

Therapeutic Massage MAR Checklist – Fall 2026



This checklist provides an overview of the steps to apply for a Therapeutic Massage MAR Review.

Apply for Admission to Forsyth Tech

Apply for admission if you are new to Forsyth Tech or if it has been more than one year since you registered for classes.

<https://www.forsythtech.edu/students/apply/>

Submit Transcripts to Admissions & Records

- High school transcript or GED scores
- All colleges where program related courses were completed

Meet Minimum Requirements for English and Math

Must be ready to take ENG-111 and MAT-143 without a co-requisite course, by having completed past ENG and MAT courses, a High School unweighted GPA of 2.4 or higher, test scores, an associate or bachelor's degree.

Complete Related Courses

The following courses are related to the A.A.S. program. While these aren't required before applying, having them completed will lessen your course load once you are in the program.

ENG-111 or 110 / BIO-163 / COM-120 or 231 / HUM-115 / PSY-150 or 118 / SOC-225

Submit the MAR Application

The application will open on May 1, 2026. Students who are certain they want to enroll in Therapeutic Massage are encouraged to apply early. The application deadline is July 10, 2026.

[**Therapeutic Massage MAR Application Link**](#)

Check your Forsyth Tech email regularly

After your MAR application is reviewed, you will receive an email with your MAR sheet attached. Be sure to review the sheet and follow any directions listed



Therapeutic Massage Program Fall 2026 Deadline: July 10, 2026

Therapeutic Massage is a limited enrollment program beginning each fall semester (August). The program begins with a series of two certificates that can be completed in two semesters on the Day/Full-Time Track, or in four semesters on the Evening/Part-Time Track. Each track accepts **16 students** for the fall. Completion of both the **Massage Practitioner I Certificate** and the **Massage Practitioner II Certificate** allows students to acquire the skills and clinical hours necessary to be eligible for North Carolina licensure as a massage therapist. Graduates of the certificate series then have the option to earn an associate degree by meeting additional course requirements (see pages 5 and 9).

Therapeutic Massage is a first-qualified, first-accepted program. Students who meet the minimum English and math requirements can submit a MAR application to be considered for admission. **Apply early for the best chance of admission.** Once all seats are filled for the day and evening programs, qualified applicants will be added to a list of alternates. If any seats open before the program starts in August, alternates may be offered the opportunity to enroll.

Students who are accepted to the program will have additional requirements to complete before the start of classes. Review the requirements and costs on page 6. Further information will be provided during the program orientation. Students who do not meet these deadlines or qualifications may have their offer of admission rescinded. Once enrolled, students must earn a grade of 80 or higher in all core massage classes to remain in the program.

The instructional facility for the Therapeutic Massage program is located at the **Grady P. Swisher Center, 1108 Swisher Center Road, Kernersville, North Carolina.**

Licensure Notice

Students may be eligible to apply for licensure after completing the certificate series. The North Carolina Board of Massage & Bodywork Therapy conducts a criminal background check before licensing. Additionally, students may be required to demonstrate English language proficiency to meet licensure requirements. The cost for licensing is approximately \$435.

1. Complete an application to Forsyth Tech

New and Former students (it's been more than 1 year since you applied or enrolled in classes) must complete the online application at <https://www.forsythtech.edu/apply-ft/>
Complete NC Residency at www.ncresidency.org

Currently enrolled students do not need to complete a new application.

2. Submit official transcripts

Electronic transcripts can be sent through a secure service to admissions@forsythtech.edu

-or paper transcripts can be mailed to Forsyth Technical Community College Attn: Admissions 2100 Silas Creek Parkway Winston Salem, NC 27103-5197

-or hand-delivered in a **sealed** envelope to the Admissions and Records Office on the main campus **Emailed copies from you are NOT official**

We must have:

- Official college transcripts where related classes were taken. Only undergraduate classes through Bachelor's degree level, we do not need graduate level transcripts.
- Official AP scores from College Board if you want credit for applicable classes (credits showing on other college transcripts do not count).
- It is recommended to submit your High School (or GED) transcript, or you may miss placement requirements.

3. Check that you meet the minimum readiness levels

All Health Program applicants are required to demonstrate English and Mathematics college readiness. You must be able to demonstrate that you have achieved the appropriate readiness levels in both areas by **at least one** of the following methods.

| COLLEGE ENGLISH READINESS | COLLEGE MATHEMATICS READINESS |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Option 1: You have completed or received transfer credit for ENG 111. <input type="checkbox"/> Option 2: You have completed or received waiver credit for <u>all</u> of the following: DRE 096, DRE 097, DRE 098. <input type="checkbox"/> Option 3: You have completed or received waiver credit for ENG 002 with a minimum grade of P2. <input type="checkbox"/> Option 4: You have completed or received waiver credit for ENG 011 or are currently enrolled in ENG 111/011. <input type="checkbox"/> Option 5: An earned associate or bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution. <input type="checkbox"/> Option 6: Completion of placement test and achievement of appropriate scores. <u>If you took the placement test elsewhere, you MUST submit those scores to Forsyth Tech Admissions & Records.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Option 7: Graduate of a US high school with a GPA of 2.4 or higher. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Option 1: You have completed or received transfer credit for <u>one</u> of the following -- MAT 143, MAT 152, MAT 171 (or a higher-level math). <input type="checkbox"/> Option 2: You have completed or received waiver credit for <u>all</u> of the following: DMA 010, DMA 020, DMA 030, DMA 040, and DMA 050. <input type="checkbox"/> Option 3: You have completed or received waiver credit for MAT 003 with a minimum grade of P2. <input type="checkbox"/> Option 4: You have completed or received waiver credit for MAT 043 or are currently enrolled in MAT 143/043. <input type="checkbox"/> Option 5: An earned associate or bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution. <input type="checkbox"/> Option 6: Completion of placement test and achievement of appropriate scores. <u>If you took the placement test elsewhere, you MUST submit those scores to Forsyth Tech Admissions & Records.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Option 7: Graduate of a US high school with a GPA of 2.4 or higher. |

4. Related Courses

The general education/related courses for Therapeutic Massage are listed below. You are *not* required to complete these classes before applying.

| General Education / Related Courses for Therapeutic Massage | | | Class is required for: | |
|---|--|--|------------------------|--------------|
| Course | Course Title | Notes | Degree | Certificates |
| ENG 111 or ENG 110 | Writing & Inquiry or Freshman Composition | ENG 110 is not financial aid eligible for health tech track students. | X | X |
| PSY 150 or PSY 118 | General Psychology or Interpersonal Psychology | PSY 150 is preferred. PSY 118 is not financial aid eligible while in AA Health Tech Track. | X | |
| BIO 163 | Basic Anatomy & Physiology | BIO 168 + 169 can be substituted to meet this requirement. | X | |
| COM 120 or COM 231 | Interpersonal Communication or Public Speaking | | X | |
| HUM 115 | Critical Thinking | | X | |
| SOC 225 | Social Diversity | | X | |

NOTE: MED-121: Medical Terminology I is required for the certificate series. Students will be able to register for this class after they are accepted to Therapeutic Massage.

5. Submit the MAR Application

You must be logged into TechLink before clicking on the link to apply.

Application opens: May 1, 2026

[2025 Therapeutic Massage MAR Application](#)

The deadline to apply is July 10, 2026.

What to expect after submitting the application

- A confirmation message will be shown on the screen after you submit your application.
- We will communicate using your Forsyth Tech email address.
- Advisors often start reviewing applications after the priority deadline. Once we review your application, you will receive an email with a summary of your qualifications and an admissions decision. Review this information carefully and contact your advisor if you have questions.

Therapeutic Massage Clinical Requirements

Clinical Requirements Deadline: **August 7, 2026**

Students are not fully admitted to the program until they have completed all of the enrollment requirements. If you are offered admission, there will be several additional requirements to fulfill before classes begin. The Program Coordinator and faculty in the Therapeutic Massage program will provide more information about the tasks and due dates.

If you have questions about these requirements, please direct them to:

Larry Ball, Program Coordinator, Therapeutic Massage
(336) 734-7916 or LBALL@forsythtech.edu

The necessary paperwork and instructions will be provided after acceptance into the program. Some requirements, such as the immunization report and medical exam with your primary care physician, may take several weeks to complete. Applicants may need to make arrangements for these tasks prior to being notified of whether they are accepted into the program.

Program Orientation

Orientation is required for students who have been accepted to Therapeutic Massage. Students will register for classes, meet the faculty, obtain forms for the additional requirements, and learn what to expect in the program. Admitted students will be notified via email of the orientation date, time, and location.

Professional Massage

Admitted students must arrange to have a massage from a licensed massage therapist. Obtain the form to document the session by contacting the Program Coordinator.

Approximate cost of massage: \$50 to \$70.

Current CPR Certification

Only the American Heart Association Basic Life Support Healthcare Provider CPR Certification will be accepted. Admitted students will receive instructions on when to submit their certification card. CPR classes are offered at Forsyth Tech. Visit this webpage to learn more

<https://www.forsythtech.edu/students/courses-programs/fast-track-courses/american-heart-association-certification-courses/>.

Approximate cost: \$50.

Student Medical Health Form / Immunizations Records

Students who are accepted to the health programs are required to have their medical doctor complete a health form, which includes immunization records.

Approximate cost: \$100.

Technical Standards for Therapeutic Massage

Our program technical standards have been developed to help students understand nonacademic standards, skills, and performance requirements expected of a student in the Therapeutic Massage Program.

If an accommodation is necessary to participate in the program, it is imperative to identify reasonable accommodations to those students who qualify under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Reasonableness is determined by the Disability Services Office (DSO) and the program on a case-by-case basis utilizing the program technical standards. The accommodation needs to be in place prior to the start of the program, or it may delay your ability to start the program. It is the student's responsibility to contact the DSO and request accommodation.

| Skills | Description | Specific Examples |
|--|---|---|
| Sensory | Visual, auditory, and tactile senses must be sufficient to provide client care, monitor and assess therapeutic needs, and to maintain a safe environment. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Visually distinguish data from assessing clients. 2. Perceive color variations and depth. 3. Observe and individual's presentation. 4. Perceive a variety of odors. 5. Perceive variations of touch (i.e., texture differences, hot/cold, pulsations, etc.). |
| Communication | Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with faculty, students, clients, etc. in verbal and written form. Candidates will be required to communicate with and respond to clients, faculty and other students as well as observe clients. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elicit information (i.e., questioning of the client). 2. Describe changes in mood, activity, posture. 3. Perceive nonverbal communication |
| Motor and Function Abilities | Requirements of a candidate include gross and fine muscular movements, equilibrium, strength, and functional use of the senses of touch, and vision for the safe handling of the client, and self | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elicit information from patients by palpation, percussion, testing muscle strength and function. 2. Safely perform therapeutic procedures 3. Provide other client services and client-associated services. |
| Intellectual: Conceptual, Integrated, and Quantitative Abilities | The Candidate must have these abilities to accurately calculate, analyze, synthesize, and report appropriate physiologic client data | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Solve problems (i.e., client care problem solving). 2. Relationships (i.e., anatomical relations). 3. Understand the spatial relationship of structures. |

| Skills | Description | Specific Examples |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| Behavioral and Social Skills | The Candidate must have these abilities to provide empathic support to clients and to interact with clients, and colleagues | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ability to develop mature, sensitive, and effective relationships with clients, and fellow therapists. (Interpersonal skills) 2. Tolerate physically and mentally taxing workloads. 3. Function effectively under stress. 4. Adapt to changing environments. 5. Display flexibility and ability to function during uncertainty inherent in health care (i.e., emergency conditions). 6. Display compassion, empathy, integrity, concern for others, interest and motivation, and professional demeanor. |
| Technological | The Candidate must be able to effectively use a computer with manual keyboarding, mouse, and viewing a monitor/screen. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review, record, research client information and pre-existing conditions. |

All the above abilities, skills and knowledge in a candidate will be continually tested by evaluation during the educational process of this program.

This document is intended to serve as a guide regarding the physical, emotional, intellectual, and psychosocial expectations placed on a student. This document cannot include every conceivable action, task, ability, or behavior that may be expected of a student. Meeting these technical standards does not guarantee employment in this field upon graduation. Ability to meet the program's technical standards does not guarantee a student's eligibility for any licensure, certification exam, or successful completion of the degree program.