

Program Information	Contact Information	Date Updated
Therapeutic Massage A45750	Larry Ball Program Coordinator, Therapeutic Massage lball@forsythtech.edu	June 2025

This document is designed to support your research on the educational and licensure requirements for a career in Therapeutic Massage, including information applicable across all U.S. states and territories.

**Educational Preparation:** Students completing the Associate in Therapeutic Massage or the Massage Practitioner I & II certificate programs at Forsyth Technical Community College meet North Carolina's licensure requirement of a minimum of 650 hours of training. Graduates are eligible to sit for the Massage & Bodywork Licensing Examination (MBLEx), administered by the Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards (FSMTB). The MBLEx is currently the sole exam accepted for licensure in most states. While the National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork (NCBTMB) offers a voluntary Board Certification, it is not a required or accepted licensing exam for state licensure.

**Interstate Massage Compact (IMpact):** The Council of State Governments (CSG), in partnership with the Department of Defense (DoD) and FSMTB, is in the process of establishing the Interstate Massage Compact (IMpact). This initiative would allow licensed massage therapists to practice across participating states without obtaining individual licenses in each. While the compact is not yet active in North Carolina, it may affect future licensure mobility. We will update this section as more information becomes available.

[Forsyth Tech Website](#)

[Additional Resource - 1](#)

[Additional Resource - 2](#)

**Disclaimer:** It is crucial to acknowledge that laws and regulations in the field of Therapeutic Massage are subject to constant change. For the most current information and requirements, we strongly advise you to consult the specific state board or agency responsible for Therapeutic Massage licensure/certification.

State	Meets State Educational Requirements	Does Not Meet State Educational Requirements
Alabama	✓	
Alaska	✓	
American Samoa		X
Arizona		X
Arkansas	✓	
California	✓	

State	Meets State Educational Requirements	Does Not Meet State Educational Requirements
Colorado	✓	
Connecticut		X
Delaware	✓	
District of Columbia	✓	
Florida	✓	
Georgia	✓	
Guam		X
Hawaii	✓	
Idaho	✓	
Illinois	✓	
Indiana	✓	
Iowa	✓	
Kansas	✓	
Kentucky	✓	
Louisiana	✓	
Maine	✓	
Maryland		X
Massachusetts	✓	
Michigan	✓	
Minnesota	✓	
Mississippi	✓	
Missouri	✓	
Montana	✓	

State	Meets State Educational Requirements	Does Not Meet State Educational Requirements
Nebraska		X
Nevada	✓	
New Hampshire		X
New Jersey	✓	
New Mexico	✓	
New York		X
North Carolina	✓	
North Dakota		X
Northern Mariana Islands		X
Ohio	✓	
Oklahoma	✓	
Oregon	✓	
Pennsylvania	✓	
Puerto Rico		X
Rhode Island		X
South Carolina	✓	
South Dakota	✓	
Tennessee	✓	
Texas	✓	
US Virgin Islands	✓	
Utah	✓	
Vermont	✓	
Virginia	✓	

State	Meets State Educational Requirements	Does Not Meet State Educational Requirements
Washington	✓	
West Virginia	✓	
Wisconsin	✓	
Wyoming	✓	