

Policies Regarding Massage Education Received Outside the United States

Applicants who received all or part of their massage education outside California are expected to present their educational credentials in the same manner as applicants whose massage therapy training took place in-state. The test for acceptance is whether the applicant's education and training received within another U.S. state or in another country is at least substantially equivalent to the requirements applied to California school programs. Those criteria speak to the educational institution enjoying approved institutional status from the appropriate governmental entity, relevance and hour scope of massage courses taken, and – for entry through certain application pathways – inclusion of sufficient hours in mandated subject areas.

In implementing this policy, CAMTC recognizes that such individual applicants, particularly those whose massage training occurred abroad, may face additional challenges in obtaining (and getting translated when necessary) required documentation and attestations. Beyond that reality, CAMTC's intention is that all applicants be treated the same in the application evaluation process, that no discriminatory obstacles be erected in the path toward CAMTC certification for those whose training took place outside California. Applicants need understand that CAMTC certification alone does not constitute a permit to work. Individuals seeking to work in the U.S. should contact the appropriate agency in the state(s) in which they wish to be employed.

One important aspect of educational program equivalence is whether the educational institution attended has been approved by the national, regional, or state authority with responsibility for vocational program approvals. Such status can readily be ascertained by CAMTC for each of the 50 U.S. states, U.S. territories, and the Canadian provinces of Ontario, British Columbia, Nova Scotia, and Newfoundland and Labrador. Officially sealed transcripts from duly locally approved educational institutions located within those jurisdictions shall be sufficient school material for CAMTC to evaluate. Applicants who are presenting massage education secured elsewhere will, in addition to satisfying transcript requirements described below, need to supply to CAMTC a letter of certification from a governmental authority of the country or state in which the school is located stating that the school is/was duly licensed and approved.

An applicant whose massage education occurred elsewhere outside the U.S. will need to arrange to have course hours on their transcript evaluated, by a CAMTC approved evaluation/translation agency. Part of that evaluation will involve re-casting of coursework completed into U.S. course content titles and hour equivalents.

No language translation will be required for officially sealed transcripts, presented in the English language, from the other Canadian provinces or from the following countries in which English is the primary language: Australia, New Zealand, United Kingdom, Ireland, South Africa, Barbados, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago.

All application documents for California Statewide Certification submitted in a language other than English must be accompanied by:

- (a) An accurate translation of those documents into English

- (b) An accurate evaluation, by a CAMTC approved evaluation/translation agency, of the applicant's education and practical training that demonstrates to the satisfaction of the CAMTC that the applicant's education and training are at least substantially equivalent to California requirements
- (c) A notarized affidavit certifying that the translator is competent in both the language of the original document(s) and the English language and stating that the translation provided to CAMTC is a true and complete English translation of the original document

Notes:

- Any cost of translation for the above documents shall be incurred by the applicant.*
- Should you be required to have your transcripts evaluated by an approved foreign evaluation/translation agency, we highly recommend that you contact the agency as early as possible. Their services may take several weeks to process your transcript once it is received.*
- CAMTC cannot send any documents back to you for any reason. DO NOT send CAMTC your only copy of any important documents.*

The following transcript evaluation/translation agencies are currently approved by CAMTC:

International Education Research Foundation, Inc. (IERF)
P.O. Box 3665
Culver City, CA 90231
Phone: 310.258.9451
Fax: 310.342.7086
www.ierf.org

World Education Services
West Coast Director, Todd Rutkin
trutkin@wes.org
www.wes.org

Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc.
P.O. Box 514070
Milwaukee, WI 53203-3470
414-289-3400
www.ece.org