

**MEETING AGENDA
SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY**

Thursday, June 11, 2026

9:00 am CDT

The meeting will be held via Microsoft Teams

Click here to join the meeting:

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Or Call: 1-605-679-7263, ID 278 006 025#

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Open Forum
5. Draft Administrative Rules
6. Next Meeting – July 29, 2026
7. Adjourn

South Dakota Board of Massage Therapy

Draft Administrative Rules

Draft 3 – May 28, 2026

Note: The language highlighted in yellow is changed from the version presented and discussed at the April 29, 2026 board meeting.

The rules are still in draft form and subject to further revision by the board.

DRAFT

20:76:01:06. Required training. An applicant for licensure as a massage therapist shall provide proof of required training on a form prescribed by the board and completed by the recognized facility where the training was received. Official transcripts evidencing that the applicant has completed the required training shall be provided by the recognized facility. The board may consider other evidence of training if the recognized facility has ceased operations. The required training for licensure includes:

- (1) One hundred twenty-five hours of training in the body's systems and anatomy, physiology, and kinesiology;
- (2) Two hundred hours of training in massage and bodywork assessment, theory, and application;
- (3) Forty hours of training in pathology;
- (4) Ten hours total of training in business and ethics, with a minimum of six hours in ethics; and
- (5) One hundred twenty-five hours of additional training in an area or related field that theoretically completes a massage program of study.

Fifty minutes of supervised classroom instruction is equal to one hour of training.

The board may approve an application from an applicant with required training from a combination of two or more recognized facilities. Online training is acceptable to meet the training requirements for licensure. At least 200 hours of hands-on training from a recognized facility must be completed at the training facility.

The board may recognize qualifying continuing education to fulfill required training for licensure.

Source: 34 SDR 332, effective July 9, 2008; 37 SDR 29, effective August 30, 2010; 43 SDR 181, effective July 10, 2017.

General Authority: SDCL ~~36-35-12(4)~~, ~~36-35-24(2)~~ 36-35-12, 36-35-24.

Law Implemented: SDCL 36-35-12.

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20:76:08:01. Recognized facilities. The board may license an applicant who has completed the training required by § 20:76:01:06 from ~~the following South Dakota facilities:~~

- ~~— (1) Black Hills Health & Education Center;~~
- ~~— (2) Headlines Academy;~~
- ~~— (3) National American University;~~
- ~~— (4) Pam's Massage School;~~
- ~~— (5) South Dakota School of Massage Therapy;~~
- ~~— (6) Sioux Falls Therapeutic Massage & Education Center; and~~
- ~~— (7) Springs Bath House School of Massage Therapy.~~

a recognized facility.

The list of recognized facilities located in South Dakota is available on the board's website at <https://doh.sd.gov/licensing-and-records/boards/massage>.

The board will continue to accept education and training from a facility that is no longer operational if it was recognized by the board while in operation.

Source: 38 SDR 177, effective April 26, 2012; SL 2013, ch 184, § 18, effective July 1, 2013; 43 SDR 181, effective July 10, 2017.

General Authority: ~~SDCL 36-35-12, 36-35-24(2).~~

Law Implemented: ~~SDCL 36-35-12(3), 36-35-12(2), 36-35-24(2).~~

20:76:08:02. Facilities that may be recognized by the board. South Dakota facilities that wish to become a recognized facility to teach massage therapy education required by §20:76:01:06 must do the following:

- _____ (1) Apply to the board on an application form provided by the board;
- _____ (2) Submit the curriculum the facility will be using to teach massage therapy;
- _____ (3) Include a list of instructors and their credentials as defined in §NEW; and
- _____ (4) Reapply every three years to remain on the list of recognized facilities.

_____ A recognized facility must operate at the location listed on the application and is not transferable to a new owner. If a facility wishes to operate in more than one location or city, separate applications must be submitted for each location.

_____ At its discretion, the board or its representative(s) have the authority to inspect any facility recognized by the board. Recognized facilities may be subject to disciplinary action.

The board may accept an applicant's training required by § 20:76:01:06 from a an out-of-state facility not recognized pursuant to § 20:76:08:01 if the facility provides official evidence it meets at least one of the following criteria:

- (1) The facility is licensed or approved by the state board of massage therapy in the state where that training facility is located; or
- (2) The out-of-state facility is accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education.

The training that allows an applicant to take a national examination does not require the board to recognize the facility.

Source: 34 SDR 332, effective July 9, 2008; 37 SDR 29, effective August 30, 2010; 43 SDR 181, effective July 10, 2017.

General Authority: SDCL 36-35-12(4), 36-35-24(2).

Law Implemented: SDCL 36-35-12.

NEW. Instructors. Instructors must have the following credentials:

(1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, classroom instruction must be provided by a licensed massage therapist at a recognized school of massage therapy. The instructor must have at least three years of hands-on experience as a massage therapist, hold a South Dakota massage therapy license, and be in good standing with the board.

(2) An instructor of body systems, anatomy, physiology, kinesiology and pathology; and business and ethics is not required to be a licensed massage therapist; however, the faculty member must demonstrate competence in their respective areas of teaching as evidenced by a minimum of two years or 2000 hours experience in their field and/or by appropriate degrees/certificates from approved colleges/schools/institutions.

Source:

General Authority: SDCL

Law Implemented: SDCL

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