

## **TITLE 847 STATE BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY**

### **ARTICLE 1. MASSAGE THERAPIST LICENSURE**

#### **Rule 1. Definitions**

##### **847 IAC 1-1-1 Applicability**

Authority: IC 25-21.8-2-9; IC 25-21.8-3-1

Affected: IC 25-21.8

Sec. 1. The definitions in this rule apply throughout this title.

*(State Board of Massage Therapy; 847 IAC 1-1-1; filed Jan 13, 2009, 11:54 a.m.: 20090211-IR-847080351FRA; readopted filed Nov 20, 2015, 3:30 p.m.: 20151216-IR-847150225RFA)*

##### **847 IAC 1-1-2 “Board” defined**

Authority: IC 25-21.8-2-9; IC 25-21.8-3-1

Affected: IC 25-21.8-2-1

Sec. 2. “Board” means the state board of massage therapy established by IC 25-21.8-2-1.

*(State Board of Massage Therapy; 847 IAC 1-1-2; filed Jan 13, 2009, 11:54 a.m.: 20090211-IR-847080351FRA; readopted filed Nov 20, 2015, 3:30 p.m.: 20151216-IR-847150225RFA)*

##### **847 IAC 1-1-3 “License holder” defined**

Authority: IC 25-21.8-2-9; IC 25-21.8-3-1

Affected: IC 25-21.8

Sec. 3. “License holder” means a massage therapist licensed by the board under this title.

*(State Board of Massage Therapy; 847 IAC 1-1-3; filed Jan 13, 2009, 11:54 a.m.: 20090211-IR-847080351FRA; readopted filed Nov 20, 2015, 3:30 p.m.: 20151216-IR-847150225RFA)*

##### **847 IAC 1-1-4 “Client” defined**

Authority: IC 25-21.8-2-9; IC 25-21.8-3-1

Affected: IC 25-21.8

Sec. 4. “Client” means a person:

- (1) requesting;
- (2) receiving; or
- (3) who has received;

massage therapy.

*(State Board of Massage Therapy; 847 IAC 1-1-4; filed Jan 13, 2009, 11:54 a.m.: 20090211-IR-847080351FRA; readopted filed Nov 20, 2015, 3:30 p.m.: 20151216-IR-847150225RFA)*

**847 IAC 1-1-5 “Draping” defined**

Authority: IC 25-21.8-2-9; IC 25-21.8-3-1

Affected: IC 25-21.8

Sec. 5. “Draping” means covering a client with an opaque material that is sufficiently large to protect the client’s personal privacy.

*(State Board of Massage Therapy; 847 IAC 1-1-5; filed Jan 13, 2009, 11:54 a.m.: 20090211-IR-847080351FRA; readopted filed Nov 20, 2015, 3:30 p.m.: 20151216-IR-847150225RFA)*

**847 IAC 1-1-6 “Licensing agency” defined**

Authority: IC 25-21.8-2-9; IC 25-21.8-3-1

Affected: IC 25-1-5-3; IC 25-21.8

Sec. 6. “Licensing agency” means the Indiana professional licensing agency established under IC 25-1-5-3.

*(State Board of Massage Therapy; 847 IAC 1-1-6; filed Jan 13, 2009, 11:54 a.m.: 20090211-IR-847080351FRA; readopted filed Nov 20, 2015, 3:30 p.m.: 20151216-IR-847150225RFA)*

**847 IAC 1-1-7 “Massage therapist” defined**

Authority: IC 25-21.8-2-9; IC 25-21.8-3-1

Affected: IC 25-21.8

Sec. 7. “Massage therapist” has the meaning set forth in IC 25-21.8.

*(State Board of Massage Therapy; 847 IAC 1-1-7; filed Jan 13, 2009, 11:54 a.m.: 20090211-IR-847080351FRA; readopted filed Nov 20, 2015, 3:30 p.m.: 20151216-IR-847150225RFA)*

**847 IAC 1-1-8 “Massage therapy” defined**

Authority: IC 25-21.8-2-9; IC 25-21.8-3-1

Affected: IC 25-21.8

Sec. 8. “Massage therapy” has the meaning set forth in IC 25-21.8.

*(State Board of Massage Therapy; 847 IAC 1-1-8; filed Jan 13, 2009, 11:54 a.m.: 20090211-IR-847080351FRA; readopted filed Nov 20, 2015, 3:30 p.m.: 20151216-IR-847150225RFA)*

**847 IAC 1-1-8 “On-site massage therapy” defined**

Authority: IC 25-21.8-2-9; IC 25-21.8-3-1

Affected: IC 25-21.8

Sec. 9. “On-site massage therapy” means the provision of massage therapy services at a place other than the licensee’s usual place of practice, or the place of practice in which the

licensee is employed, but instead in a site mutually agreed-upon by the massage therapist and the client.

## **Rule 2. Standards for Competent Practice**

### **847 IAC 1-2-1 Purpose**

Authority: IC 25-21.8-2-9; IC 25-21.8-3-1

Affected: IC 25-21.8

Sec. 1. This rule establishes standards for the competent practice of massage therapy.

*(State Board of Massage Therapy; 847 IAC 1-2-1; filed Jan 13, 2009, 11:54 a.m.: 20090211-IR-847080351FRA; readopted filed Nov 20, 2015, 3:30 p.m.: 20151216-IR-847150225RFA)*

### **847 IAC 1-2-2 General requirements**

Authority: IC 25-21.8-2-9; IC 25-21.8-3-1

Affected: IC 25-1-11; IC 25-21.8

Sec. 2. (a) A license holder in the conduct of his or her practice of massage therapy shall do the following:

- (1) Comply with the following:
  - (A) The standards of practice for massage therapy set forth in IC 25-21.8.
  - (B) This rule.
  - (C) The professional licensing standards of practice set forth in IC 25-1-11.
  - (D) The legal requirements of the city, town, or other jurisdiction where massage therapy is practiced.
- (2) Practice massage therapy within the scope of his or her education and training and not misrepresent professional qualifications relating to:
  - (A) licensure;
  - (B) education;
  - (C) experience; or
  - (D) areas of competence.
- (3) Practice massage therapy with that level of care, skill, and treatment recognized by a reasonably prudent massage therapist as being acceptable under similar circumstances and conditions.
- (4) Acknowledge the limitations and contraindications of massage therapy.

(b) A license holder in the conduct of his or her practice of massage therapy shall not do the following:

- (1) Delegate massage therapy responsibilities to a person who is not qualified.
- (2) Encourage or permit another person to use:
  - (A) the title “Certified Massage Therapist”, “Massage Therapist”, “Licensed Massage Therapist”, “Medical Massage Therapist”, “Clinical Massage Therapist”, “Masseuse”, “Masseur”, “Bodyworker”, “Muscle Mechanic”, or a similar term; or

- (B) the abbreviation “CMT”, “MT”, “LMT”, “MMT”, or other words letters, abbreviations, or insignia to imply that he individual is a licensed massage therapist or practices massage therapy;  
if such person is not licensed under this article.
- (3) Knowingly allow another person to use the license holder’s license.

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(c) A license holder that advertises massage therapy services in any medium, public or privately, in written, electronic, televised, and/or audio form, shall do so in the following manner:

- (1) The advertisement shall include:
  - (A) The massage therapist’s name; and
  - (B) The massage therapist’s license number;
- (2) is accurate;
- (3) is free of deception;
- (4) is free of fraud; and
- (5) is representative of the services that can be provided.

(d) An individual license holder or a business may not display or disseminate an advertisement, in any medium, publicly or privately, in written, electronic, televised and audio form, for massage therapy, that massage therapy will be provided that includes sexual activity.

(e) An individual who is licensed as a massage therapist under this article shall display proof of licensure in a conspicuous location where the individual practices massage therapy. If the license holder practices in more than one location, a copy of the license shall be displayed in a conspicuous place at all other places of practice. If the massage therapist is providing on-site massage therapy, the massage therapist will have in his or her possession a copy of his or her proof of licensure for presentation on demand.

*(State Board of Massage Therapy; 847 IAC 1-2-2; filed Jan 13, 2009, 11:54 a.m.: 20090211-IR-847080351FRA; readopted filed Nov 20, 2015, 3:30 p.m.: 20151216-IR-847150225RFA)*

**847 IAC 1-2-3 Client assessment and consent**

Authority: IC 25-21.8-2-9; IC 25-21.8-3-1

Affected: IC 25-21.8

Sec. 3. (a) Prior to providing massage therapy, the license holder shall obtain the following from the client:

- (1) Information about the reasons and expectations for the massage therapy session.
- (2) Health history and current health status to determine the indications and contraindications for the application of massage therapy.
- (3) Voluntary and informed consent, either oral or written, for the agreed upon massage therapy services.

- (4) Written consent of a parent or guardian for any massage therapy services to be provided to a client less than eighteen (18) years of age.
- (b) The license holder shall do the following:
  - (1) Request from the client only information that is relevant to the professional client-massage therapist relationship.
  - (2) Display a fee schedule or discuss fees and payment with the client prior to providing massage therapy services.
  - (3) Maintain documentation for each massage therapy session, when practicable, including the following:
    - (A) The date of service.
    - (B) Client assessment.
    - (C) Nature of treatment and services provided.
    - (D) Treatment plan, when applicable.
  - (4) Refer the client to a licensed health care professional when appropriate.
  - (5) Respect the client's right to refuse, modify, or terminate services at any point, regardless of the client's prior consent.
- (c) The license holder shall not do the following:
  - (1) Massage the breasts of a female client unless the license holder has:
    - (A) training in techniques related to therapeutic massage of mammary tissue; and
    - (B) first obtained informed written consent for the treatment from the client.
  - (2) Perform pregnancy massage unless the license holder has:
    - (A) training in techniques related to pregnancy or prenatal massage; and
    - (B) first obtained informed written consent for the treatment from the client.

*(State Board of Massage Therapy; 847 IAC 1-2-3; filed Jan 13, 2009, 11:54 a.m.: 20090211-IR-847080351FRA; readopted filed Nov 20, 2015, 3:30 p.m.: 20151216-IR-847150225RFA)*

#### **847 IAC 1-2-4 Confidentiality of client information**

Authority: IC 25-21.8-2-9; IC 25-21.8-3-1

Affected: IC 25-21.8

Sec. 4. The license holder shall do the following:

- (1) Maintain the confidentiality of client information at all times and not disclose the client's identity or other information unless the release of information is:
  - (A) consented to in writing by the client;
  - (B) required for purposes of immediate medical treatment of the client by a third party; or
  - (C) required by law.
- (2) Maintain client files and business records, including accurate financial records, for at least six (6) years from the date of service and in a manner that secures client confidentiality.
- (3) Dispose of client records in a secure manner that prevents disclosure of personal information.

*(State Board of Massage Therapy; 847 IAC 1-2-4; filed Jan 13, 2009, 11:54 a.m.: 20090211-IR-847080351FRA; readopted filed Nov 20, 2015, 3:30 p.m.: 20151216-IR-847150225RFA)*

**847 IAC 1-2-5 Boundaries; ethical conduct; sexual misconduct**

Authority: IC 25-21.8-2-9; IC 25-21.8-3-1

Affected: IC 25-21.8

Sec. 5. (a) When providing massage therapy, a license holder shall do the following:

- (1) Wear clothing that is clean, modest, and professional.
- (2) Provide privacy for the client while the client is dressing and undressing.
- (3) Provide draping in a manner that ensures the safety, comfort, and privacy of the client.
- (4) Use draping so that the:
  - (A) gluteal cleft and genital areas of male and female clients; and
  - (B) breasts of female clients;are not exposed.

(b) Draping is not required when the client remains fully clothed during the massage therapy session.

(c) With prior voluntary and informed consent of the client, the gluteal cleft and breast draping may be temporarily moved in order to perform therapeutic treatment to structures in those areas.

(d) A license holder shall not do the following:

- (1) Perform massage therapy while under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or controlled substances, except for prescribed medications that do not impair the massage therapist's ability to perform massage therapy.
- (2) Engage in any behavior with a client that is verbally, physically, or emotionally abusive.
- (3) Exert influence or take unfair advantage of a client for financial or other gain.
- (4) Exploit the client-massage therapist relationship.
- (5) Engage in sexual activity with a client:
  - (A) during a massage therapy session;
  - (B) at an establishment where the individual practices massage; or
  - (C) any on-site location where massage therapy is conducted.
- (6) Permit any other person to engage in sexual activity with a client:
  - (A) during a massage therapy session;
  - (B) at an establishment where the individual practices massage; or
  - (C) any on-site location where massage therapy is conducted.
- (7) Initiate, agree to, or ask the client to engage in sexual activity or behave verbally or nonverbally in a manner intended to solicit sexual activity with a client.
- (8) Expose, touch, or massage the genitalia of a client.
- (9) Enter a client's body orifices, external body hole or opening, with any device, apparatus, tool, or body part at any time during a massage therapy session with the exception of therapy done in the mouth or ears done pursuant to consent from the client:

- (A) during a massage therapy session; or
- (B) at an establishment where the individual practices massage; or
- (C) any on-site location where the massage therapy is conducted.

(e) A license holder may at any time during a massage therapy session:

- (1) terminate a massage therapy session; or
- (2) refuse to treat any person or part of the body;  
for just and reasonable cause.

*(State Board of Massage Therapy; 847 IAC 1-2-5; filed Jan 13, 2009, 11:54 a.m.: 20090211-IR-847080351FRA; readopted filed Nov 20, 2015, 3:30 p.m.: 20151216-IR-847150225RFA)*

#### **847 IAC 1-2-6 Environment**

Authority: IC 25-21.8-2-9; IC 25-21.8-3-1

Affected: IC 16-41-11-4; IC 25-21.8

Sec. 6. A license holder shall do the following:

- (1) Provide an environment that is safe, clean, and comfortable for the client.
- (2) Maintain all facilities, equipment, and products used in the practice of massage therapy in a safe, clean, and sanitary condition.
- (3) Comply with the legal requirements of the city, town, or other jurisdiction for sanitation, health, and safety that are applicable to the location or establishment where massage therapy is conducted.
- (4) Utilize proper hygienic practices that, at a minimum, include the following:
  - (A) Hand washing before and after each client.
  - (B) Storing and dispensing products in a manner that prevents contamination.
  - (C) Using only materials furnished for the personal use of the client during treatment, including towels, linens, or gowns, that:
    - (i) have been laundered and sanitized before reuse; or
    - (ii) are single-use items disposed of after each use.
- (5) Use universal precautions if required by IC 16-41-11-4 and in accordance with rules adopted by the Indiana state department of health at 410 IAC 1-4.

*(State Board of Massage Therapy; 847 IAC 1-2-6; filed Jan 13, 2009, 11:54 a.m.: 20090211-IR-847080351FRA; readopted filed Nov 20, 2015, 3:30 p.m.: 20151216-IR-847150225RFA)*

#### **847 IAC 1-2-7 Reporting violations**

Authority: IC 25-21.8-2-9; IC 25-21.8-3-1

Affected: IC 25-21.8

Sec. 7. (a) The license holder shall notify the board or other appropriate authorities of any violations of IC 25-21.8 or this article of which the license holder has personal knowledge.

(b) The license holder shall cooperate, within the limits of the law, with any investigative proceedings of alleged violations of IC 25-21.8 or this article.

*(State Board of Massage Therapy; 847 IAC 1-2-7; filed Jan 13, 2009, 11:54 a.m.: 20090211-IR-847080351FRA; readopted filed Nov 20, 2015, 3:30 p.m.: 20151216-IR-847150225RFA)*

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### **Rule 3. Licensure**

#### **847 IAC 1-3-1 Requirements for licensure**

Authority: IC 25-21.8-2-9; IC 25-21.8-3-1

Affected: IC 25-21.8

Sec. 1. (a) In order to be licensed as a massage therapist, all applicants for licensure must do the following:

- (1) File a completed application in the form and manner required by the board.
- (2) Submit with the application a recent passport-quality photograph of the applicant, approximately two (2) inches by two (2) inches in size, signed by the applicant.
- (3) Pay fees established by the board in 847 IAC 2.
- (4) Provide a history of any criminal convictions, including any convictions relating to the practice of the profession.
- (5) Verify the information submitted on the application.

(b) Except as provided in sections 4 and 5 of this rule, applicants must also furnish evidence satisfactory to the board showing that the applicant:

- (1) is at least eighteen (18) years of age;
- (2) has a high school diploma or the equivalent;
- (3) has completed a massage therapy school or program as specified in section 2 of this rule;
- (4) has taken and passed a licensure examination as specified in section 3 of this rule;
- (5) Provide a history of any criminal convictions the individual has, including any convictions related to the practice of the profession. The board shall deny an application for licensure if the applicant:
  - (A) has been convicted of:
    - (i) prostitution;
    - (ii) rape; or
    - (iii) sexual misconduct; or
  - (B) is a registered sex offender;
- (6) Provide proof that the applicant currently has professional liability insurance with minimum coverage of two million dollars (\$2,000,000) per claim and six million dollars (\$6,000,000) in aggregate;
- (7) Submit to a national criminal history background check as prescribed by IC 25-0.5-1-9;
- (8) Verify the information submitted on the application form; and
- (9) Pay fees established by the board.

*(State Board of Massage Therapy; 847 IAC 1-3-1; filed Jan 13, 2009, 11:54 a.m.: 20090211-IR-847080351FRA; readopted filed Nov 20, 2015, 3:30 p.m.: 20151216-IR-847150225RFA)*

#### **847 IAC 1-3-2 Education and training**

Authority: IC 25-21.8-2-9; IC 25-21.8-3-1

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Affected: IC 25-21.8

Sec. 2. (a) Applicants for licensure must have successfully completed a massage therapy school or program that:

- (1) requires at least six hundred and twenty-five (625) hours of supervised classroom and hands-on instruction on massage therapy;
- (2) is in good standing with a state, regional, or national agency of government charged with regulating massage therapy schools or programs; and
- (3) is:
  - (A) accredited by:
    - (i) the Indiana commission on proprietary education established by IC 21-17-2-1 [IC 21-17-2 was repealed by P.L.107-2012, SECTION 55, effective July 1, 2012.]; or
    - (ii) another state where the standards for massage therapy education are substantially the same as the standards in Indiana; or
  - (B) a program at an institution of higher learning that is approved by the board.

(b) An applicant who has been educated as a massage therapist in a foreign country may be required to submit a certified copy of all academic records and an evaluation, from an accredited evaluation service approved by the board, of all academic records and credentials so that the board can determine if the applicant's education is equivalent to the educational requirements in this section.

*(State Board of Massage Therapy; 847 IAC 1-3-2; filed Jan 13, 2009, 11:54 a.m.: 20090211-IR-847080351FRA; readopted filed Nov 20, 2015, 3:30 p.m.: 20151216-IR-847150225RFA)*

#### **847 IAC 1-3-3 Examination required for licensure**

Authority: IC 25-21.8-2-9; IC 25-21.8-3-1

Affected: IC 25-21.8

Sec. 3. An applicant for licensure must successfully complete and pass an examination adopted by the board.

*(State Board of Massage Therapy; 847 IAC 1-3-3; filed Jan 13, 2009, 11:54 a.m.: 20090211-IR-847080351FRA; readopted filed Nov 20, 2015, 3:30 p.m.: 20151216-IR-847150225RFA)*

#### **847 IAC 1-3-4 Licensure by endorsement**

Authority: IC 25-21.8-2-9; IC 25-21.8-3-1

Affected: IC 25-21.8

Sec. 4. The board may issue a licensure by endorsement to an applicant who completes the requirements set forth in section 1(a) and (b) of this rule and:

- (1) is licensed, certified, or registered in another state having credentialing standards that are at least as strict as the credentialing standards specified under this rule;
- (2) is in good standing with the standards of the other state; and

- (3) causes each state that previously credentialed the applicant to provide the board with verification of the applicant's current status and whether the applicant has been subject to disciplinary action in that state.

*(State Board of Massage Therapy; 847 IAC 1-3-4; filed Jan 13, 2009, 11:54 a.m.: 20090211-IR-847080351FRA; readopted filed Nov 20, 2015, 3:30 p.m.: 20151216-IR-847150225RFA)*

**847 IAC 1-3-5 Notification of changes**

Authority: IC 25-21.8-2-9; IC 25-21.8-3-1

Affected: IC 25-21.8

Sec. 5. Each license holder is responsible for submitting a change of address or change of name to the board not later than thirty (30) days after the change occurs.

*(State Board of Massage Therapy; 847 IAC 1-3-5; filed Jan 13, 2009, 11:54 a.m.: 20090211-IR-847080351FRA; readopted filed Nov 20, 2015, 3:30 p.m.: 20151216-IR-847150225RFA)*

**847 IAC 1-3-6 Licensure expiration and renewal**

Authority: IC 25-21.8-2-9; IC 25-21.8-3-1

Affected: IC 25-21.8

Sec. 6. (a) A massage therapist licensure issued under this article expires on a date established by the licensing agency, and every four (4) years thereafter, unless renewed before the expiration date.

(b) Applicants for renewal must:

- (1) apply for renewal in the manner required by the board;
- (2) furnish evidence of successful completion of twenty-four (24) hours of continuing education within the most recent four (4) year period, as approved by the board;
- (3) pay a renewal fee established by the board in 847 IAC 2; and
- (3) pay a fee established by the board in 847 IC 2
- (4) provide proof that the applicant currently has professional liability insurance with minimum coverage of two million dollars (\$2,000,000) per claim and six million dollars (\$6,000,000) in aggregate.

(c) If a renewal application is not submitted before the license expires under subsection (a), the license:

- (1) is delinquent; and
- (2) may be reinstated under section 7 of this rule.

(d) A license holder's failure to receive notice of the upcoming license expiration because of failure to notify the board of a change of address or change of name shall not:

- (1) constitute an error on the part of the board or the licensing agency; or
- (2) excuse the license holder from timely renewal of the license.

*(State Board of Massage Therapy; 847 IAC 1-3-6; filed Jan 13, 2009, 11:54 a.m.: 20090211-IR-847080351FRA; readopted filed Nov 20, 2015, 3:30 p.m.: 20151216-IR-847150225RFA)*

**847 IAC 1-3-7 Reinstatement of delinquent license**

Authority: IC 25-21.8-2-9; IC 25-21.8-3-1

Affected: IC 25-1-8-6; IC 25-21.8

Sec. 7. (a) The holder of a license that was issued by the board that is three (3) years or less delinquent shall be reinstated upon meeting the requirements of IC 25-1-8-6(c).

(b) The holder of a license that was issued by the board that is more than three (3) years delinquent shall be reinstated upon meeting the requirements of IC 25-1-8-6(d).

*(State Board of Massage Therapy; 847 IAC 1-3-7; filed Jan 13, 2009, 11:54 a.m.: 20090211-IR-847080351FRA; readopted filed Nov 20, 2015, 3:30 p.m.: 20151216-IR-847150225RFA)*

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**Rule 4. Compliance with Standards; Failure to Comply, Appeal, Audit  
Hardship Waiver, Military Service**

**847 IAC 1-4-1 Disciplinary sanctions for noncompliance with standards**

Authority: IC 25-21.8-2-9; IC 25-21.8-3-1

Affected: IC 25-1-7; IC 25-1-11; IC 25-21.8

Sec. 1. (a) License holders are responsible for having knowledge of and complying with the professional licensing standards of practice set forth in IC 25-1-11 and the standards for competent practice of massage therapy in this article.

(b) License holders are subject to the disciplinary sanctions and procedures set forth in IC 25-1-11 and IC 25-1-7 for failure to comply with the licensing standards or the standards for competent practice of massage therapy.

*(State Board of Massage Therapy; 847 IAC 1-4-1; filed Jan 13, 2009, 11:54 a.m.: 20090211-IR-847080351FRA; readopted filed Nov 20, 2015, 3:30 p.m.: 20151216-IR-847150225RFA)*

Sec. 2. **Appeal of license renewal:** License holders are responsible for having knowledge of and complying with the professional licensing standards of practice set forth in IC 25-1-6-5-5 and the standards for competent practice of massage therapy in this article.

Sec. 3. **Document audit for compliance:** License holders are responsible for having knowledge of and complying with the professional licensing standards of practice set forth in IC 25-1-4-3; IC 25-1-4-5; IC 25-1-4-6; IC 25-1-18-16 and the standards for competent practice of massage therapy in this article.

Sec. 4. **Hardship Waiver:** License holders are responsible for having knowledge of and complying with the professional licensing standards of practice set forth in IC 25-1-4-4 and the standards for competent practice of massage therapy in this article.

Sec. 5. **Military Service:** License holders are responsible for having knowledge of and complying with the professional licensing standards of practice set forth in IC 25-1-12; IC 25-1-17 and the standards for competent practice of massage therapy in this article.

## **Rule 5. Continuing Education Requirements**

### **847 IAC 1-5-1 General continuing education requirements**

Authority: IC 25-21.8-2-9; IC 25-21.8-3-1

Affected: IC 25-1-4; IC 25-21.8-6

Sec. 1. (a) A minimum of twenty-four (24) hours of continuing education activities are required for the quadrennial renewal period, of which must include:

- (1) two (2) hours in an ethics, which may include boundaries and safety; and
- (2) one (1) hour of Indiana jurisprudence course as it relates to the practice of massage therapy.

(b) Only activities that have been approved under this article will be accepted as credit for license renewal.

(c) Continuing education programs from providers or sponsors set forth in IC 25-21.8-4-4(4) and (5) are not acceptable credits for license renewal.

(d) Continuing education hours:

- (1) must be obtained within the quadrennial renewal period; and
- (2) may not be carried over from one (1) renewal period to another.

(e) If a license is valid for:

- (1) less than twelve (12) months, no continuing education activity is required for renewal.
- (2) thirteen (13) to twenty-four (24) months, twelve (12) hours are required.
- (3) twenty-five (25) months to thirty-six (36) months, eighteen (18) hours are required.
- (4) thirty-seven (37) months to forty-eight (48) months, twenty-four (24) hours are required.

(f) Audits for compliance with continuing education requirements and actions regarding noncompliance will be conducted as provided for in IC 25-1-4.

(g) Continuing education activities ordered by the board pursuant to a disciplinary proceeding held pursuant to IC 25-1-11 may not be counted towards the quadrennial requirement.

(h) Indiana Massage Therapy license holders that hold a current Board Certification Massage Therapy (BCMT) credential issued by the National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork (NCBTMB) can submit that credential identification for meeting Indiana requirements for continuing education.

### **847 IAC 1-5-2 Responsibilities of licensees**

Authority: IC 25-21.8-2-9; IC 25-21.8-3-1

Affected: IC 25-1-4; IC 25-21.8-6

Sec. 2. A license holder shall do the following:

- (1) Certify completion of continuing education activities required by this rule at the time of license or certification renewal.
- (2) Retain verification of completion of continuing education activities required by this rule for six (6) years after the last renewal date.
- (3) Present proof of completion of continuing education activities required by this rule at the request of the board in a format that is verifiable by the board.

**847 IAC 1-5-3 License period; number of hours required**

Authority: IC 25-21.8-2-9; IC 25-21.8-3-1

Affected: IC 25-1-4; IC 25-21.8-6

Sec. 3. (a) During each four (4) year license period, a massage therapist must complete at least twenty-four (24) hours of continuing education activities of which at least eight (8) hours must be live contact hours and two (2) hours must be in an ethics, which may include boundaries and safety, and one (1) hour of Indiana jurisprudence course as it relates to the practice of massage therapy.

**847 IAC 1-5-4 “Continuing education activities” defined**

Authority: IC 25-21.8-2-9; IC 25-21.8-3-1

Affected: IC 25-1-4; IC 25-21.8-6

Sec. 4. (a) Continuing education subject matter for massage therapists should be educational and relating directly to the theory or clinical application of massage therapy and/or bodywork for the betterment of performance and public safety. The continuing education hours must be from the following topics:

- (1) Massage and bodywork techniques;
  - (2) Use of thermal modalities, topical preparations, mechanical assistive; devices/appliances;
  - (3) Stretching and gymnastics that lengthen and shorten soft tissues;
  - (4) Posture and movement assessment;
  - (5) Anatomy and physiology of the human body;
  - (6) Kinesiology of the human body;
  - (7) Pathology of the human body;
  - (8) Cultural competency;
  - (9) Body mechanics;
  - (10) Somatic education;
  - (11) CPR/First Aid;
  - (12) Sanitation, communicable disease Control, Universal and Standard precaution;
  - (13) Medication;
  - (14) Research in the field of the massage therapy profession;
  - (15) Professional Ethics, Boundaries, Safety, or Communication;
  - (16) Indiana State Law and Rules; or
  - (17) Management, administration or supervision of a business practice, which:
    - (A) Relates directly to the operation of a massage therapy business;
    - (B) Does not include instruction on computer skills; and
    - (C) Is limited to 3 hours per quadrennium;
  - (18) any other subject must be approved by the board.
- (b) The board may approve continuing education activities if it determines that the activity:
- (1) contributes directly to professional education;

- (2) relates directly to the practice, management, or education of massage therapy practitioners; and
- (3) is conducted by individuals who have demonstrated expertise in the subject matter of the program.

(c) As used in this rule, “continuing education activities” includes the following and must be at least 8 (eight) contact hours in length and be relevant to the practice of massage therapy:

- (1) Formally organized courses.
- (2) Workshops.
- (3) Seminars.
- (4) Symposia.
- (5) Home study correspondence course programs, or distance learning, including approved computer, audio, and video instructional programs, designed by board-approved organizations and subject to board verification and approval procedures.
- (6) Approved “for credit” courses that are related to the practice of massage therapy from an approved organization as defined in IC 25-1-4-0.2.

(d) The following conversion will be used for “continuing education credit”:

- (1) One (1) semester hour equals fifteen (15) contact hours.
- (2) One (1) quarter hour equals ten (10) contact hours.
- (3) One (1) trimester hour equals twelve and one-half (12.5) hours.

#### **847 IAC 1-5-5 Approved organizations; standards for approval**

Authority: IC 25-21.8-2-9; IC 25-21.8-3-1

Affected: IC 25-1-4; IC 25-21.8-6

Sec. 5. (a) In addition to those approved organizations approved under IC 25-1-4-0.2, the following organizations are approved organizations for the purpose of approving and sponsoring continuing education courses without making further application to the board:

- (1) National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork (NCBTMB);
- (2) Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards (FSMTB);
- (3) American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA); or
- (4) Associated Bodywork and Massage Professionals (ABMP).
- (5) or another continuing education approved provider organization approved by the Board.

(b) The Board has the right to evaluate any provider or sponsor of any approved continuing education activities at any time to ensure compliance with requirements.

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