



MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, by Proclamation dated March 14th, 2020, issued by Tate Reeves, Governor of the State of Mississippi, a state of emergency was declared pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. Section §33-15-11, in order to address the high risk for an outbreak of the novel coronavirus, identified as COVID-19, in the State of Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, the CDC identifies the potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 both globally and in the United States as “very high”, and has advised that person-to-person spread of COVID-19 will continue to occur globally, including within the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Proclamation has invoked the emergency powers of the Governor pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. Section §33-15-11(c)(1) to temporarily suspend or modify any rule or regulation of a state agency which would in any way prevent, hinder or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi State Board of Massage Therapy, as an agency of the State of Mississippi wishes to comply with the Governor’s proclamation and take those steps necessary to address care to the citizens of the State of Mississippi during this time of emergency; and

NOW THEREFORE, until action is taken by the Governor of the State of Mississippi to lift the declared emergency, the Mississippi State of Massage Therapy has made the following modification to the Rules in a Board meeting on Thursday, March 19th, 2020, governing the renewal of licenses:

1. Licenses that are due to expire May 31st, 2020 will be extended through August 27th, 2020 with no late fee after May 31st. The standard renewal fee of \$200 will apply. New licenses will be issued within 14 days of renewal.
2. Licenses that are not renewed by August 27th, 2020 will be moved to expired status and will require a paper renewal reapplication

with the required \$200 license fee and \$250 reapplication fee for a total of \$450.

3. When licensees complete their required continuing education hours and their CPR/First Aid certification (classroom or blended program only are accepted), they may renew online anytime between April 1st and August 27th, 2020; and

FURTHER, the Mississippi State Board of Massage Therapy will allow the completion of online classes for Mississippi licensed massage therapy programs as indicated below. All online courses must track student's participation and time spent on each section and support his or her time with valid documentation. Licensed educational institutions must submit a copy of the online program outlines after development and prior to implementation.

20 hours Anatomy-including all body systems

20 hours Physiology

20 hours Neurology

20 hours Pathology-including Medical Terminology

20 hours Myology or Kinesiology

10 hours Legalities-including Mississippi Massage Law and Ethics

20 hours History, Benefits, Indications and Contraindications

20 hours Referral Methods Within the Healthcare System

Additional theory classes may be approved on a case by case basis; and

FURTHER, except as specifically stated herein, all other regulations remain in full force and effect.

SO ORDERD AND APPROVED by the Mississippi State Board of Massage Therapy, this the 19th day of March 2020.

MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY

By: Scott Parker
Scott Parker, Chairman