

## Bureau of Professional Licensing

# Massage Therapy FAQs

### 1. How long are the Massage Therapy licenses issued for? Can I renew my license early? How will I know when I need to renew?

Your initial Massage Therapy registration is only good until the next expiration date of your profession (anywhere from 4 months to 1 year). After your first renewal, your registration will be valid for 3 years. You will receive renewal information 45-60 days prior to the expiration date of your registration.

You cannot renew your registration early. Our system is not set up to receive renewal information until the renewal time for your profession. We will mail you a renewal postcard approximately 45-60 days before the expiration date of your current registration. Remember to notify the Department in writing of any address changes you have. It is your responsibility to renew your registration on time. Failure to notify us of an address change does not exempt you from renewing your registration on time. You can renew online at [www.michigan.gov/elicense](http://www.michigan.gov/elicense).

### 2. Can I receive a Massage Therapy license by application (grandfathering)?

The Massage Therapy license by application (grandfathering) was only available for those who were licensed prior to November 29, 2014. For those who would like to be licensed after November 29, 2014, visit the [Massage Therapy License Information](#) section on our website for information on licensing options.

### 3. How do I become eligible for the Massage Therapy exams?

Once you have successfully registered with the Federation of State Massage Therapy Board's (FSMTB), Massage and Bodywork Licensing Examination (MBLEX), you will be able to take the exam. Our office does not need to make you eligible for the exam.

### 4. There have been changes to the Public Health Code and Administrative Rules that require licensees and individuals seeking licensure to complete training for identifying victims of human trafficking. When does this take effect?

Administrative Rule R 338.732 requires an individual licensed or seeking licensure to complete training to identify victims of human trafficking. This is a one-time training that is separate from continuing education (CE). Licensees who renewed in 2017 must complete training by renewal in 2020; renewals completed in 2018 must complete training by renewal in 2021; and renewals for 2019 by 2022. Beginning March 14, 2022, completion of training is a requirement for initial license issuance.

The department may select and audit a sample of individuals and request documentation of proof of completion of training.

**5. How can I meet the requirements for the completion of training in identifying victims of human trafficking?**

The one-time human trafficking training may be done through: a teleconference or a webinar, online presentation, live presentation, or printed or electronic media. Refer to rule 338.732 of the Administrative Rules for Massage Therapy for more information. The Administrative rules can be accessed on our website at [www.michigan.gov/bpl](http://www.michigan.gov/bpl)

**6. Do I need to complete continuing education?**

Yes. Per Administrative Rule R 338.739

An applicant for license renewal who has been licensed for the 3-year period immediately preceding the expiration date of the license shall accumulate not less than 18 hours of continuing education in activities approved by the board during the 3 years immediately preceding the application for renewal. At least 1 hour of CE shall be earned in the area of pain and symptom management and at least 2 hours of CE shall be earned in the area of professional ethics and boundaries. Licensees renewed in 2018 must complete continuing education by renewal in 2021; renewals for 2019 by renewal in 2022, etc.

**7. Do I need to send in proof of completing the continuing education (CE) requirement with my renewal application?**

An applicant for renewal is not required to submit proof of completion of their CE hours, However, an applicant for renewal shall retain documentation of meeting the requirements for a period of 4 years from the date of applying for license renewal. If selected for audit, a licensee is required to submit copies of their documentation confirming the completion of the CE requirements.

**8. How can I change my name or address?**

Name changes must be submitted in writing by downloading the Data Change/Duplicate License Request Form. Address changes can be submitted online at [www.michigan.gov/elicense](http://www.michigan.gov/elicense) or in writing by downloading the Data Change/Duplicate License Request Form. Mail it to the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Professional Licensing, Licensing Division, PO Box 30670, Lansing, MI 48909.

New licenses are not automatically issued for name and/or address changes. To receive a license with your new name and/or address, you must submit \$10.00 per license with your request. Duplicate licenses can be paid for online at [www.michigan.gov/elicense](http://www.michigan.gov/elicense). The Data Change/Duplicate License Form can be faxed to 517-335-2044 if a new license is not being requested.

## 9. How do I verify my Michigan Massage Therapy License to another State?

Complete the Certified License Verification Request form that can be found at [http://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-72600\\_72603\\_27529\\_27541---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-72600_72603_27529_27541---,00.html). along with the required \$15.00 fee made payable to the State of Michigan. The Verification process generally takes 20-30 business days from the time the request is received by the Department. The request should be mailed to:

Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs  
Bureau of Professional Licensing  
Licensing Division  
P.O. Box 30670  
Lansing, MI 48909