



ALABAMA BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY

2777 Zelda Road

Montgomery, AL 36106

Phone: 334-269-9990

Fax: 334-263-6115

Email: almtbd.alabama.gov

Dear Applicant:

On May 21, 1996, the Alabama Board of Massage Therapy became law. Pursuant to the Act, all persons who practice massage therapy in the State of Alabama, unless otherwise exempt, must become licensed. Application forms may be obtained from the Executive Director at the address given above. The application fee is \$25.00 (**cashier's check or money order**) and must accompany the enclosed request for application form.

Section 5. (a) The following persons shall be exempt from this act:

- (1) Qualified members of other professions who are licensed and regulated under Alabama law while they are in the course of rendering services within the scope of their license or regulation, provided that they do not represent themselves as massage therapists.
- (2) A person giving massages to his or her immediate family.
- (3) Visiting massage therapy instructors from another state, territory, or country teaching massage therapy, provided that the massage therapy instructor is licensed or registered as required in his or her place of residence. Visiting massage instructors teaching continuing education courses may teach in the state up to 100 hours per year without an Alabama license. One hundred hours of continuing education instruction or more shall require licensure.
- (4) Members of the Massage Emergency Rescue Team (MERT) or any nationally or internationally recognized disaster relief association who practice massage therapy in the state only during a time declared by the Governor to be a city, county, or state emergency. These therapists may work in the state for a period of time approved by the board.
- (5) Native American healers using traditional healing practices, provided, however, Native American healers who use these practices but apply for a license pursuant to this act shall comply with all licensure requirements.
- (6) Nothing in this act shall be construed to permit massage therapists licensed under this act to administer, dispense, or prescribe drugs, or engage in the practice of medicine in any manner, including, but not limited to, diagnosing or prescribing drugs for mental, emotional, or physical diseases, illnesses, or injuries.

Section 9. (a) A person desiring to be licensed as a massage therapist shall apply to the board on forms provided by the board. Applicants for licensure shall submit evidence satisfactory to the board that they have met the following requirements:

- (1) Satisfactorily completed a minimum of 500 hours of supervised courses of instruction which shall include, but not be limited to anatomy, pathology, physiology, massage techniques, clinical practices, ethics, health, hygiene, and related subjects. The board shall determine how the 500 hours of instruction shall be broken down. The course of

instruction may be provided by a proprietary massage therapy school approved by the board. The minimum 500 hours shall consist of the following: 325 hours dedicated to the study of anatomy, pathology, and physiology, and an additional 50 hours of discretionary related course work, including, but not limited to, hydrotherapy, business practices and professional ethics, health and hygiene, and cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first aid. **Please note that beginning January 1, 1998, applicants for licensure shall be required to complete a minimum of 650 hours of instruction before being granted a license.**

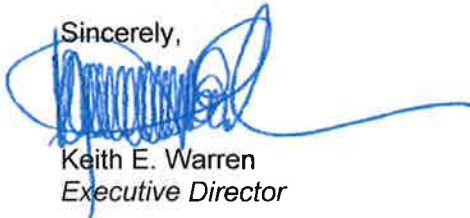
(2) **Passed the National Certification Exam for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork or any other nationally or internationally accredited exam approved by the board.**

OR

(3) Is licensed or registered in another state, which in the opinion of the board, has standards of practice or licensure that are equal to or stricter than the requirements imposed by this act and passed the NCTMB or any other nationally or internationally accredited exam approved by the board.

Please complete the enclosed application request form, attach a cashier's check or money order in the amount of \$25.00 and return to the board office to receive your application package. Please do not hesitate to contact my assistant, Mr. Randy Barrows, at (334) 269-9990, if you have any questions. Thank you for your interest in becoming a licensed massage therapist in the State of Alabama.

Sincerely,



Keith E. Warren
Executive Director

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