

A MESSAGE TO THE PUBLIC ABOUT MASSAGE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS

The Maryland State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners (the “Board”) **does not** approve apprenticeship programs. An apprenticeship program would likely not lead to licensure or registration under the Board’s statutes or regulations. As a reminder, an individual must be licensed or registered with the Board **before** practicing massage therapy in Maryland.

Before enrolling in **any** massage therapy school or program, an individual interested in practicing massage therapy in Maryland should ensure that the training offered meets the requirements of the Board. Historically, the Board has only approved programs including in-person, hands-on training in a classroom setting.

Statute on Qualification § 6-302(c)(3)

- (3) Has graduated from a program for the study of massage therapy:
- (i) That has been approved by the Maryland Higher Education Commission and accredited by an accrediting agency or organization that accredits both institutions of higher education and programs offering instruction in massage therapy; **and**
 - (ii) That has been **approved by the Board** and that requires at least 600 contact hours of **classroom instruction** that includes the following areas of content:
 1. Anatomy, physiology, and kinesiology;
 2. **Massage theory, techniques, and practice;**
 3. Contraindications to massage therapy;
 4. Professional ethics;
 5. Pathology; and
 6. Research;

Regulations on Massage Therapy Education and Training *10.65.01.07*

.07 Required Massage Therapy Education and Training.

A. Classroom Training.

- (1) Of the **minimum 600 hours classroom training** required in Regulation .06A(9), B, C, and D(8) of this chapter:
 - (a) At least 100 hours shall consist of:
 - (i) Anatomy;
 - (ii) Physiology;
 - (iii) Pathology; and
 - (iv) Kinesiology; and
 - (b) The remaining 500 hours shall include a majority of hours in:
 - (i) Massage therapy theory;
 - (ii) Technique;
 - (iii) **Supervised practice;**
 - (iv) Professional ethics;
 - (v) Professional standards;
 - (vi) Business practices;
 - (vii) Health and hygiene;
 - (viii) Contraindications of massage; and
 - (ix) Research.
- (2) Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) shall be included but do not count toward the 600-hour minimum.
- (3) An applicant may attend more than one training institution, if the applicant graduates from a school requiring satisfactory completion of a minimum of 600 classroom hours in massage therapy education.
- (4) Correspondence courses are not recognized by the Board.