with a component of CFP focus
- several graduate courses in CFP
- several hours of didactic CFP training
- a period of regular supervision by a Diplomate in CFP
- a period of regular supervision by an expert in CFP (non-diplomate)
- Will need to obtain an APA or CPA accredited internship or an APPIC or CAPIC approved internship;
- A minimum of one hour a week of individual supervision for 48 hours a year is mandatory. Additional supervision or consultation in the specialty is desirable.