



## Washington State Board of Massage

Business Meeting Agenda  
September 23, 2022 | 9:00 a.m.

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### Board Members

Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT  
Autumn Christina Straker, LMT, vice-chair  
Heidi Williams, LMT, chair

### Program Contact

Davis Hylkema, interim program manager  
Phone: (360) 236-4633  
[message.therapy@doh.wa.gov](mailto:message.therapy@doh.wa.gov)

### Open Public Meetings Act

This meeting is being held by webinar to comply with the [governor's Proclamation 20-28](#) on the use of telephonic access, electronic, internet, or other means for remote access that provides the ability for all persons attending the meeting to hear each other at the same time.

### Times and Order

The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, September 23, 2022. The meeting will continue until all agenda items are complete. This agenda schedule may change, and items may not be taken in order of the agenda.

*Please note that comments from the public in attendance may be solicited after each agenda item.*

### Accessibility

This meeting is accessible to persons with disabilities. Special aids and services can be made available upon advance request. If you wish to receive general information about this meeting, please call the program at 360-236-4912. If you need assistance with special needs and services, you may leave a message with that request at 800-525-0127 or 360-236-4052. TDD may also be accessed by calling the TDD relay service at 800-833-6388. If you need assistance due to a speech disability, Speech-to-Speech provides human voicers for people with difficulty being understood. The Washington Speech-to-Speech toll free access number is 877-833-6341.

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## Open Session – 9:00 A.M.

### 1. Call to Order – Heidi Williams, LMT, Chair

- 1.1. Introductions and Meeting Ground Rules.
- 1.2. Approval of the Agenda.
- 1.3. Approval of the July 29, 2022, Business Meeting Minutes.

## **2. Public Comment**

Members of the public who indicate an interest in speaking may share comments at this time. The board may limit speaker's time based on the number of people interested in speaking.

## **3. Interstate Massage Therapy Compact (IMpact) Presentation – Debra Persinger, PhD, FSMTB Executive Director**

Dr. Persinger will present an overview of IMpact and the Massage Therapy Licensing Database, and answer questions from the board and public.

## **4. School Program Reviews – Heidi Williams, LMT, Chair**

Reviewing board members will present school program approval requests for full board consideration and possible action. A list of school programs to be reviewed is available upon request.

## **5. Continuing Education During COVID Policy – Davis Hylkema**

5.1. Public Comment Period – Members of the public will be given the opportunity to address the board on this agenda item.

5.2. Board members will review Policy Number BOM 20-01.6 – Continuing Education Requirements During the COVID-19 Response and decide about the policy's expiration date.

## **6. Rules Workshop Proposed amendment to WAC 246-830-500 – Davis Hylkema and Anthony Partridge**

6.1. Public Comment – Members of the public will be given the opportunity to address the board on this agenda item.

6.2. Based on the board's decision at the July 29, 2022, rules hearing, the board will consider a proposed amendment to the rule language in WAC 246-830-500. Program staff will present the process for proceeding with the CR-103 package.

6.3. To accommodate the rulemaking schedule, the board will consider changing the date of its November meeting.

## **7. Rules Discussion and Workshop**

7.1. The board will review the AAG's legal analysis on the equity of the transfer program rule.

7.2. The board will hold a rules workshop to examine and may consider revising sections of the massage therapist rules related to massage education and training transfer programs.

## **8. Correspondence**

The board will review and discuss correspondence received since the last meeting.

8.1. Letter from the American Institute of Clinical Massage

## **9. Jurisprudence Exam Review – Program Staff**

The board will evaluate the need to update the massage therapy jurisprudence exam.

## **10. Program Report – Davis Hylkema and Megan Maxey**

10.1. Budget.

10.2. Credentialing Update.

10.3. ESSB 5229 Health Equity Continuing Education Rules Update

10.4. Board Member Recruitment Update.

10.5. Future Agenda Items.

## **11. Adjournment – Heidi Williams, LMT, Chair**

### **Next Business Meeting**

Date: November 4, 2022 (Subject to change)

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: Webinar



## Washington State Board of Massage

### Business Meeting Minutes July 29, 2022 | 9:00 a.m.

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On Friday, July 29, 2022, the Board of Massage held a board meeting via Webinar. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notices were sent to individuals requesting notification of meetings.

#### Board Members

Heidi Williams, LMT, chair  
Autumn Christina Straker, LMT, vice chair  
Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT

#### Staff Present

Megan Maxey, Interim Executive Director  
Davis Hylkema, Interim Program Manager  
Joan Simmons, Administrative Assistant  
Sierra McWilliams, AAG  
Anthony Partridge, Policy Analyst  
Stephanie Vaughn, Regulatory Affairs  
Hyon Yi, Deputy Credential Manager  
Deborah Mendoza, Credentialing Supervisor

#### Guests

Ashley Hernandez	Kathleen Fitzgerald, LMT	Marybeth Berney, LMT
Diana Thompson, LMT	Laura Embleton	Pat Archer, LMT
Gail McGaffick, JD	Lydia Benson, LMT	Stephanie Dickey, LMT
Julie Onofrio, LMT	Mark Allen	Susan Sherman, LMT
Karen James, LMT	Maryann Brathwaite, LMT	Vickie Schaefer, LMT

#### OPEN SESSION – 9:00 a.m.

##### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The board meeting was called to order by Heidi Williams, LMT, chair, at 9:02 a.m.

##### 1.1. Introductions and Meeting Ground Rules.

The board and staff introduced themselves. Ms. Williams read the Meeting Ground Rules.

##### 1.2. Approval of the July 29, 2022 Agenda

**MOTION:** A motion was made to approve the July 29, 2022.. The motion was seconded and passed.

##### 1.3. Approval of the May 20, 2022, Business Meeting Minutes

**MOTION:** A motion was made to approve the May 20, 2022, business meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and passed.

## 2. RULES HEARING

A rules hearing was held to accept testimony in support of or opposition to the proposed changes to WAC 246-830-201, 246-830-485, 246-830-490, and 246-830-500 massage therapy.

There was no opposition to the proposed language in voiced on the language changes to WACs 246-830-201, 246-830-485, and 246-830-490.

Representatives of the American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA) and a representative from WA Massage Envy Owners Co-op shared support of the proposed language for WAC 246-830-500.

Opposition to the proposed language to WAC 246-830-500 was voiced by a few attendees. They believed that blankets should not be identified separately from linens in this rule, and that blankets should be single use and washed after use with every client.

The board followed the public hearing with discussion.

**MOTION:** A motion was made to pull WAC 246-830-500 out of the CR-102 for the board's further consideration and to move forward with the CR-103 for WACs 246-830-201, 246-830-485, and 246-830-490. The motion was seconded and passed.

## 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the public who have indicated an interest in speaking shared comments at this time.

Comments shared included:

- It was suggested that, due to recent rule change, the jurisprudence exam should be updated
- The Council of State Governments (CSG) is drafting language for a massage interstate compact. CSG is accepting comments on the compact until the end of August. The draft language is available on their website. Public attendees request this subject be included in a future meeting.
- Multiple comments were received on the topic of the 625-hour minimum education and training requirement with concern that the standard is a barrier and hardship for out-of-state applicants which is contributing to the shortage of massage therapists. An additional comment was to have a standardized test to determine if applicants meet the state's knowledge and skillset.

## 4. SCHOOL PROGRAM REVIEWS

Reviewing Board Members (RBMs) presented the following school program requests for full board consideration:

- West by Northwest – 760 hybrid
  - The RBM recommended approval.

**MOTION:** A motion was made to approve West by Northwest – 760 hybrid. The motion was seconded and passed.

- West by Northwest – 915 hybrid

- The RBM recommended approval.

**MOTION:** A motion was made to approve West by Northwest – 915 hybrid. The motion was seconded and passed.

- West by Northwest – 760 hybrid transfer
  - The RBM recommended approval.

**MOTION:** A motion was made to approve West by Northwest – 760 hybrid transfer. The motion was seconded and passed.

- West by Northwest – 915 hybrid transfer
  - The RBM recommended approval.

**MOTION:** A motion was made to approve West by Northwest – 915 hybrid transfer. The motion was seconded and passed.

- Zorganics Institute of Beauty and Wellness
  - The RBM recommended deficiency.

**MOTION:** A motion was made to send a deficiency letter to Zorganics Institute of Beauty and Wellness. The motion was seconded and passed.

## 5. CREDENTIALING REPORT

Mr. Yi provided information on massage credentialing data and answered questions from the board. As of June 2022, there are 12,068 active licensees, 314 pending and 314 applications have been received.

## 6. RULES DISCUSSION AND WORKSHOP

6.1. Mr. Hylkema provided a recap of previous discussions and actions. Responses to a survey sent to schools as well as other correspondence received, regarding board approved transfer programs were sent to the board for their review. After the update, the board invited public comment. The following items were shared:

- Support to allow schools to decide the length they want to set for their transfer programs.
- Suggestion that the board have a legal review to see if there are any potential legal problems with current transfer program law and rule, and if any changes might be needed. Multiple voices shared support for this suggestion.
- Concern about the legality of setting a standard for transfer programs.
- Suggestion that transfer program exams should be of equal content and rigor.
- Concern about equity of transfer program schools all being held to the 625-hour minimum.
- Not only credits, clock hours and knowledge testing should be considered, but students' practical hands-on skills need to be evaluated.
- Standards are standards and it is what is being required to raise the bar, which is what is being asked of the people that come into the state. Massage therapists are healthcare providers.

- Concern if standards are not upheld our system will go backwards or be less successful in weeding out individuals who are not qualified.
- Suggestion that the board seeks legal advice regarding whether or not there is a public health and safety risk relevant to what is required for out-of-state applicants.
- If Washington state keeps the current standard, the opportunity to participate in the massage interstate compact may be less likely without possible legislative changes.
- Encouragement to keep in mind that the 625-hour minimum is not a higher standard as there are many schools in Washington state that are over that minimum.
- Recommendation that the board look into the massage interstate compact.
- Suggestion that the board authorize DOH staff to include the length and cost of transfer programs listed on the website allowing students to make informed decisions.

6.2. Based on the comments received in 6.1, the board determined to table the rules workshop until the September meeting after they've had a chance to review the AAG's legal review of the rule.

**MOTION:** A motion was made to table item 6.2 to allow time to gain legal opinion from the AAG regarding the equity of transfer rules. The motion was seconded and passed.

## 7. WAC 246-830-475

The board took a vote to authorize program staff to file a CR 101 to commence rulemaking for massage therapy continuing education to implement ESSB 5229 Concerning health equity continuing education for health care professionals.

**MOTION:** The motion was made to authorize program staff to file the CR 101 to commence discussion about the health equity CE requirements. The motion was seconded and passed.

## 8. BYLAWS

The board reviewed the edited board of massage bylaws.

**MOTION:** A motion was made to adopt the bylaws as edited. The motion was seconded and passed.

## 9. PROGRAM REPORT

### 9.1. Budget.

Mr. Hylkema shared the budget status as of June 2022 and reported the fund reserve is now in the positive.

### 9.2. Board Member Recruitment Update.

Mr. Hylkema reported twenty applications were received and qualified applicants were interviewed. Reports are being compiled for internal DOH review, then will be forwarded to the governor's office for review and the Governor's appointment.

### 9.3. Future Agenda Items.

- Report on the jurisprudence exam
- Legal review of transfer program and endorsement rules
- Continuation of WAC 246-830-500 discussion
- Report or presentation on the Massage Interstate Compact

- Heath Equity CE update
- Updated Bylaws
- Determination on the Hands-on CE policy expiration date

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Heidi Williams, chair, at 12:17 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed.

Submitted:

Approved:

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Davis Hylkema, Interim Program Manager

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Heidi Williams, LMT, Chair



## School Reviews

9/23/2022

<b>School</b>	<b>RBM</b>
American Institute of Clinical Massage 750	Chimere Figaire-Correa
Soma Institute - 768	Heidi Williams
Victoria's Academy of Cosmetology 750 full-time	Autumn Straker
Victoria's Academy of Cosmetology 750 part-time	Autumn Straker
Zorganics Institute for Beauty and Wellness - 750	Chimere Figaire-Correa

**From:** [Andrea Kent](#)  
**To:** [DOH HSQA OHP Massage Therapy](#)  
**Subject:** Please restore hands-on requirement for massage.  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 7, 2022 8:47:18 AM

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External Email

Dear Board of Massage,

I am concerned about the quality and standards of massage practice in WA. Please restore hands-on requirement for continuing education classes.

There is simply no replacement learning hands-on technique than literally hands-on, live classes.

Thank you,

Andrea Kent

**From:** [Amber hamilton-kliger](#)  
**To:** [DOH HSQA OHP Massage Therapy](#)  
**Subject:** Live hands on CE classes  
**Date:** Thursday, September 15, 2022 3:54:14 PM

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External Email

To whom it may concern,

Pease, please, please let's get live CE courses back to the standard, now that we have all of our precautions in place. Of course there's no need to explain how valuable live "hands on" learning is for this profession. But I will mention how much I lamented when online learning was required, due to the technique and supervision that was lost, and so very helpful to me. Not to mention the cheapening of CE's for all! Just putting my word in, and this time of change. Thanks for your time, and I wish you very well.

Take care,  
Amber

Amber Grace Kliger, LMT  
AmberGraceStudios.com  
*Administrator & Instructor,*  
*WildheartNatureSchool.com*

**Department of Health  
Health Systems Quality Assurance  
Board of Massage**

# Policy Statement

Revised – 10/18/11

<b>Title:</b>	Continuing Education Requirements During the COVID-19 Response	<b>Number:</b> BOM 20-01.6
<b>References:</b>	RCW <a href="#">18.108.010</a> ; RCW <a href="#">18.108.025</a> ; WAC <a href="#">246-12-210</a> ; WAC <a href="#">246-830-475</a> ; Proclamations <a href="#">20-05</a> , <a href="#">20-14</a> , <a href="#">20-24</a> , and <a href="#">20-25</a>	
<b>Contact:</b>	Megan Maxey, Program Manager	
<b>Phone:</b>	360-236-4945	
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:megan.maxey@doh.wa.gov">megan.maxey@doh.wa.gov</a>	
<b>Effective Date:</b>	July 1, 2022	
<b>Supersedes:</b>	BOM 20-01.5 January 1, 2022	
<b>Approved By:</b>	Heidi Williams, LMT Chair, Washington State Board of Massage	

To address the difficulties related to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic that impact licensed massage therapists with regard to meeting continuing education (CE) requirements in Washington State, and in accordance with WAC 246-12-210 the Washington State Board of Massage (Board) will allow a licensed massage therapist (LMT) to substitute any or all “in person and directly supervised” hours required in WAC 246-830-475(2)(a) with equivalent number of hours in any activities listed in WAC 246-830-475(3)(a)-(g).

[WAC 246-830-475](#) requires LMTs to complete 24 hours of continuing education every two years. Subsection (2)(a) requires that eight hours be in person and directly supervised. However, the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the ability of LMTs to meet these CE requirements and has particularly impacted the availability of in person and directly supervised massage skills training CE.

[RCW 18.108.025](#)(1)(e) gives the Board the authority to establish and administer requirements for CE. Chapter 246-12 WAC regulates healthcare practitioners credentialed under the Uniform Disciplinary Act; an LMT is a health care practitioner subject to the Act. WAC 246-12-210 states: “A practitioner may be excused from or granted an extension of continuing education requirements due to illness or other extenuating circumstances. The profession’s regulatory entity determines when the requirements may be waived or may grant an extension.” The Board is the regulatory entity with authority to make determinations about continuing education requirements for LMTs.

To address the difficulties related to the COVID-19 pandemic and obtaining in person and directly supervised training to meet CE requirements, and in accordance with WAC 246-12-210, the board makes the following allowances:

To renew their massage license, a massage therapist must complete twenty-four hours of continuing education every two years.

1. A minimum of four hours must be in professional ethics, client or patient communication, professional roles and boundaries, or Washington state massage laws and rules.
2. Maintain certification in American Heart Association CPR or equivalent. A maximum of four hours is allowed per reporting period.
3. The eight hours of in person and directly supervised continuing education involving the participation of the direct application of massage therapy required in WAC 246-830-475(2)(a) may be waived and instead the remaining 16-19 hours, rather than 12, may be met by completing any combination of the subjects listed in subsection (3) of [WAC 246-830-475](#).

This policy does not require an LMT to obtain in person and directly supervised massage skills training as part of their continuing education if this education is available.

In addition, there may be situations where an LMT is still unable to meet these temporary requirements due to illness or other extenuating circumstances. The Board will continue to exercise its authority in WAC 246-12-210 to review extenuating circumstances that may prevent an LMT from meeting his or her CE requirements. The Board may waive requirements or grant extensions as a result of illness or other extenuating circumstances.

An LMT whose license expiration date does not fall within the effective dates of the policy will not be found non-compliant with their CE if they obtain their CE hours in accordance with the allowances of this policy while it is in effect.

This policy will be in effect through December 31, 2022. The policy will be re-evaluated at the September 23, 2022 board meeting to determine if an extension of the effective dates is necessary.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 17-14-062, filed 6/29/17, effective 7/30/17)

**WAC 246-830-500 Equipment, linens, and sanitation.** (1) A

massage therapist using hydrotherapies including, but not limited to, cabinet, vapor or steam baths, whirlpool, hot tub or tub baths must have (~~available~~) adequate shower facilities available for client or patient use.

(2) All cabinets, showers, tubs, basins, massage or steam tables, hydrotherapy equipment, and all other fixed equipment used must be thoroughly cleansed using (~~an effective~~) a bactericidal agent in accordance with the manufacturer directions.

(3) Combs, brushes, shower caps, mechanical, massage and hydrotherapy instruments, or bathing devices that come in contact with the body must be sterilized or disinfected by modern and approved methods and instruments. Devices, equipment or parts thereof having been used on one person must be sterilized or disinfected before being used on another person.

(4) Impervious material must cover, full length and width, all massage tables or pads, pillows, bolsters, and face cradles directly

under ~~((fresh sheets and linens or disposable paper sheets))~~ single service linens or disposable covers. Impervious materials and surfaces must be disinfected after each use.

(5) A massage therapist must provide single service materials or clean ~~((linen such as sheets, towels, gowns, pillow cases, and all other))~~ linens used in the practice of massage. Linens must be stored in a sanitary manner.

(6) All ~~((towels and))~~ linens ~~((used for one))~~ **used for one** ~~((that come into direct contact with a))~~ client or patient must be laundered or cleaned before they are used on any other client or patient.

~~((Blankets used on a client or patient must be laundered at least once a day or when the blanket comes in direct contact with a client or patient or becomes soiled.))~~

(7) All soiled linens must be immediately placed in a covered receptacle.

(8) Soap and clean towels must be provided by the massage therapist for use by massage therapists, clients or patients and any employees.

(9) All equipment must be clean, ~~((well))~~ in good repair, and maintained ~~((and in good repair))~~ to industry standards.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.108.025 (1)(a), 18.108.085 (1)(a),  
43.70.041 and chapter 18.108 RCW. WSR 17-14-062, § 246-830-500, filed  
6/29/17, effective 7/30/17.]

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 17-14-062, filed 6/29/17, effective  
7/30/17)



Licensure by Endorsement	Licensure by Transfer Program Completion
<p><b>Statutory Authority in <a href="#">RCW 18.108.025(1)(f)</a></b></p> <p><b>Cross-Program Authority:</b> All licensing programs have this authority, based on the ability states have to rely on the decision-making of other state governments—as long as that decision or order is based on a comparable standard.</p> <p><b>1 of 2 Paths to Licensure:</b> Licensure by endorsement is the sole exception in RCW 18.108 to the requirement to graduate from a Washington-approved massage school.</p> <p><b>Standards for Endorsement Vary:</b> Some professions permit licensure by endorsement from any state, because professional standards are so uniform in the whole country (Ex: Occupational therapy, see WAC 246-847-125). Some professions set higher standards than just current licensure (Ex.: Psychology Board requires 2 years credentialed or current membership in professional org at WAC 246-924-100).</p>	<p><b>Statutory authority in <a href="#">RCW 18.108.028</a></b></p> <p><b>1 of 2 Paths to Licensure:</b> Other than licensure by endorsement, an applicant’s only other option for licensure in Washington is through graduation from an approved massage school. See <a href="#">RCW 18.108.028</a> and <a href="#">RCW 18.108.070(1)(a)</a>.</p> <p>Massage Transfer Programs allow applicants who attended a school not approved by the Massage Board to transfer those credits to an approved school and graduate from it.</p>
<p><b>Equity Concerns:</b> Does not burden protected class of individuals. Licensure by endorsement is based on the objective standards of hours and education requirements of the other state. There has been no evidence provided that it negatively impacts specific groups based on race, ethnicity, etc.</p> <p><b>Relationship to Public Protection:</b> Washington agencies may streamline their licensing process by relying on the determinations of other states whose standards are “substantially equivalent” to those of Washington.</p>	<p><b>Equity Concerns:</b> Does not burden protected class of individuals. This option would affect the same individuals not able to access licensure by endorsement.</p> <p><b>Relationship to Public Protection:</b> Current rules require applicants graduate from one of the same schools approved for Washington-educated applicants. Applicants do not have a “right” to only meet minimum requirements of 625 hours—they have a requirement to “graduate from an approved school.” RCW 18.108.070(1)(a).</p> <p><b>Perfect Equivalency Not Required:</b> There is no requirement that both pathways—Endorsement and Transfer—be perfectly equivalent. Each licensure pathway must individually meet the standard of finding an applicant appropriately qualified for safe practice in Washington.</p>



Date: August 29, 2022

Washington State Board of Massage  
PO Box 47852  
Olympia, WA 98504-7852  
[Megan.maxey@doh.wa.gov](mailto:Megan.maxey@doh.wa.gov) ; [Massage.therapy@doh.gov](mailto:Massage.therapy@doh.gov)

Dear Washington State Board of Massage,

We appreciate all that you do for our Industry and hope that you will consider our position as an accredited Massage specific vocational school through the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC) who offers exceptional education in North Idaho. We have been a Washington State Approved school since inception around 1996. Our approval originally expired in December 2020; and then extended for several students through 2021. AiCM re-applied for approval last week now that the 2016 rule was removed.

There are 2 issues that we need clarification on:

First, we interpret the rule below to read that our graduates would be eligible for a Washington Massage License based on their completed course of study received (which is well above *all* the minimum educational requirements for the Washington license at 750 hours) and a current Idaho State Massage License. The department of health has denied their applications based on the Rule listed below. The WA DOH employees told our graduates that since Idaho only requires 500 hours of education, these licensees do not qualify unless they spend 2 years and 24 hours of CE before they apply to Washington. I would like clarification on the *intention* of the Rule WAC 246-830-035 (1) (a) (i).

**Licensing by endorsement for out-of-state applicants.**

- (1) A massage therapist applicant holding a massage license in another state or foreign jurisdiction may be granted a Washington massage license if:
- (a) The board determines the other state's, territory's, or foreign jurisdiction's education and training requirements are substantially equivalent to Washington's. Substantial equivalency means a course of study at a massage school or massage program that requires:

(i) A minimum of six hundred twenty-five hours of education and training, to be completed in no fewer than twenty-four weeks and approved by the equivalent licensing agency or agencies in the state, territory, or foreign jurisdiction in which it is located at the time of applicant's graduation; or

What is the Boards stand on this rule? If a person has the documented educational training, shouldn't they be considered for a Washington license by endorsement regardless of the time they spend in another state?

Second, we are confident that you will approve our re-application to be an Approved School as we *exceed all* the minimum educational requirements. Please note and take consideration of the Supervised Student Clinic hours we require is 150. Idaho law dictates that we have a minimum of 110 hours of supervised student clinic training. We hire a fulltime LMT to supervise the student clinic, pay for all the linens, cleaning, and treatment supplies; we schedule all the clients for the students to learn everything from Swedish relaxation massage, Spa techniques such as Exfoliations and Mud wraps in addition to more in-depth Medical Massage techniques. Each student clinic hour is graded and students are required to SOAP chart each session. It is a rigorous course which prepares the students to confidently and safely move into the workforce.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns regarding our curriculum or application so that we can address them before the Board meeting on September 23, 2022.

Thank you for your consideration in these matters and trust that we are diligently working to improve the industry through educational means.

Sincerely,



Lydia Benson

Director of the American Institute of Clinical Massage

A branch campus of New York School for Medical and Dental Assistants

208.773.5890, ext. 102

[director@aicm.edu](mailto:director@aicm.edu)





Date: August 30, 2022

Washington State Board of Massage

PO Box 47852

Olympia, WA 98504-7852

[Megan.maxey@doh.wa.gov](mailto:Megan.maxey@doh.wa.gov) ; [Massage.therapy@doh.gov](mailto:Massage.therapy@doh.gov)

Dear Washington State Board of Massage,

This letter is to add an addendum to the letter dated yesterday 8/29/22. I apologize that in my original letter to you yesterday, I did not add the latter part of the WAC 246-830-035 concerning the amount of time required for an LMT to apply to Washington.

Please see below which includes the language copied for the website:

**WAC 246-830-035 Licensing by endorsement for out-of-state applicants.**

(1) A massage therapist applicant holding a massage license in another state or foreign jurisdiction may be granted a Washington massage license if:

(a) The board determines the other state's, territory's, or foreign jurisdiction's education and training requirements are substantially equivalent to Washington's. Substantial equivalency means a course of study at a massage school or massage program that requires:

(i) A minimum of six hundred twenty-five hours of education and training, to be completed in no fewer than twenty-four weeks and approved by the equivalent licensing agency or agencies in the state, territory, or foreign jurisdiction in which it is located at the time of applicant's graduation; or

(ii) A minimum of five hundred hours of education and training, and approved by the equivalent licensing agency or agencies in the state, territory, or foreign jurisdiction in which it is located at the time of applicant's graduation, at least two years of experience, and documentation of at least twenty-four hours of continuing education within two years prior to making application.

(b) The applicant has a massage license in good standing as verified by the appropriate jurisdiction; and

(c) If there is a gap in practice of three or more years immediately prior to applying for a license by endorsement, the applicant must provide documentation of twenty-four hours of hands on continuing education of massage therapy for the two most recent years prior to making application.

(2) If an applicant does not meet the requirements of this section, then the applicant may fulfill the remaining education and training requirements as outlined in WAC [246-830-037](#).

(3) The applicant must have successfully passed one of the following examinations:

(a) Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards massage and bodywork licensing examination;

(b) National certification examination for therapeutic massage and bodywork; or

(c) A board-approved examination.

(4) The applicant must satisfy the requirements in WAC [246-830-020](#) (1)(a) through (h).

Again, I am asking for clarification on why an LMT from another state who has completed Massage Therapy education that exceeds Washington's minimum standards, passed the MBLEx, and holds a license in another state is denied a Washington State Massage License.

Again, thank you for your consideration in these matters and trust that we are diligently working to improve the industry through educational means.

Sincerely,



Lydia Benson

Director of the American Institute of Clinical Massage

A branch campus of New York School for Medical and Dental Assistants

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All applicants for a massage therapy license must take and pass the jurisprudence examination with a passing score of 100%. There is no limit to the number of times an applicant may take the exam. The exam is online and applicants may reference the RCWs and WACs while taking the exam.

Following are the exam questions and answers.

1. According to RCW 18.108.025, who has the power to adopt rules, or WACs (Washington Administrative Codes), for the massage profession?
  - a. The Attorney General
  - b. The Board of Massage
  - c. The individual practitioner
  - d. The American Massage Therapy Association
2. Under RCW (Revised Code of Washington) 18.108.040, any person licensed to practice as a massage therapist in this state may use the abbreviation:
  - a. M.T.
  - b. L.M.
  - c. L.M.T.
  - d. M.P.L.
3. As specified in WAC 246-16-100, when is it appropriate to have sexual relations with a client?
  - a. After you have known him/her for several years
  - b. Anytime, as long as it is away from the place of business
  - c. After you are paid and then only if you are dating
  - d. It is never appropriate
4. According to RCW 18.130.010, who does the Uniform Disciplinary regulate?
  - a. Licensed health and health-related professions
  - b. All licensed professions
  - c. All regulated professions
  - d. Licensed massage therapists only
5. As stated in WAC 246-830-990(1), all Washington State massage therapist licenses expire annually on:
  - a. January 1<sup>st</sup>
  - b. Licensee's birthday
  - c. Date licensee passed exam
  - d. April 15<sup>th</sup>
6. Under RCW 18.108.040, what form of practitioner identification must be present in a display advertisement?
  - a. Birth date
  - b. Massage license number
  - c. Driver's license number
  - d. Revenue registration number

7. As specified in RCW 18.108.030, no person may practice as a massage therapist without first:
  - a. Receiving a license to practice
  - b. Completing 500 hours of education
  - c. Receiving certification from American Massage Therapy Association
  - d. Passing the National Certification Exam
8. Under RCW 18.130.180(12), advertising procedures or services that are outside the scope of practice:
  - a. Is prohibited by state law
  - b. Is permissible with appropriate post-graduate training
  - c. Requires out of state confirmation of clinical competencies
  - d. Requires assurances that direct supervision is provided in the facility
9. As stated in RCW 70.02.050, a massage therapist does NOT need client consent to release information if it is:
  - a. Compelled by law
  - b. Needed for public health records
  - c. Requested by the patient's employer
  - d. Requested by the patient's family or spouse
10. According to WAC 246-830-475, how many hours of continuing education are required for renewal?
  - a. 24 hours every two years
  - b. 16 hours every year
  - c. No continuing education required
  - d. 32 hours every two years
11. Under RCW 18.130.080, an individual, who in good faith, files a complaint against a massage therapist charging unprofessional conduct is:
  - a. Immune from any civil action suit related to the complaint
  - b. Required to appear in person at every hearing related to the complaint
  - c. Entitled to the full refund of any payment for massage services rendered
  - d. Entitled to compensation in the amount of the designated civil penalties
12. According to WAC 246-16-100, sexual misconduct includes:
  - a. Removing patient or client's clothing or gown or draping without consent
  - b. Terminating a professional relationship for the purpose of dating or pursuing a romantic or sexual relationship
  - c. Kissing
  - d. All of the above
13. Under WAC 246-830-475, business and management courses can be taken to fulfill part of the continuing education requirement.
  - a. True
  - b. False

14. According to RCW 18.130.180(1), acts of moral turpitude, dishonesty, or corruption related to the profession are considered:
  - a. Lawful violation
  - b. Misrepresentation
  - c. Unprofessional conduct
  - d. Violation of compliance
15. As stated in WAC 246-16-100, your friend, another massage therapist, is attracted to a new client and would like to become romantically involved. Which action should your friend take to best avoid misconduct:
  - a. Weigh all the pros and cons before doing anything
  - b. Ignore any feelings and continue treating the patient
  - c. Refer this patient to another massage therapist for treatment
  - d. Determine the patient's feelings by a phone conversation
16. According to WAC 246-830-040, impervious material covering the full length of all massage tables or pads is:
  - a. Optional
  - b. At the massage therapist's discretion
  - c. Not required unless requested by the client / patient
  - d. Required



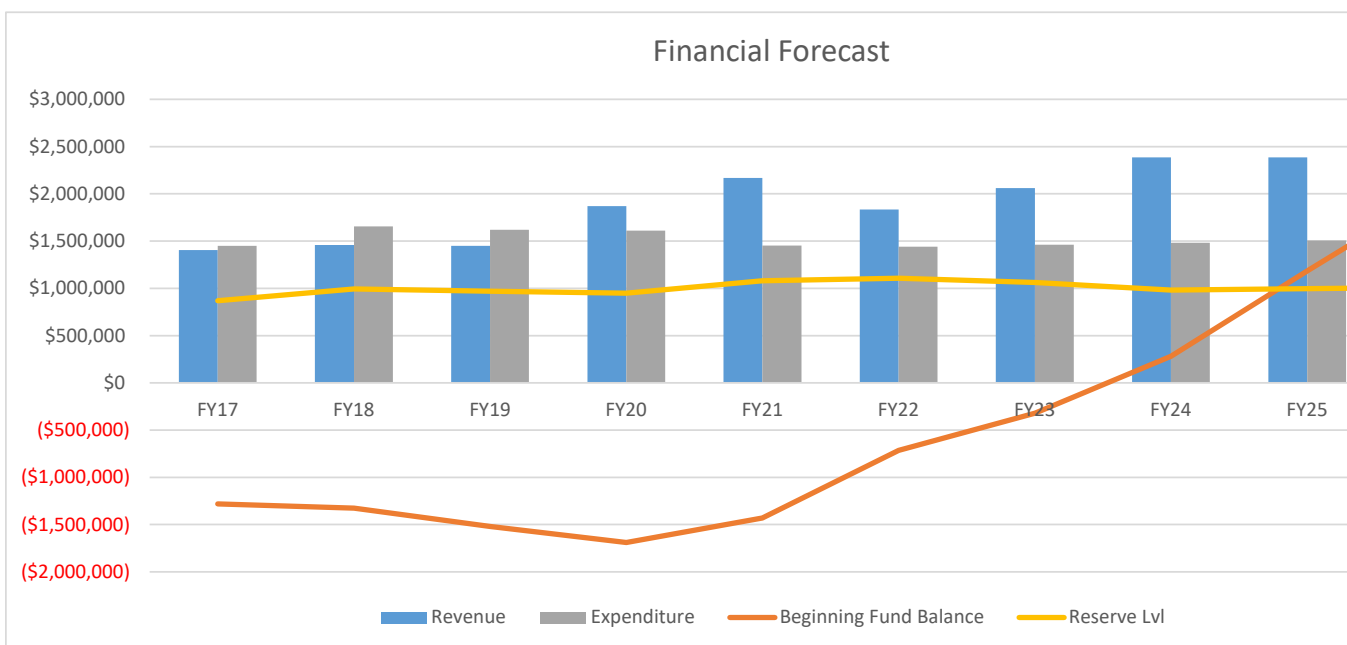
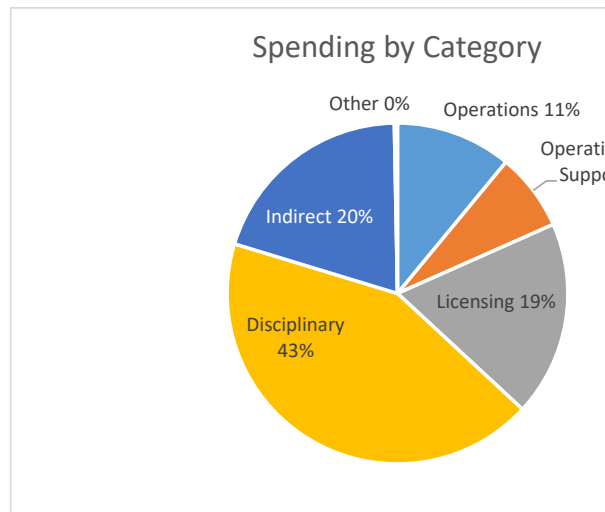
## Board of Massage Budget Status Report

For the period of July 1, 2021 to August 31, 2022

Beginning Fund Balance	(794,760)
Revenue	2,187,795
Expenses	1,678,016
<b>Est. Ending Fund Balance</b>	<b>(284,981)</b>

	Biennial Budget	BTD Expenses	Balance
Salaries & Benefits	296,661	146,422	150,239
Contracts	1,800	-	1,800
Goods & Services	218,569	184,400	34,169
Travel	25,679	101	25,578
Equipment	4,800	96	4,704
Grants		-	-
Intra Agency*	1,930,562	1,011,394	919,168
Indirect Charges	615,336	335,603	279,733
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,093,407</b>	<b>1,678,016</b>	<b>1,415,391</b>

\* Intra agency charges include expenses such as rent, IT support, enterprise software and communications.



## Credential Count

<b>Credential Status</b>	<b>6/22/2021</b>	<b>5/13/2022</b>	<b>9/13/2022</b>
<b>Active</b>	12,440	12,139	<b>12,029</b>
Active	9,602	9,589	9,603
Active in Renewal	2,807	2,528	2,402
Active with Conditions or Active on Probation	31	22	24
<b>Expired</b>	12,115	25,179	<b>25,486</b>
<b>Expired in Renewal</b>	1,543	1,338	<b>1,357</b>
<b>Inactive</b>	264	277	<b>274</b>
<b>Revoked</b>	88	89	<b>90</b>
<b>Summary Suspension</b>	3	2	<b>2</b>
<b>Surrender / Voluntary Surrender</b>	40	42	<b>42</b>
<b>Suspended</b>	155	162	<b>163</b>