



AMENDMENTS TO POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR APPROVAL OF SCHOOLS

1. Amendments to Policies and Procedures for Approval of Schools

The CAMTC Board, at its October 2024 meeting, adopted several amendments to the Policies and Procedures for Approval of Schools.

- 1.A. Clarifies that CAMTC cannot accept continuing education hours as meeting the minimum requirements for training and curriculum for certification. While this has always been the policy, adding this statement provides more transparency to applicants.
- 1.E. Clarifies that schools applying for re-approval must submit a complete application (which includes all required pieces) at least six months prior to their expiration date. While this has always been the rule, adding this statement provides more transparency to schools.
- 2.B.a.-b. Removes the application fee amounts to avoid conflicts with other documents.
- 2.E.a.(1)B. Adds a cooling-off period of two years after two purged applications for new schools.

- 4.C.a.(2)-(3) and 4.H.b. Amends the Procedures to align with the current application process.

- 5.E.a.(1)A.-B. Clarifies the requirements of Hands-On Massage hours to ensure that 1) students successfully complete all 500 hours required for certification, and 2) practice proper draping and massage techniques required for ethics, contraindications, health and hygiene, and public protection as required by the Massage Therapy Act. While these have always been the rules, adding these statements provides more transparency to schools.

- 5.E.h. Amends the Procedures to align with the current application and site visit processes.

- 5.J.a.-e. Provides approved schools the choice to add out-of-country supplement curriculum as a course within an already-approved program or as a separate program.

The newly updated Procedures can be found here: <https://www.camtc.org/schools/school-owners-administrators/>

CAMTC APPROVED EXAMS

The CAMTC Board, at its October 2024 meeting, added the Massage and Bodywork Licensing Exam (MBLEx) back to its list of CAMTC approved exams. The MBLEx had been removed from the list last year when the Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards (FSMTB) made a change to require graduation from a massage program. This conflicted with California law. At this year's annual meeting, FSMTB reversed that decision paving the way for CAMTC to again include the MBLEx on its list of approved exams.

CAMTC's current list of approved exams are:

- Board Certification Exam for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork (BCETMB)

- Massage and Bodywork Licensing Exam (MBLEx)
- NEW YORK STATE MASSAGE THERAPY EXAMINATION (NYSMTE)
- National Certification Exam for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork (NCETMB; if taken before Feb. 2, 2015)
- National Certification Exam for Therapeutic Massage (NCETM; if taken before Feb. 2, 2015)
- National Exam for State Licensing (NESL)

Note: The Legislature currently has suspended the exam requirement for massage certification until January 1, 2027.



TRADITIONAL THAI MASSAGE EDUCATION TOUR

Joe Bob Smith, Director of CAMTC's Educational Standards Division, along with Katie Mickey, owner of the Santa Barbara Body Therapy Institute (currently CAMTC's only approved out-of-country supplement program), visited Thailand, September 6-12, 2024, at the invitation of the Royal Thai Consulate-General, Los Angeles. The purpose of this visit was to provide CAMTC with a comprehensive overview and understanding of how Nuad Thai – the Traditional Thai Massage – educational institutions in Thailand operate and to discuss with officials from the Ministry of Public Health the compatibility of Traditional Thai Massage education in Thailand with CAMTC's requirements for out-of-country education.

Four unique massage schools opened their programs to us; two spas gave us insight to the current state of Thai wellness; and, during a meeting at the Department of Thai Traditional and Alternative Medicine, the Director-General conveyed the importance of wellness and medical to Thailand as a Global Industrial Hub. Massage is an integral part of the Thai culture and economy. This cultural exchange provided first-hand insight to one of the world's most prominent massage therapies.

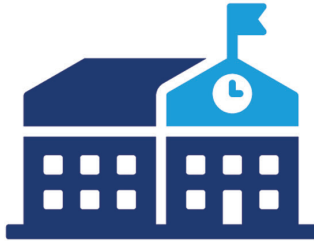


OUT-OF-COUNTRY EDUCATION

CAMTC now considers successfully completed education from all countries for purposes of CAMTC Certification. For more information, please see the [Policies and Procedures for Evaluation of Out-of-Country Education](#)

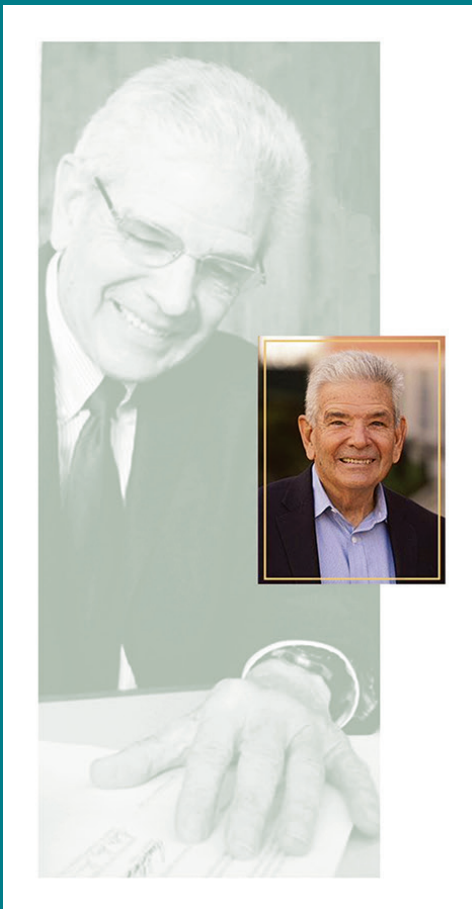


CLASS CALENDAR



It is schools' responsibility to ensure that CAMTC always has a current copy of your school's class calendar for all approved programs and all schedules, both in-person and virtual. If your schedule includes interactive distance learning classes, you must also ensure that CAMTC has access information

for those classes. Any time a schedule changes, schools must notify CAMTC with an updated calendar. CAMTC may charge a fee if a site visit occurs but is unable to be completed due to an erroneous calendar in addition to other actions that may be taken.



\$5,000 DR. RON BATES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

Congratulations to the Dr. Ron Bates Memorial Scholarship winner, Venus Krogsrud! CAMTC awarded Ms. Krogsrud \$5,000 toward her massage education at McKinnon Body Therapy Center in Oakland. CAMTC wishes Ms. Krogsrud much success in her future massage career! CAMTC extends a similar wish for success and thanks to the many other qualified individuals who applied, including our First and Second Runners-up, Amanda Schwartz and Kimberly Davido.

Dr. Ron Bates, a long-term member of the CAMTC Board of Directors and a former Vice Chair, devoted his life to public service and strongly supported education. His passing in 2022 saddened all who knew him. In his memory, CAMTC established a scholarship in support of a deserving student of therapeutic massage.



MONTHLY SCHOOLS CALL



The CAMTC Monthly Schools Call occurs the 1st Wednesday of every month at 2pm. The next call is **April 2, 2025**. Calls are open to the public, but participation is prioritized for school owners and administrators. Please email your school-related questions in advance to:

jbsmith@camtc.org

To participate in the upcoming conference call, simply call the phone number below and, when prompted, enter the passcode below followed by the # sign:

Phone number: 877-366-0711 Passcode: 82373574 #



BOARD MEETINGS

For past and future CAMTC Board meetings, visit our website:

www.camtc.org/information-about-camtc/meetings/#2025



Previous CAMTC Newsletters

You can always find previous School Newsletters here:
www.camtc.org/information-about-camtc/publications
Then scroll down.

California Massage Therapy Council's mission is to protect the public by certifying massage professionals in California that meet the requirements in the Law and approving massage programs that meet the minimum standards for training and curriculum.

www.camtc.org