

# Candidate Information Bulletin State of Hawaii

MASSAGE THERAPY EXAM



The State of Hawaii Board of Massage Therapy (the Board) has contracted with Prometric Inc. to conduct its examination program.

This bulletin is your guide to the process of obtaining a Hawaii Massage Therapy license. The steps below summarize the process. For information about a step, go to the page listed.



## *To obtain your license*

- 1 Obtain an application from the Board. Mail your completed application and fee to the Board at the address below.  
Once the Board approves your application, you will be sent a letter of approval with an exam registration form.
- 2 Submit your exam registration form and the exam fee (\$90) to Prometric by the deadline date.  
In return, you will receive an admission letter and exam appointment—Page 3.
- 3 Prepare for your exam, using this bulletin and other materials—Page 3.
- 4 Present your admission letter and required identification; then take the exam—Page 4.



## *To get answers not provided in this bulletin*

### **For questions about exams:**

Prometric  
Attn: HI Massage Therapy  
354 Uluniu Street, Suite 308  
Kailua, HI 96734  
Phone: 808.261.8182  
[www.prometric.com/hawaii](http://www.prometric.com/hawaii)

### **For questions about eligibility requirements and licensing:**

State of Hawaii  
Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs  
Board of Massage Therapy  
P.O. Box 3469  
Honolulu, HI 96801  
Phone: 808.586.3000  
[www.cca.hawaii.gov/pvl](http://www.cca.hawaii.gov/pvl)

*Submitting your license application*



You are not allowed to register for your exam until the Board approves your application and sends you a letter of approval and an examination registration form. The Board's application forms can be found online at [www.cca.hawaii.gov/pvl](http://www.cca.hawaii.gov/pvl).

**Important** If you take an exam without Board approval, your test scores will be invalid and you will be subject to possible disciplinary sanctions.

*Registering and scheduling exams*



Once you receive approval from the Board, you should:

- 1 Complete the exam registration form.  
When completing the registration form, you must provide your contact information, Social Security number, exam scheduling preferences and payment. Prometric will treat your Social Security number as **confidential**. It will be used only as an identification number in maintaining your record and reporting your score to the Board.
- 2 Attach one approval letter to the registration form.
- 3 Mail the registration form, approval letter **and** exam fee (\$90 per exam) to Prometric at the address shown on the form. Payment can be made by Visa, MasterCard, cashier's check or money order. **Personal checks and cash are not accepted. Fees are nonrefundable.**

**Note** Prometric **must** receive your registration form and fee **on or before** the deadline date. No exceptions will be made to this policy. Seating is limited, so submit your registration form early.

**Exam dates and registration cutoff dates.** Exams are offered on specific dates each month at several locations. Exam appointments are assigned according to availability and preference you indicate on the registration form. An exam schedule with testing locations, exam dates and registration deadline dates will be sent with your approval information and is available for viewing online at [www.prometric.com/hawaii](http://www.prometric.com/hawaii).

If you are unable to take the exam on the scheduled test date because of religious restrictions, submit a letter of explanation with your exam registration form.

After receiving and processing your registration, Prometric will send you an admission letter (see Page 3) confirming the time and place of your exam.

**Walk-in testing at the Oahu location.** Walk-in testing is available under certain circumstances. If you have been approved for an exam by the Board, you may take the exam by appointment on a date other than the scheduled testing dates offered. For an appointment, call the Prometric office. A "walk-in" fee of \$60 is added to the basic exam fee. All other conditions in this bulletin apply.

**Special consideration**

**ADA accommodation.** If you require testing accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), please call Prometric at 808.261.8182 to obtain an accommodation request form. This form **must** be submitted, along with written professional verification of your disability, **before** you schedule your exam. Reasonable testing accommodations are provided to allow

candidates with documented disabilities recognized under the ADA an opportunity to demonstrate their skills and knowledge.

**ESL accommodation.** All exams are in English. If English is your second language, please note that a language barrier is not considered a disability.

### Admission letter

If your registration form and payment are received by the registration deadline, Prometric will send you an admission letter. This letter provides information regarding the specific date, time and location of your exam. You **must** present this letter at the testing center or you will not be allowed to test.

You should receive your admission letter approximately five days before the exam. If you lose your admission letter or have not received it three days before the exam, call Prometric immediately at 808.261.8182.

Be sure to notify Prometric and the Board of any change of address.



**Important** If you do not appear for your exam on the date and at the time shown on your admission letter, you forfeit all fees.

### Emergency closings

Severe weather or an emergency could require canceling scheduled exams. If this occurs, Prometric will attempt to contact you by phone or e-mail. However, you may check for testing site closures by calling Prometric. If the site is closed, your exam will be rescheduled without a rescheduling fee.

If a testing center is open for testing and you choose not to appear for your appointment, you will forfeit your fee. You must then reschedule your exam and pay another full exam fee.

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### *Preparing for your exam*

Preparing can help you pass your exam and possibly save time and money needed to take it again. You may use the content outline on Page 6 of this bulletin to prepare for your exam. The exam is based on this content outline.

The Massage Theory exam is closed book. It consists of multiple-choice questions. Three different multiple-choice formats are used on the test. Each format is shown in the following examples. An asterisk (\*) indicates the correct answer in each sample question.

#### **Format 1—Direct question**

What is the massage stroke that consists of manipulations that press and roll the muscles under the hands?

- (A) Friction
- \* (B) Petrissage
- (C) Tapotement
- (D) Vibration

#### **Format 2—Incomplete sentence**

Skeletal muscles normally work

- \* (A) in groups.
- (B) one at a time.
- (C) autonomically.
- (D) isometrically.

**Format 3—All of the following EXCEPT**

All of the following are appropriate goals of massage therapy EXCEPT to

- (A) relieve pain.
- (B) ease the symptoms of injury or disease.
- (C) ease the symptoms of tension and fatigue.
- \* (D) medically treat physical defects.

*What to bring on exam day*

Bring all the following items with you to your exam appointment:

- Your admission letter from Prometric.
- A current, valid, government-issued photo identification, such as a passport, driver's license, or military identification card.
- Two sharpened No. 2 pencils.



**Important** Failure to provide appropriate identification and your admission letter at the time of the exam is considered a missed appointment. If you miss an appointment or arrive late, you forfeit your fees.

*Test center regulations*

To ensure that all candidates are tested under equally favorable conditions, the following regulations and procedures will be observed at each testing center. Failure to follow any of these security procedures may result in disqualification of your examination. Prometric reserves the right to audiotape and videotape any examination session.

**References**

- No reference materials, papers or study materials are allowed at the test center. If you are found with these or any other aids, you will not be allowed to continue the exam and your answers will not be scored.

**Personal items**

- You **must not** bring any personal/unauthorized items into the test center. Such items include but are not limited to: cell phones, PDAs, pagers, cameras, recording devices, photographic equipment, watches, outerwear, hats, food, drinks, purses, briefcases, backpacks, and notebooks.
- You are not allowed to use any electronic devices or phones during breaks.

**Visitors**

- No guests, visitors or family members are allowed in the testing area.

**Misconduct or disruptive behavior**

- Candidates who engage in any kind of misconduct or disruptive or offensive behavior may be dismissed from the examination. Examples are: giving or receiving help, taking part in an act of impersonation, removing test materials or notes from the testing room, using rude or offensive language and behavior that delays or interrupts testing.

**Weapons**

- Weapons are not allowed at the testing center.



**Important** Before an exam begins, the test center administrator will inspect briefcases, purses, and so on and will collect any materials that violate the rules.

**Copyrighted questions.** All test questions are the property of Prometric Inc. and are protected by copyright. Federal law provides severe civil and criminal penalties for the unauthorized reproduction, distribution, or exhibition of copyrighted materials.

If questions arise. Test center administrators are not allowed to answer any questions pertaining to the exam content. If you do not understand a question on the examination, you should answer the question to the best of your ability.

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*Your exam results*

A score report will be mailed to you approximately 10 business days after your exam date. Your score report will provide you with information regarding your next step in the licensure process. To ensure confidentiality, scores will **not** be disclosed over the phone.

**Passing score.** A score of 75 percent or above is required to pass each exam. Scores are based on the number of questions answered correctly. You will not be given credit for any question answered incorrectly, marked with more than one answer or left blank. There is no penalty for guessing, so be sure to mark an answer for each question.

**Retake information.** If you do not pass the exam, you will receive a retake exam registration form with your score report.

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*Appeals process*

Our goal is to provide a quality exam and a pleasant testing experience for every candidate. If you are dissatisfied with either and believe we can correct the problem, we would like to hear from you. We provide an opportunity for general comments at the end of your exam. Your comments will be reviewed by our personnel, but you will not receive a direct response.

If you would like to submit an appeal concerning examination content, registration, scheduling or test administration (testing site procedures, equipment, personnel, etc.), please submit an appeal by visiting [www.prometric.com/contactus](http://www.prometric.com/contactus)

The Appeals Committee will review your concern and send you a written response within 20 business days of receipt.

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*Optional services*

This section describes optional services that Prometric provides.

Exam reviews

If you do not pass your exam, you can register for an optional review of it. The review is a study session that is conducted much like an exam. The review is given once a month. To review an exam, contact Prometric. Neighbor island candidates should call for special arrangements. The fee for this service is \$60.

The purpose of a review is **not** to teach you the exam subject matter. Rather, it is an option you may choose for study purposes. A review is **not** considered an exam attempt and is not scored.

Certificate of achievement

Candidates passing their exams deserve recognition for their accomplishment. Prometric has prepared an 8.5" x11" certificate of achievement. This certificate is suitable for framing and contains your name and the name of the exam you successfully completed in a calligraphy typeface. The cost is \$15.

*Exam content outline*

The Hawaii Massage Therapy Exam is a closed-book exam that consists of 100 multiple-choice questions. You will have two hours to complete the exam. The outline below lists the content areas covered in the exam and the percentage of questions asked from each subject area.

**Exam references.** The outline lists all references used to develop the exam. **Some information found in the references does not apply to the exam.**

**Hawaii Massage Therapy Exam Content Outline**

- I. Laws and Rules - 10%**
  - A. Chapter 452
  - B. Chapter 84
  - C. Chapter 11
- II. Anatomy and Physiology - 50%**
  - A. Organization of the Body
  - B. Cells and Tissues
  - C. Integumentary Systems
  - D. Skeletal System
  - E. Muscular/Skeletal/Kinesiology System
  - F. Circulatory/Lymphatic System
  - G. Nervous System
  - H. Endocrine System
  - I. Digestive System
  - J. Respiratory System
  - K. Excretory System
  - L. Reproductive System
- III. Massage Theory - 15%**
  - A. Basics of Massage
  - B. Physiological Effects
  - C. Manual Modalities
    - 1. Effleurage
    - 2. Petrissage
    - 3. Tapotement
    - 4. Friction
    - 5. Vibration
    - 6. Finger Pressure
- IV. Clinical Situations - 25%**
  - A. Contraindications and Pathology
  - B. Techniques for Specific Conditions
  - C. Sanitation/Infection Control
  - D. Clinical Practice

- 3. *Hawaii Revised Statutes, Chapter 452: Massage Therapy, Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, 335 Merchant Street, Honolulu, HI 96813, [www.cca.hawaii.gov/pvl](http://www.cca.hawaii.gov/pvl).*
- 4. *The Anatomy Coloring Book, Third Edition, 2002, Benjamin Cummings/Pearson Education, 1301 Sansome Street, San Francisco, CA 94111, [www.aw-bc.com](http://www.aw-bc.com).*
- 5. *The Human Body in Health and Disease, Fifth Edition, 2009, Mosby/Elsevier Publishers, 11830 Westline Industrial Drive, St. Louis, MO 63146, [www.us.elsevierhealth.com](http://www.us.elsevierhealth.com).*
- 6. *Illustrated Essentials of Musculoskeletal Anatomy, Fourth Edition, 2002, Megabooks, Inc., 2937 NE 19th Drive, Gainesville, FL 32609-3348, [www.anatomybook.us](http://www.anatomybook.us).*

**References**

- 7. *Mosby's Fundamentals of Therapeutic Massage, Fourth Edition, 2008, Mosby/Elsevier Publishers, 11830 Westline Industrial Drive, St. Louis, MO 63146, [www.us.elsevierhealth.com](http://www.us.elsevierhealth.com).*
- 8. *Theory and Practice of Therapeutic Massage, Fourth Edition, 2005, Milady Publishing/Thomson Learning, 10650 Toebben Drive, Independence, KY 41051, [www.milady.com](http://www.milady.com)*

To obtain Hawaii regulations, you may contact the Board or go to [www.cca.hawaii.gov/pvl](http://www.cca.hawaii.gov/pvl).

**References**

**The following references were used to create the exam but are not allowed in the exam room.**

- 1. *Hawaii Administrative Rules, Department of Health, Title 11, Chapter 11: Sanitation, Section 11-11-4, 1981, Hawaii Department of Health—Sanitation Branch, 591 Ala Moana Boulevard, Honolulu, HI 96813, [www.hawaii.gov/health/environmental/sanitation/index.html](http://www.hawaii.gov/health/environmental/sanitation/index.html).*
- 2. *Hawaii Administrative Rules, Title 16, Chapter 84: Massage Therapy, 1990, Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, 335 Merchant Street, Honolulu, HI 96813, [www.cca.hawaii.gov/pvl](http://www.cca.hawaii.gov/pvl).*

## VOCABULARY LIST

### *Vocabulary list*

The following is a list of vocabulary words intended to assist non-English speaking candidates to prepare for the Massage Therapy licensing exam. The list contains only words considered to be difficult for non-English speaking candidates to find in their translating dictionaries. It is not a complete vocabulary list for the exam, and not all words on this list are used on the exam.

abdomen	diseases	insomnia	pylorus
abduction	draping	integument	quadratus
acute	dorsal	inversion	radial
adduction	dorsiflexion	involuntary	rectum
adipose	edema	inward	relaxation
adrenal	effleurage	kneading	respiratory
alternating	epidermis	latissimus	rotation
anterior	epinephrine	lesion	sacrospinalis
aorta	estrogen	ligament	sagittal
artery	eversion	lumbar	salivary
arthritis	excretory	lymph	scapula
axial	extremities	lymphatic	sensory
axillary	extensor	median	severe
axon	fascia	menisci	skeletal
autonomic	fatty	metatarsis	somatotropic
bursae	fibrosis	midline	spasm
brachii	fibrous	neuron	sphincter
calcium	friction	nutrients	stratum
carbohydrates	fundamental	passive	superficial
carbonate	ganglia	pancreas	synapse
cardiac	gastron	percussion	tapotement
cartilage	groin	petrissage	temporal
circulatory	hemoglobin	phalanges	testosterone
collagen	homeostasis	phlebitis	thymus
compression	hormone	pineal	thyroid
connective	humerus	pituitary	transverse
contraindicated	hydrogen	pivot	ulnar
coronal	hydrotherapy	plantarflexion	umbilicus
cranial	ileocecal	platelets	ventral
deltoid	iliac	popliteal	vertebral
dermis	indicated	preeclampsia	
digestive	inflexion	pregnancy	
dioxide	injury	proteins	