

Tennessee Board of Massage Licensure



Newsletter



FALL 2013

A regulatory agency of the State of Tennessee

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227 French Landing, Suite 300; Heritage Place Metro Center; Nashville, TN 37243 (615) 253-2111 or 1-800-778-4123 ext2532111
Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Central Time (615) 532-5164 Fax
(closed State and Federal holidays) <http://tennessee.gov/health>

CURRENT COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD

The Tennessee Massage Licensure Board is composed of seven (7) members. Five (5) members are licensed massage therapists and (2) members are citizen members.

Current members are: Ed Bolden, LMT, President; Cynthia Jagers, LMT, Secretary; Bethann Easterly, LMT; Marvis Burke, LMT; Julie Wray, LMT; Michael Velker, Public Member; and Christi Cross, Public Member.

MISSION OF THE BOARD

The Board's purpose is to protect the public from being misled by incompetent, unscrupulous and unauthorized practitioners, and from unprofessional or illegal practices by persons licensed to practice massage therapy. The Board adopts and interprets the laws, rules, and regulations to establish and maintain a high standard of integrity, skills, and practice in the profession of massage therapy. The board is responsible for the investigation of alleged violations of the Practice Act and rules and is responsible for the discipline of licensees who are found guilty of such violations.

BOARD ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE TO RELOCATE

The Department of Health's Division of Health Licensure and Regulation, Office of Health Related Boards, will be transitioning from leased space at Heritage Place Metro Center to a newly renovated state-owned space. Our new location will be 665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, TN 37243. Our move is currently scheduled for October 25, 2013. All individual employee phone numbers and e-mail addresses will remain the same.

While the department has prepared diligently to minimize downtime, maintain accessibility and sustain productivity throughout this relatively complex move, we do appreciate your understanding and patience as personnel and material move into our new space. We look forward to working with you and providing excellent customer service from our new location.

Please send any correspondence after October 25, 2013 to our new address:

Tennessee Department of Health
Division of Health, Licensure and Regulation
Massage Licensure Board
665 Mainstream Drive
Nashville, TN 37243

CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE) HOURS OBTAINED VIA MULTI-MEDIA FORMAT

At the meeting held on August 5, 2013, the Board stated that all continuing education hours, including all make up and penalty hours for non-compliance for the 2011-2012 audit cycle, shall meet the current rules requirements. **Rule 0870-01-.12** states that each licensed massage therapist must attend and complete twenty five (25) hours of massage therapy-related continuing education every two (2) calendar years in courses approved by the Board, and only eight (8) of the twenty-five (25) hours required may be completed in a multi-media format. **Based upon the revised rules, licensees are only permitted to obtain a maximum of eight (8) hours via multi-media format to fulfill the continuing education requirements for both cycles.** The Board's decision is **effective October 1, 2013** and applies for all audit cycles from the effective date forward for as long as the therapist license remains active. The administrative office will accept all make-up and penalty hours obtained via multi-media format for the 2009-2010 & 2011-2012 audit cycle for hours that were completed before October 1, 2013.

The complete set of rules governing massage is available via our website:

<http://health.state.tn.us/boards/Massage>

ACTIVE LICENSEES AS OF August 31, 2013

Massage Therapists:	4,347
Massage Establishments:	1,601

ELECTRONIC NOTICES TO LICENSEES

On January 1, 2013, a new law, Public Chapter 952, became effective requiring healthcare professional licensing boards to provide electronic notices to licensees. The law gives you the **option** of being notified electronically of the following: (1) Renewals of license, certification, or registration; (2) Any fee increases; (3) Any changes in state law that impact the license holder; and (4) any board meeting where changes in rules or fees are on the agenda. If you "opt in", the Department of Health will also be able to alert you of critical public health matters impacting the State of Tennessee.

Please visit <https://apps.tn.gov/hhrs/begin.jsp> and complete the registration process to opt in. Once you opt in and provide a current email address, you will begin to receive **ALL** notices electronically rather than through the United States Postal Service mail. Please note that opting in means your renewal notification will be delivered electronically approximately 45 days in advance of the expiration date of your license. The e-notice will direct you to the appropriate webpage to renew. If your profession does not permit you to renew your license online, a paper renewal will continue to be provided.

BOARD DISCIPLINARY ACTION AVAILABLE ONLINE

Tennessee Department of Health issues a monthly media release listing all disciplinary actions taken by the health related boards during the prior month. All action taken by the Massage Licensure Board is viewable online at:

<http://health.state.tn.us/boards/disciplinary.htm>

CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE) VIOLATIONS

Due to the consistently high percentage of massage therapists failing to obtain the required hours, a 100% audit of continuing education hours is conducted.

Reminders:

- All licensees must complete twenty-five (25) hours of CE every two calendar years.
- Two (2) of the twenty-five (25) required hours shall pertain to Tennessee statutes and rules concerning massage therapists and establishments.
- Two (2) of the twenty-five (25) required hours shall pertain to practice management, professional ethics, or substance abuse.
- Eight (8) of the twenty-five (25) required hours may be obtained via multi-media format.
- A listing of Board-approved CE courses is available on our website at:

<http://health.state.tn.us/boards/Massage/education.htm>

BOARD MEETING DATES

November 4 - 5, 2013

2014

February 10 - 11, 2014

May 5 - 6, 2014

August 11 - 12, 2014

October 27 – 28, 2014

All Board meetings begin at 9:00 a.m., Central Time. Board meetings are held at the Board's office and are open to the public. Dates are subject to change, but are listed on the Board's website.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Mailing and practice address changes must be reported in writing to the board's office within thirty (30) days after such change is effective. Please include the following:

- Your name and license number;
- Your profession
- Your old address and phone number;
- Your new address and phone number, e-mail address, and/or your fax number;
- Your SIGNATURE

Keeping your address up to date facilitates the timely notification to you of important information such as your application for licensure renewal and important statutory and rule changes.

ACCESSING THE BOARD'S WEBSITE

- Log onto <http://tn.gov/health>
- Click on "For Health Care Professionals"
- Under "Health Related Boards": Click on "Massage Licensure Board"

There are many resources on our website including, but not limited to, rules, statutes, applications, and policy statements. License renewal and licensure verification may also be utilized on this website. This is a valuable resource. Please use it. You will find it to be very friendly.

Tennessee Massage Licensure Board

227 French Landing, Suite 300
Heritage Place Metro Center
Nashville, TN 37243



**Tennessee Massage Licensure Board
Board Members as of September 30, 2013**

Julie Wray, LMT
Board Member

Ed Bolden, LMT
President

Cynthia Jagers, LMT
Secretary

Bethann Easterly, LMT
Board Member

Christi Cross
Citizen Member

Mavis Burke, LMT
Board Member

Michael Velker
Citizen Member

Board Staff

Lisa Lampley
Unit Director

Kimberly Hodge
Board Manager

Dale Hill
Board Administrator

Vacant
Licensing Tech