

Department of Commerce, Community
and Economic Development

Division of Corporations, Business
and Professional Licensing

Board of Massage Therapists

Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2025



Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing

P.O. Box 110806
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0806
Email: License@Alaska.Gov

This report is required under Alaska Statute 08.01.070(10).

**Board of Massage Therapists
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**Board of Massage Therapists
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Board Membership *(as of the Date This Report was Approved)*

Date of Final Board Approval: 6/5/2025

Atwell, Annetta (North Pole)
Steiner, Michelle (Kodiak)
Foster, Emily (Palmer)

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Accomplishments

The State of Alaska Board of Massage Therapists licensing program is operating as an established licensing program. Ongoing regulatory obligations have been satisfactory met. The board can anticipate adjustments to the regulatory and statutory framework as the massage profession evolves over time. The board continues to partner with the division of professional licensing to improve efficiency in application processing, reduce program costs and decrease application processing time.

The board has partnered with the division of professional licensing to continue to expedite the process of licensing. This has been done by maintaining the board policy to review applications on a weekly basis. The board has also identified specific application conditions that the board approves for delegation of approval of issuance of license to the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing.

The Board has drafted an apprenticeship model as they work to provide a clear framework to further define the current regulation for the approval of apprenticeship programs.

The Board voted in March of 2025 to elect Emily Foster as the Vice-Chair of the Board of Massage Therapists.

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Activities

The Board of Massage Therapists held a public in person town hall meeting in Anchorage during the FY 2025 September meeting. The board presented information of the licensing and regulatory process and directly answered question of public who attended both in person and online through zoom.

Board member Annetta Atwell attended a boards chair training offered by the Division of Professional Licensing.

The board deliberated and worked on refining the current regulation of approving apprenticeship programs by working to define a specific framework for board approval of apprenticeship programs and pogram providers.

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Needs

The Board will need to continue the membership with the Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards (FSMTB) and attend the annual meeting to represent the interests of the State of Alaska. The FSMTB is the non-profit organization that is responsible for the national massage therapy entry level exam. Member States contribute to the decision making of this organization through member resolutions that are deliberated upon during the annual meeting.

The board currently has two seat that are not currently appointed. The board needs to fill the seat of a licensed massage therapist and a public member. The board would like the support in the appointment of these seats.

The board will be addressing the clarification of the regulations the approval of apprenticeship programs