

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 license is good for 3 years. All subsequent MT renewals will also be valid for 3 years.

You will be mailed and emailed a renewal notification postcard to your mailing and email addresses on record approximately 90 days prior to the expiration date of your license. Remember to notify the Department of any address change by submitting a MiPLUS modification. It is your responsibility as a licensed health professional to renew your license on time. **Failure to receive the renewal postcard or email notification, or to notify to Department of an address change does not exempt you from renewing your license on time.**

You can renew online by logging into your MiPLUS account at <http://www.michigan.gov/MiPLUS>. You may pay your renewal fee by using a debit or credit card containing a Discover, MasterCard, American Express, or Visa logo.

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. When do I have to meet the requirements for the completion of training in identifying victims of human trafficking?

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. The training must cover all of the following: understanding the types and venues of human trafficking in MI or the US; identifying victims of human trafficking in health care settings; identifying the warnings signs of human trafficking in health care settings for adults and minors; and the resources for reporting suspected victims of human trafficking.

The training may be offered through a nationally recognized or state recognized, health related organization, by or in conjunction with a state or federal agency, an approved training program, college or university, or by reading a relevant article in a peer review journal, health care journal or scientific journal. If audited, licensees are to have an appropriate certificate or self-certify.

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. Does my training on identifying victims of human trafficking count towards my CE hours?

No. However, if the training also satisfies a Board's requirements for CE/CPD/PDR, the training may be applied toward the CE/CPD/PDR requirement.

8. How do I file a complaint against a health care professional?

Information on how to [File an Allegation Against a Health Care Licensee](#) can be located on the Bureau of Professional Licensing's website at www.michigan.gov/bpl.

9. Where can I find a copy of the administrative rules pertaining to Massage Therapy?

You may view the current Administrative Rules on the Bureau of Professional Licensing's website at www.michigan.gov/bplrules.