

<u>Program</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Date Updated</u>
Therapeutic Massage - Associate Applied Science	Larry Ball Program Coordinator, Therapeutic Massage LBall@forsythtech.edu	September 2023

This document is designed to complement your research on the educational and certification prerequisites for pursuing a career in Therapeutic Massage on a state-by-state basis.

Educational Preparation: Students completing the Associate for Therapeutic Massage program or the two certification programs (Massage Practitioner I & II) at Forsyth Technical Community College become eligible to sit for the Massage & Bodywork Licensing Examination (MBLEx) and/or obtain the National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork (NCBTMB) certification. These certifications are fundamental steps in launching a career in Therapeutic Massage.

Interstate Compact for Licensed Massage Therapists: The Council of State Governments (CSG) is collaborating with the Department of Defense (DoD) and the Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards (FSMTB) to facilitate the mobility of licensed massage therapists through the development of an interstate compact. This new licensing pathway, known as the [Interstate Massage Compact \(IMpact\)](#), aims to establish reciprocity among participating states and reduce the barriers to license portability.

IMpact enables licensed massage therapists to practice in all states that join the compact, eliminating the need to obtain individual licenses in each state of practice. Notably, on June 12, 2023, Governor Joe Lombardo signed SB161 into law, making Nevada the first state to enact the Interstate Massage Compact. To stay informed about the progress of other states joining the compact, you can visit the [IMpact Map](#).

Certification and Licensure Chart: The chart that follows in this guide is applicable to those who have completed the certification program, which typically includes a minimum of 500 hours of training and have successfully passed the Massage & Bodywork Licensing Examination (MBLEx) and/or the National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork (NCBTMB) certification. Additional state-specific requirements may include applications, documentation, licensing fees, liability insurance, and ongoing continuing education courses.

Disclaimer: Please be aware that laws and regulations are subject to constant change. For the most current and accurate information and requirements, it is advised to consult the specific state board or agency. Links have been provided for additional information for each state/territory.

State	Meets state educational requirements (with MBLEx or NCBTMB)	Does not meet educational requirements	Notes/Contact Information
American Samoa		X	No information can be found online.
Alabama		X	<p>Phone: (334) 420-7233 Email: massagetherapy@alstateboard.com Link: Alabama Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 650 hours and MBLEx or NCETMB; liability insurance</p> <p>Renewal: 16 hours/2 years</p>
Alaska		X	<p>Phone: (907) 465-2691 Email: BoardOfMassageTherapists@Alaska.Gov Link: Alaska Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 625 hours and MBLEx or NCETMB</p> <p>Renewal: 16 hours/2 years</p>

State	Meets state educational requirements (with MBLEx or NCBTMB)	Does not meet educational requirements	Notes/Contact Information
Arizona		X	<p>Phone: (602) 542-8604 Email: info@massageboard.az.gov Link: Arizona Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 700 hours, and NCETMB or MBLEx (unless graduated from AZ USDE-accredited school)</p> <p>Renewal: 24 hours/2 years</p>
Arkansas	X		<p>Phone: (501) 683-1448 Email: info@arkansasmassagetherapy.com Link: Arkansas Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 500 hours, and MBLEx or NCBTMB. Additional requirements for Master and Instructor.</p> <p>Renewal: 18 hours/2 years</p>
California	X		<p>Phone: (916) 669-5336 Email: info@camtc.org Link: California Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 500 hours</p> <p>Renewal: None/2 years</p>

State	Meets state educational requirements (with MBLEx or NCBTMB)	Does not meet educational requirements	Notes/Contact Information
Colorado	X		<p>Phone: (303) 894-7800 Email: dora_massagetherapists@state.co.us Link: Colorado Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 500 hours, and MBLEx or NCETMB; liability insurance</p> <p>Renewal: None</p>
Connecticut		X	<p>Phone: (860) 509-7603 Email: oplc.dph@ct.gov Link: Connecticut Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 810 hours (750 classroom hours plus 60 hours of supervised clinic), and MBLEx or NCETMB.</p> <p>Renewal: 24 hours/4 years</p>
Delaware	X		<p>Phone: (302) 744-4500 Email: customerservice.dpr@state.de.us Link: Delaware Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 500 hours and MBLEx or NCETMB</p> <p>Renewal: 24 hours/2 years</p>

State	Meets state educational requirements (with MBLEx or NCBTMB)	Does not meet educational requirements	Notes/Contact Information
District of Columbia	X		<p>Phone: (877) 672-2174 Email: doh@dc.gov Link: District of Columbia Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 500 hours and NCETMB or MBLEx</p> <p>Renewal: 12 hours /2 years, 3 hours of ethics, 6 hours hands-on</p>
Florida	X		<p>Phone: (850) 245-4161 Email: MQA_MassageTherapy@doh.state.fl.us Link: Florida Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 500 hours and NCETMB or MBLEx</p> <p>Renewal: 24 hours/2 years (Min 12 hours of hands-on MT techniques, Min 2 hours of medical error prevention, Min 2 hours of Florida law, Min 2 hours of ethics)</p>
Georgia	X		<p>Phone: (478) 207-2440 Email: Link to send email Link: Georgia Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 500 hours, NCE or MBLEx, and proof of insurance required first.</p> <p>Renewal: 24 hours/2 years; 12 hours hands-on</p>

State	Meets state educational requirements (with MBLEx or NCBTMB)	Does not meet educational requirements	Notes/Contact Information
Guam		X	<p>Requirements: Obtaining a license to practice massage in Guam would include completing a minimum of 250 hours of supervised massage therapy training, which must include the study of anatomy and physiology, and completion of 30 hours of continuing education related to massage and massage therapy training.</p>
Hawaii		X	<p>Phone: (808) 586-2692 Email: massage@dcca.hawaii.gov Link: Hawaii Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 570 hours and a written exam administered by the state. Apprenticeship permits available.</p> <p>Renewal: 12 CEU requirement/2 years, with 2 in first aid, CPR, or other emergency training.</p>
Idaho	X		<p>Phone: (208) 334-3233 Email: mas@ibol.idaho.gov Link: Idaho Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 500 hours and MBLEx, NCETMB, NCETM, or another Board-approved exam.</p> <p>Renewal: 6 hours/1 year starting after first renewal</p>

State	Meets state educational requirements (with MBLEx or NCBTMB)	Does not meet educational requirements	Notes/Contact Information
Illinois		X	<p>Phone: (217) 785-0800 Email: FPR.LMU@illinois.gov Link: Illinois Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 600 hours, and MBLEx or NCBTMB</p> <p>Renewal: 25 hours/2 years (Effective Jan. 1, 2024) All hours permitted online. 2 hours of ethics, 1-hour domestic violence & sexual assault awareness, 1-hour sexual harassment prevention.</p>
Indiana		X	<p>Phone: (317) 234-8800 Email: pla14@pla.IN.gov Link: Indiana Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 625 hours, MBLEx or NCETMB; liability insurance</p> <p>Renewal: Licenses expire every four years</p>
Iowa		X	<p>Phone: (515) 281-7689 Email: PLPublic@idph.iowa.gov Link: Iowa Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 600 hours, and MBLEx or NCETMB</p> <p>Renewal: 16 hours/2 years (Min 8 hours hands-on)</p>

State	Meets state educational requirements (with MBLEx or NCBTMB)	Does not meet educational requirements	Notes/Contact Information
Kansas		X	Massage therapy is not currently regulated in Kansas.
Kentucky		X	Phone: (502) 782-8808 Email: mt@ky.gov Link: Kentucky Massage Therapist Information Education Requirements: 600 hours, and NCETMB or MBLEx Renewal: 24 hours/2 years (3 hours of ethics)
Louisiana	X		Phone: (225) 756-3488 Email: admin@labmt.org Link: Louisiana Massage Therapist Information Education Requirements: 500 hours, and MBLEx or NCETMB Renewal: 12 hours/1 year

State	Meets state educational requirements (with MBLEx or NCBTMB)	Does not meet educational requirements	Notes/Contact Information
Maine	X		<p>Phone: (207) 624-8624 Email: massage.therapy@maine.gov Link: Maine Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 500 hours, or MBLEx or NCETMB (passage of exam is an alternative to education)</p> <p>Renewal: No CEU requirement/1 year</p>
Maryland		X	<p>Phone: (410) 764-4738 Email: sharon.oliver@maryland.gov Link: Maryland Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 600 hours, and MBLEx or NCETMB</p> <p>Renewal: 24 hours/2 years: 3 hours of ethics, 3 hours of communicable disease, 17 hours of MT related, 1 hour of diversity/cultural competency. Practice-building and insurance courses do not qualify as CE</p>

State	Meets state educational requirements (with MBLEx or NCBTMB)	Does not meet educational requirements	Notes/Contact Information
Massachusetts		X	<p>Phone: (617) 701-8630 Email: Massagetherapy@mass.gov Link: Massachusetts Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 650 hours; liability insurance</p> <p>Renewal: No CE requirement/1 year</p>
Michigan		X	<p>Phone: (517) 241 - 0199 Email: bhpinfo@michigan.gov Link: Michigan Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 625 hours and MBLEx, NCETMB, or NCETM</p> <p>Renewal: 18 hours/3 years, by October 31.</p>
Minnesota		X	<p>Massage therapy is not currently regulated in Minnesota.</p> <p>Visit the Advocacy section to learn about current initiatives to regulate massage therapy across the country and how you can get involved.</p>

State	Meets state educational requirements (with MBLEx or NCBTMB)	Does not meet educational requirements	Notes/Contact Information
Mississippi		X	<p>Phone: (601) 732-6038 Email: director@msbmt.state.ms.us Link: Mississippi Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 700 in-class hours (after July 1, 2021: 500 hours), 100 hours supervised clinic, and NCETMB or MBLEx</p> <p>Renewal: 24 hours/2 years (12 hours each year) and current CPR (Max 5 hours online, 3 hours of MS state law/rules, 3 hours of ethics)</p>
Missouri	X		<p>Phone: (573) 522-6277 Email: massagether@pr.mo.gov Link: Missouri Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 500 hours, and MBLEx or NCETMB; liability insurance</p> <p>Renewal: 12 hours/2 years (Hours must be MT relevant)</p>
Montana	X		<p>Phone: (406) 444-6880 Email: dlibswebhelp@mt.gov Link: Montana Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 500 hours, and MBLEx or NCETMB</p> <p>Renewal: Annual renewal. 12 hours/2 years must be completed by even-numbered renewal year.</p>

State	Meets state educational requirements (with MBLEx or NCBTMB)	Does not meet educational requirements	Notes/Contact Information
Nebraska		X	Phone: (402) 471-2117 Email: DHHS.Licensure2117@nebraska.gov Link: Nebraska Massage Therapist Information Education Requirements: 1000 hours, and NCETMB or MBLEx Renewal: 16 hours/2 years (14 hours hands-on)
Nevada		X	Phone: (775) 687-9955 Email: nvmassagebd@state.nv.us Link: Nevada Massage Therapist Information Education Requirements: MBLEx, NCETM, NCETMB, CESI, ITEC, ARCB, IIR, or NCBTMB-R Renewal: 24 hours/2 years (12 hours each year)
New Hampshire		X	Phone: (603) 271-2152 Email: customersupport@oplcnh.gov Link: New Hampshire Massage Therapist Information Education Requirements: 750 hours, and NCETMB or MBLEx Renewal: 12 hours/2 years

State	Meets state educational requirements (with MBLEx or NCBTMB)	Does not meet educational requirements	Notes/Contact Information
New Jersey	X		<p>Phone: (973) 504-6520 Email: MassageTherapy@dca.lps.state.nj.us Link: New Jersey Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 500 hours, MBLEx or NCBTMB or NCCAOM Asian Bodywork Therapy Examination, and liability insurance</p> <p>Renewal: 20 hours/2 years, current CPR and AED</p>
New Mexico		X	<p>Phone: (505) 476-4622 Email: message.board@state.nm.us Link: New Mexico Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 650 hours and NCETMB or MBLEx</p> <p>Renewal: 16 hours/2 years; 4 hours of ethics</p>
New York		X	<p>Phone: (518) 474-3817 ext. 410 Email: msthbd@nysed.gov Link: New York Massage Therapist Information Online Contact Form</p> <p>Education Requirements: 1000 hours and state exam</p> <p>Renewal: 36 hours/3 years</p>

State	Meets state educational requirements (with MBLEx or NCBTMB)	Does not meet educational requirements	Notes/Contact Information
North Carolina	X		Phone: (919) 546-0050 Email: admin@bmbt.org Link: North Carolina Massage Therapist Information Education Requirements: 500 hours and MBLEx, NCBTMB Renewal: 24 hours/2 years, or 12 hours/2 years for shorter license (Max 12 hours online, Max 3 hours of business, Min 3 hours of ethics)
North Dakota		X	Phone: (701) 712-8624 Email: ndbmt@aptnd.com Link: North Dakota Massage Therapist Information Education Requirements: 750 hours, MBLEx and NCETMB and practical exams Renewal: 24 hours/2 years for those practicing up to 14 years; 6 hours/2 years for those practicing 15-24 years; 3 hours/2 years for those practicing over 24 years. (Max 10 hours online)
Northern Mariana Islands		X	No information found online.

State	Meets state educational requirements (with MBLEx or NCBTMB)	Does not meet educational requirements	Notes/Contact Information
Ohio		X	Phone: (614) 466-3934 Email: license@med.ohio.gov Link: Ohio Massage Therapist Information Education Requirements: 600 hours with minimum 9-month program, and MBLEx Renewal: None
Oklahoma	X		Phone: (405) 521-2441 Email: mt@cosmo.ok.gov Link: Oklahoma Massage Therapist Information Education Requirements: 500 hours plus MBLEx or NCBTMB; liability insurance Renewal: 10 hours/2 years
Oregon		X	Phone: (503) 365-8657 Email: OBMT.Info@state.or.us Link: Oregon Massage Therapist Information Education Requirements: 625 hours, and MBLEx or NCETMB Renewal: 25 hours/2 years: 1 hour CE: pain management, 1 hour CE: cultural competency, 15 contact hours required

State	Meets state educational requirements (with MBLEx or NCBTMB)	Does not meet educational requirements	Notes/Contact Information
Pennsylvania		X	Phone: (717) 783-7155 Email: RA-Massagetherapy@state.pa.us Link: Pennsylvania Massage Therapist Information Education Requirements: 600 hours and MBLEx or NCBTMB exam Renewal: 24 hours/2 years and maintain CPR certification (Min 4 hours of ethics, Min 16 contact hours)
Puerto Rico		X	Phone: (787) 725-8538 Link: Puerto Rico Massage Therapist Information Education Requirements: 1000 hours and exam Renewal: Not yet determined.
Rhode Island		X	Phone: (401) 222-5960 Email: doh.elicense@health.ri.gov Link: Rhode Island Massage Therapist Information Education Requirements 650 hours and MBLEx or NCETMB Renewal: 6 hours/1 year

State	Meets state educational requirements (with MBLEx or NCBTMB)	Does not meet educational requirements	Notes/Contact Information
South Carolina	X		<p>Phone: (803) 896-4588 Email: BoardInfo@llr.sc.gov Link: South Carolina Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 500 hours & NCETMB or MBLEx</p> <p>Renewal: 12 hours/2 years</p>
South Dakota	X		<p>Phone: (605) 858 - 1708 Email: massagetherapy@state.sd.us Link: South Dakota Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 500 hours, 2 hours of CPR CE per renewal cycle, NCETMB or MBLEx, and CPR; liability insurance. In addition to meeting the educational requirements, the person must also provide proof of at least \$250,000 in malpractice insurance with an absence of professional misconduct.</p> <p>Renewal: 8 hours/2 years</p>

State	Meets state educational requirements (with MBLEx or NCBTMB)	Does not meet educational requirements	Notes/Contact Information
Tennessee	X		<p>Phone: (615) 253-2111 Email: Massage.Health@tn.gov Link: Tennessee Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 500hrs and NCETMB or MBLEx</p> <p>Renewal: 24 hours/2 years 2 hours of ethics, 2 hours of TN law</p>
Texas	X		<p>Phone: (512) 463-6599 Email: advisory.boards@tdlr.texas.gov Link: Texas Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 500 hours and MBLEx or NCETMB</p> <p>Renewal: 12 hours/2 years</p>
US Virgin Islands	X		<p>Phone: (340)-773-1311 ext. 3047.</p> <p>Education Requirements: 500 hours</p> <p>Renewal: 3 hours CEU in HIV/STD/AIDS</p>

State	Meets state educational requirements (with MBLEx or NCBTMB)	Does not meet educational requirements	Notes/Contact Information
Utah		X	<p>Phone: (801) 530-6628 Email: D2@utah.gov Link: Utah Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 600 hours and NCBTMB or MBLEx</p> <p>Renewal: No CEU requirement</p>
Vermont		X	<p>Phone: 802-828-1505 Email: Office of Professional Regulation Contact Form Link: Vermont Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: State registration is required.</p> <p>Renewal: two years by submission of a new, completed application and shall be accompanied by payment of the required fee. Vermont has no continuing Education Requirements for massage therapists.</p>
Virginia	X		<p>Phone: (804) 367-4400 Email: massagetherapy@dhp.virginia.gov Link: Virginia Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 500 hours and MBLEx</p> <p>Renewal: 24 hours/2 years Min of 12 hours provided by NCBTMB provider.</p>

State	Meets state educational requirements (with MBLEx or NCBTMB)	Does not meet educational requirements	Notes/Contact Information
Washington		X	<p>Phone: (360) 236-4700 Email: hsqa.csc@doh.wa.gov Link: Washington Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 625 hours and MBLEx or NCETMB.</p> <p>Renewal: 4 hours/2 years (Max 12 hours online, Min 8 hours hands-on, 4 hours of ethics or WA law)</p>
West Virginia	X		<p>Phone: (304) 558-1060 Email: linda_lyter@frontier.com Link: West Virginia Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 500 hours and MBLEx or NCETMB</p> <p>Renewal: 24 hours/2 years</p>
Wisconsin		X	<p>Phone: (608) 266-2112 Email: dsps@wisconsin.gov Link: Wisconsin Massage Therapist Information</p> <p>Education Requirements: 600 hours and NCETMB or MBLEx; liability insurance</p> <p>Renewal: 24 hours/2 years</p>

State	Meets state educational requirements (with MBLEx or NCBTMB)	Does not meet educational requirements	Notes/Contact Information
Wyoming		X	<p>The State of Wyoming legislature is working on the formulation of a regulatory board for Massage. They are working to implement a 500-hour course curriculum to be the minimum and a passing score on the MBLEx. Unknown start date.</p> <p><u>Wyoming Massage Therapy practice act of 2022</u></p>