

**CHAPTER 17**  
**REGULATIONS GOVERNING PERSONS AND ESTABLISHMENTS THAT**  
**GIVE MASSAGE**

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No person shall practice massage therapy without obtaining a license or permit from the Norton Board of Health.

No person shall conduct a business for the purpose of giving massage therapy without obtaining a license or permit from the Norton Board of Health.

A license issued to a masseuse or a massage establishment is not transferable.

17.1 DEFINITIONS

- A. Massage Therapy: is a profession in which the practitioner applies manual techniques, and may apply adjunctive therapies, with the intention of positively affecting the health and well-being of the client.
- B. Masseur shall mean a male who practices massage.
- C. Masseuse shall mean a female who practices massage.
- D. ACCREDITED SCHOOL OF MASSAGE shall mean any school or educational institution licensed to do business in the State in which it is located, where the method, profession, and work of massage is taught. The school is accredited by a state unit of educational accreditation, or by the American Massage Therapy Association and provides no less than 500 hours of instruction, which includes a requirement of 120 credit hours in anatomy, physiology and pathology, and furnishes a certificate or diploma of successful completion.

17.2 PERSONS EXCLUDED

Physicians, physical therapists, school athletic trainers or chiropodists (podiatrists), nurses, and acupuncturists registered in the Commonwealth are excluded. A person registered as a barber or an apprentice under the provisions of section 87H or section 87I of Chapter 112 of the General laws or as a hairdresser operator, or a student under the provisions of Section 87T to 87JJ, inclusive of Chapter 112 of the General Laws may practice facial and scalp massage without taking out a license.

17.3 REQUIREMENTS FOR PERSONAL LICENSING

No person will be licensed to practice massage unless they meet the following requirements:

- A. Be 21 years of age or older.
- B. Be of good moral and ethical character.
- C. Submit to the Board of Health a completed application form containing all information requested by said form.
- D. Provide the name and address of the accredited school attended, date attended, and a copy of the diploma, or certificate of graduation, stating that the applicant has successfully completed not less than 500 hours of instruction.

- E. Provide proof of a physical exam and a tuberculin test within the last 45 days. If this is a re-licensure provide proof of a physical exam and a tuberculin test within the last year.
- F. Submit to the Board of Health a current photograph of the applicant at least 2x2" in size.
- G. Submit to the Board of Health a statement of all convictions in a court of law and the grounds therefore.
- H. No person shall employ as a massage therapist any person unless said employee has obtained and has in effect a license issued by the Norton Board of Health.
- I. No licensee shall operate under any other name than his/her own.

17.4 DISPLAY OF LICENSES AND FEES

Each massage therapist shall post his or her individual license in his or her work area.

17.5 PROHIBITIVE

No person licensed shall treat any person afflicted with any skin eruption or other disease unless such person shall have furnished a written certificate from a physician to the effect that the eruption or disease is not of contagious or transmissible nature. No person shall practice colonic therapy within the Town of Norton.

17.5  GROUNDS FOR SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF LICENSE:

- A. Any material statement in the licensee's application that is false.
- B. Inability or unfitness to engage in the practice of massage due to the licensee's physical condition, moral character, or fitness to do the licensed work.
- C. Violation by the licensee of any law or by-law of these rules and regulations.
- D. Failure or refusal to permit the Norton Police, Fire, Building Inspector or the Board of Health to inspect the premises at any time.
- E. Failure to pay any fees, taxes or assessments owed to the Town of Norton or the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

17.6 HEARINGS:

Any person whose license has been suspended or revoked may within ten (10) days of the suspension or revocation of the license, request in writing, a hearing. The Board of Health shall set a time and place for said hearing.

17.7 PENALTIES:

A fine or not more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) or imprisonment for not more than six (6) months shall punish whoever violates any provision of these Rules and Regulations or both in accordance with Section 53, Chapter 140 or the General laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts shall punish.

17.9 INVALIDATION:

If any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phase of these rules and regulations shall be decided invalid for any reason whatsoever, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of these

regulations, which shall remain in full force and effect; and to this end the provision of these regulations are hereby declared severable.

17.10 FEES FOR MASSEUR:

The fee shall be established in the fee schedule. All licenses issued to a masseur are not transferable.

## **REGULATIONS FOR ESTABLISHMENT**

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17.11 Definition of Establishment:

**ESTABLISHMENTS FOR GIVING MESSAGE** shall mean the office, place of business, or premises where massage is practiced or where therapeutic substance is given.

17.12 ESTABLISHMENT EXCEPTIONS:

Hospitals, nursing and convalescent homes, and other similar licensed institutions where massage and baths may be given are excluded from the definition as an establishment.

17.13 REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSING OF AN ESTABLISHMENT

- A. The premises shall be well-lighted, well-ventilated, and properly heated when seasonally indicated.
- B. No room used by the licensee in the conduct of business shall be used as a bedroom.
- C. Every room used for massage shall contain a hand-washing sink with hot and cold running water, liquid soap, paper towels and must be cleaned and well maintained.
- D. There shall be approved toilet and washing facilities within the premises, readily available to the patrons and affording sufficient privacy.
- E. Where patrons of both sexes are accommodated, adequate arrangements shall be made for separation of rooms, toilets and washing facilities used by each sex.
- F. Each room or enclosure used for giving massage services shall have at least one artificial light of not less than 60 watts.
- G. The reception area must be separate from the massage room.
- H. There shall be a heat and smoke detecting system installed and approved by the chief of the Norton Fire Department.
- I. All rooms used for reception and treatment of patrons shall be arranged so as to afford adequate fire protection and shall have satisfactory means of egress in case of fire as approved by the Norton Building Inspector and the Norton Fire Chief.
- J. All devices that come in contact with the body shall be properly sanitized with a bacterial disinfectant after each use. Example: hot stones, robes, sheets, blankets, pillowcases, wearing apparel, towels or other materials etc.
- K. All linens that come in direct contact with the body shall be laundered and appropriately sanitized after each use.

- L. All areas of the massage room shall be maintained in a clean and sanitary manner. All Surfaces shall be cleaned and sanitized with disinfectant after each use.
  - M. No food or alcohol shall be permitted on the premises.
  - N. The treatment of wounds shall be prohibited.
- 17.14 DISPLAY OF LICENSES:  
All licenses and permits to operate the establishment must be posted in a conspicuous place in the establishment.
- 17.15 PRICE RATES:  
Price rates for all services shall be prominently posted in the reception area in a location available to all prospective customers.
- 17.16 REGISTER OF EMPLOYEES  
The licensee or person designated by the licensee of a massage establishment shall maintain a register of all persons employed at any given time as a massage therapist and are responsible to make sure each massage therapists has a valid license from the Board of Health. Such register shall be available at the massage establishment to representatives of the Town of Norton during regular business hours.
- 17.17 HEARINGS:  
Any establishment whose license has been suspended or revoked may within ten (10) days of the suspension or revocation of the license, request in writing, an hearing upon the cause or causes of such suspension or revocation. The Board of Health shall set a time and place for said hearing.
- 17.18 PENALTIES:  
A fine of not more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) or imprisonment for not more than six (6) months shall punish whoever violates any provision of these Rules and Regulations or both in accordance with Section 53, Chapter 140 or the General laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts shall punish.
- 17.19 INVALIDATION:  
If any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of these rules and regulations shall be decided invalid for any reason whatsoever, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of these regulations, which shall remain in full force and effect; and to this end the provision of these regulations are hereby declared severable.
- 17.20 FEES FOR ESTABLISHMENTS:  
The fee shall be established in the fee schedule. All licenses issued to an establishment are not transferable.