



**STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DIVISION OF HEALTH RELATED BOARDS
665 MAINSTREAM DRIVE
NASHVILLE, TN 37243
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Board of Massage Therapy
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March 9, 2015

Re: Tennessee Massage Licensure Board Law and Ethics Curriculum Task Force (LECTF) Report and Recommendations

Attn: Tennessee Massage Schools and Tennessee Law Providers

The Tennessee Massage Licensure Board Law and Ethics Curriculum Task Force (LECTF) met on Monday January 5th, 2015 at Arbor College in Knoxville, Tennessee. The task force was comprised of the following members:

1. Ed Bolden, Chairperson/ School Owner, Educator, CE Provider
2. Charles West, CE Provider
3. Marcela Collins, Former Chairperson TMB, Educator, CE Provider, Vice President of FSMTB
4. Maj-Lis Nash, School Owner, Educator, CE Provider
5. Mindy Oldham, Educator, CE Provider
6. Bill Mullins, Educator, CE Provider
7. Lori Schrader, AMTA-TN 2nd Vice President & Legislative Liaison, CE Provider

The LECTF made the following recommendation and asked the Board to consider each recommendation at the February 9, 2015 Tennessee Massage Board Meeting. Upon review, the Board unanimously approved the Task Force's recommendations and requested that the recommendations be implemented immediately in each Tennessee Massage five (5) hour law class and all 2 hour Tennessee Law continuing education classes.

1. We unanimously consider it important that each provide include basic information regarding the availability peer assistance program. This information must include, but is not limited to,
 - a. availability to licensed massage therapists and students,
 - b. an explanation of what peer assistance is and is not
 - c. how to access peer assistance services, including contact information
(In addition, providers should be required to include in the materials provide to each participant a published definition and contact information for the peer assistance program)

2. We unanimously consider it of highest importance that each provider included information about the rules and regulations regarding continuing educations requirements.
3. We unanimously consider it of vital importance that each provider included information about the rules and regulations regarding establishment license
4. We unanimously consider it important that each provider included information regarding the location, use, and functions of the massage licensure board's website.
(In addition, providers should demonstrate navigation and features of the website or at minimum have screen shots of important functions and features.
5. We unanimously consider it of vital importance that each provider included information about the scope of practice for the state.
6. We unanimously consider it important that each provider included information about the procedure regarding retirement of license and the renewal process.
7. We unanimously consider it of vital importance that each provider included information about the rules and regulations regarding violations of laws/rules/policies and disciplinary actions.
8. We unanimously consider it of vital importance that each provider included information about changes to the statues, rules and regulations, or board policies.
9. We unanimously consider it of vital importance that each provider included the essential definitions for; Board, Board Administrative Office, Continuing Education, Establishment, Massage/bodywork/somatic, and Sexual Activity.

Regarding the recommendations for in-program course, it is the opinion of the task force that all of the information in the Tennessee Massage Practice Act and the Rules and Regulations Governing Massage Therapists and Establishments be included in the curricular content of the five hour law class. Notwithstanding the Law and Ethics Curriculum Task Force further recommend that special emphasis be placed on the following sections.

1. 0870-01.02 Practice Standards and inspections of establishments
2. 0870-01-.03 Necessity of Licensure
3. 0870-01.05 Establishment Licensure process
4. 0870-01.09 Licensure renewal
5. 0870-01.11 Retirement, Reinstatement, Inactivation and reactivation of licensure
6. 0870-01.12 Continuing Education
7. 0870-01-.13 Disciplinary actions and civil penalties
8. 0870-01-.15 License address and name
9. 0870-01-.17 Advertising
10. 0870-01-.18 Consumer Right to Know Requirements
11. 0870-01.19 Professional and ethical standards for therapists and establishments

Sincerely,

Kimberly Hodge, Board Manager
Tennessee Massage Licensure Board