



MASSAGE THERAPY ASSOCIATION

ADVOCATE FOR MASSAGE THERAPY AS A RECOGNIZED AND RESPECTED HEALTHCARE PROFESSION

Date: March 17, 2020

To: WSMTA Board of Directors and Members

From: Marybeth Berney, LMT, WSMTA President, Board Member, Government Relations Program Member
(mberney@mywsmta.org)

Re: March 17, 2020 Board of Massage (BOM) Meeting Notes

Remote Teaching Options for Massage Programs: In response to operational guidance regarding Covid-19 the message board had a special meeting today. The board members discussed and took action in regard to remote teaching options for board approved massage programs.

This meeting was held via GoToMeeting. Board members and staff present for the meeting were: Heidi Williams, LMT, BOM chair; Autumn Straker, LMT, BOM vice-chair; Anthony Sharpe, BOM public member; Megan Maxey DOH program manager; Renee Fullerton, DOH executive director; and Luke Eaton, AAG.

The board discussed many options for assisting massage schools to continue to serve their students, including the possibility of reducing required hours but this would require WAC changes, which are too slow for this purpose. In the end they approved a motion allowing all board approved massage schools to go to remote learning for the duration of the Governor's mandated closure of schools or until the next meeting of the board on June 5 2020, whichever comes first. Remote training must be done in accordance with Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board guidelines. All board approved massage programs will be receiving information on the processes that must be followed.

2020 Meeting Locations:

- June 5, 2020 – This meeting will be held in conjunction with the Rules hearing
- Aug 21, 2020 -- Tri-Cities or Teleconference (will be decided at June meeting)
- Nov 13, 2020 – Kent or Teleconference (will be decided at June meeting)