



ALABAMA BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY
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May 20, 2020

Memorandum

TO: Licensees and/or Applicants

FROM: Keith Warren, *Executive Director*

SUBJECT: COVID-19 Latest Update

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Keith Warren", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Good Morning,

The Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards has developed a task force in response to the current pandemic which includes members of the massage profession, health professionals, and guidance from the CDC. They have released guidance and recommendations specific to the massage profession to help you navigate massage services and businesses during COVID-19:

“The Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards (FSMTB) is pleased to present the Guidelines for Practice with COVID-19 Considerations. This document contains recommendations and guidelines for massage and bodywork practitioners to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. The intent of this document is to provide a resource to FSMTB Member Boards and Agencies, massage and bodywork professionals, and massage school staff in order to support public protection. Readers are encouraged to refer to and use the FSMTB Guidelines for Practice with COVID-19 Considerations within the confines of the regulatory structures of their respective states. FSMTB recognizes that some customization and flexibility are necessary to allow these concepts to be of assistance in each jurisdiction and practice setting. Each massage practice will have its own time frame for returning to work based on the state’s stay-at-home orders, supply of personal protective equipment (PPE), funding for massage programs, availability of COVID-19 tests, COVID-19 testing rates, and stable or falling COVID-related hospitalization rates for two weeks or more. **These recommendations and guidelines do not replace any directives or guidance provided by federal or state agencies, regulatory boards, or other authorities having jurisdiction.** Where conflicts occur, the stricter requirement will apply.”

Continued on next page

The full report is available here: <https://www.fsmtb.org/media/2319/fsmtb20200519guidelinesforpracticecovid-19.pdf>

Please use this valuable tool as a resource to ensure maximum protection of your business, employees, service providers, and clients during this time.

Additional Resources:

Current AL Safer At Home Order: <https://governor.alabama.gov/assets/2020/05/Safer-at-Home-Order-FINAL-5.8.2020.pdf>

Our latest updates: <http://almtbd.alabama.gov/news.aspx>

Department of Labor News for Workers Impacted: <https://www.labor.alabama.gov/covid19resources.aspx>

Governor Kay Ivey's Latest News: <https://governor.alabama.gov/newsroom/>

Alabama Department of Health's Latest News: <https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/infectiousdiseases/2019-coronavirus.html>

CDC's Latest News: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

"Do Not Enter If You Think You Have The New Coronavirus" Poster:

<http://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/infectiousdiseases/assets/cov-donotenter-poster.pdf>