

Legislative Director's Report

Keeping our TMTA members up to date on any Legislative happenings in Tennessee ...

Priority News:

After 4 consecutive years in the **red**, the TN Massage Licensure Board finished the 2021 Fiscal Year ... **IN THE BLACK!** What does this mean for the proposed fee increases? Unsure. The rulemaking hearing for the fee increase is expected to be held at the February 2022 MLB mtg and your legislative team will definitely keep you up to date on the happenings.

Statistical report: (as of November 5th, 2021)

<u>Therapists:</u>		<u>Establishments:</u>	
Active Licensees	4505	Active Licensees	1606

Office of General Counsel (OGC):

Litigation:

The OGC currently has about 82 open cases to the Massage Licensure Board.

Rulemaking:

The rulemaking to increase fees is moving forward internally in OGC, and we expect to have a rulemaking hearing at the February 2022 meeting. We are also moving forward with the reciprocity licensure rule revisions, but that will be a separate rulemaking.

Legislation:

Nothing to report.

General Information:

Establishment Licenses are now available to renew online, as of July 23rd, 2021. As with LMT license renew, the window for online renewal is 65-90 days. If there are ANY changes to your Establishment license, you can NOT renew online, you MUST contact the board office. Also (and probably most important) ... **if you choose to renew online, you must provide proof of the 2-hour TN Law class taken in the current cycle**, that is what the system requires. Please do not call board staff to complain, it is out of their control.

Referring to the Commissioner's Policy 21-1 (link below), any CE classes taken through December 31st, 2021, that were "obtained through non in-person/live methods" will be accepted toward your current CE cycle (Jan 1st, 2021 to Dec 31st, 2022), with the exception of TN Law which must still be either in-person or live webinar format. Any classes taken January 1st, 2022, until the end of the current cycle must be obtained as required by current CE policy (0870-01-.12).

Commissioner's Policy 21-1 link:

<https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/health/healthprofboards/Policy-on-Continuing-Education.pdf>

A clarification and update from the legislative liaison's office regarding **Public Chapter 357** (Establishment license in Chiropractic, Medicine and Surgery, and Osteopathic Physicians offices)

<https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/health/healthprofboards/massage/applications-%26-policies/ChiropolicystatementP357.Massage.pdf>

To summarize the Position Statement from the Chiropractic Board:

1. Chiropractic must be the primary treatment of the facility. There can be many different treatments offered (chiropractic, massage, nutrition, acupuncture, etc.) at that location, but **“Chiropractic MUST BE the primary treatment at said facility”**.
2. This only applies to massage offered **WITHIN** the facility. If you are offering massage any place else, please refer to the TN Massage rules and policies governing those massages.
3. The “Chiropractic office must maintain a current copy of the active license of all Massage Therapist providing services in said facility”.

For Your Information:

A reminder for therapists - licensure renewals can be done online by visiting the board's website at <https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/health-professional-boards/ml-board/ml-board/licensure.html>

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the TN massage board will take place on February 9th & 10th, 2022 at 9am at 665 Mainstream Drive in Nashville, TN. If you are unable to make it there in person, you are now able to watch it via livestreaming. And here's how ... click on the link <https://www.tn.gov/health/calendar/massage-licensure.html>, then choose “VIEW EVENT”, then click on “ATTACHMENT” it will take you to the sunshine notice of the meeting - choose the “LINK TO LIVE STREAM” for the day you are wanting to watch. Or you can visit our TMTA Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/TMTA-122407286744725>) and the link will be posted there also.



TMTA

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Tennessee Massage Therapy Association