MIRACOSTA COLLEGE MASSAGE THERAPY
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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1. APPLICATION AND ENROLLMENT

How do I apply?
Apply to MiraCosta College at:
Miracosta.edu/apply

How do I enroll in classes?
Once your application has been processed you will be sent your student ID (called your SURF ID).
http://www.miracosta.edu/studentservices/studenthelp/studentpasswordinfo.html
Choose your classes online and enroll in SURF at:
https://idp.miracosta.edu/idp/Authn/UserPassword

Can I enroll in Massage Therapy classes even if I’m not sure I want become a massage therapist?
Definitely! Many students enjoy taking the massage courses. All students must follow the pre-requisites and the first class required is MASG110.

2. COURSES AND PROGRAMS

What is the 500-hour Massage Therapist Certificate?
The 500-hour Massage Therapist Certificate of Achievement (24 units) includes the following seven classes and then one class from the electives:
- MASG 110 - Therapeutic Massage Foundation
- MASG 210 - Therapeutic Massage Development
- MASG 215 - Massage Clinical Practicum
- MASG 218 - Chair Massage and Aromatherapy
- MASG 220 - Sports Massage
- MASG 230 - Therapeutic Massage Integration
- HEAL 222 - Stress Management

Choose one course from the following:
- BUS 130 – Small Business Management
- KINE 203 – Techniques in Athletic Training
- NURS 155 – Basic Medical Terminology
- NUTR 100 – Nutrition Today
- NUTR 105 – Human Performance and Sports Nutrition
After receiving the Massage Therapist certificate, students can take the Massage and Bodywork Licensing Exam (MBLEx) to receive CAMTC certification. Applicants must be at least 18 years old and have completed the entire 500 hours. More information can be found on the MiraCosta website: [http://catalog.miracosta.edu/disciplines/massagetherapy/](http://catalog.miracosta.edu/disciplines/massagetherapy/)

**What is the 1000-hour Holistic Health Practitioner Certificate?**
The 1000-hour Holistic Health Practitioner Certificate of Achievement (45 units) includes the following fifteen classes:

- MASG 110 - Therapeutic Massage Foundation
- MASG 210 - Therapeutic Massage Development
- MASG 215 - Massage Clinical Practicum
- MASG 218 - Chair Massage and Aromatherapy
- MASG 220 - Sports Massage
- MASG 230 – Therapeutic Massage Integration
- MASG 240 - Therapeutic Massage Implementation
- MASG 250 - Therapeutic Massage for special Populations
- MASG 260 - Therapeutic Massage for Pain Management
- BUS 130 – Small Business Management
- HEAL 222 - Stress Management
- KINE190 - Introduction to Kinesiology
- KINE 203 – Techniques in Athletic Training
- NURS 155 – Basic Medical Terminology
- NUTR 100 – Nutrition Today Or NUTR 105 – Human Performance and Sports Nutrition

After receiving the Massage Therapist certificate, students can take the Massage and Bodywork Licensing Exam (MBLEx) to receive CAMTC certification. Applicants must be at least 18 years old and have completed the entire 1000 hours. More information can be found on the MiraCosta website: [http://catalog.miracosta.edu/disciplines/massagetherapy/](http://catalog.miracosta.edu/disciplines/massagetherapy/)

3. **COSTS & SUPPLIES**

**How much will the certification at MiraCosta cost?**
Currently $46.00 per unit plus textbooks.
Estimate for 500-hour program with 24 units: $1,104 plus three to five textbook
Estimate for the 1000-hour program with 45 units: $2,070 plus five to eight textbooks
MiraCosta is a few thousand dollars cheaper than most programs!

**What supplies will I need?**
MiraCosta College provides massage tables, chairs, lotions, linens, etc. Students are required to purchase and wear white or black short/cap sleeve shirt (polo/athletic style), dark/khaki knee/ankle length pants and closed toed shoes while working with the public.

4. **TIME FRAME**

**How long will it take to complete the 500-hour certificate?**
This depends on your schedule and availability. If your schedule is flexible, the certificate can be completed in three semesters. Not all classes are offered each semester. MASG218 is only offered in the summer and spring and MASG230 is only offered in the fall.
500-Hour: **What is the participation policy?**
Due to strict hours required by the CAMTC, **students that miss more than ONE class period will be involuntarily dropped from the course they are enrolled in.** No exceptions will be made. For approved absences (significant illness or injury, or death in the immediate family) students are expected to email the instructor in advance of the class period and on return provide the instructor with verification of the event (i.e. doctors note.) Approved absences will require that hours be made up. The instructor will craft appropriate substitute make-up work. Students bear the ultimate responsibility for all missed class material.

**How long will it take to complete the 1000-hour certificate?**
This depends on your schedule and availability but can potentially be completed in four semesters. Not all classes are offered each semester. MASG218 is only offered in the summer and spring, MASG230 is only offered in the fall, and MASG240 and MASG260 are only offered in the spring.

1000-Hour: **What is the participation policy?**
Due to strict hours required by the CAMTC, **students that miss more than ONE class period will be involuntarily dropped from the course they are enrolled in.** No exceptions will be made. For approved absences (significant illness or injury, or death in the immediate family) students are expected to email the instructor in advance of the class period and on return provide the instructor with verification of the event (i.e. doctors note.) Approved absences will require that hours be made up. The instructor will craft appropriate substitute make-up work. Students bear the ultimate responsibility for all missed class material.

5. **CERTIFICATES AND PREREQUISITES**

**Are there any prerequisites for the 500-hour Massage Therapist and 1000-hour Holistic Health Practitioner certificates?**
None.

**Can I waive MASG110 if I have many years of massage experience?**
No. The only exception is when a student comes to MiraCosta with having taken a 3-unit (or more) Introductory Massage Therapy course for credit from a university or college that is a Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) or Accrediting Commission for Community & Junior Colleges (ACCJC) accredited schools. **We cannot except courses completed at a massage school.** Extension courses are non-credit and do not count toward the certificate. Transcripts showing the college, course, units and grade must be submitted along with a Petition for Course Substitution Form:
[https://www.miracosta.edu/instruction/downloads/Sub-WaiverForm.pdf](https://www.miracosta.edu/instruction/downloads/Sub-WaiverForm.pdf)

6. **COMPLETION**

**How do I complete the 500-hour Or, 1000-hour Certificate of Achievement?**
During the semester of completion of the certificate, students need to **Complete the Certificate of Achievement form and submit to the Admissions & Records by the 30% deadline of the final semester leading to your graduation** (The deadline is listed in the Class Schedule each term. Students intending to graduate during the summer intersession may submit their petition during the spring semester.) Scroll to Massage Therapy and either the Holistic Health
Practitioner (1000 hours) or Massage Therapist (500 hours): [http://www.miracosta.edu/studentservices/counseling/certificates.html](http://www.miracosta.edu/studentservices/counseling/certificates.html)

**Note:** Unofficial transcripts from all colleges attended (or concurrently attending), approved substitutions and waivers, educational plans, and any other necessary documents for the Certificate of Achievement **must be on file in the Admissions and Records Office before a student submits their petition.** Petitions submitted after the deadline are automatically processed in the subsequent term.

**Note:** If you have any questions regarding the procedure for MiraCosta College, please contact: Admissions & Records at 760.795.6620 or the Counseling Office at 760.795.6670.

7. **250-HOUR to 500-HOUR OR, 1000-HOUR CERTIFICATES**

**California is no longer honoring my 250-hour certificate, what do I do?**
Known as “The Massage Therapy Reform Act” or AB 1147 the act changed education and other requirements for certification. The 250-hour certificate is no longer recognized. Many students are coming back to take classes to earn either the 500-hour / 1000-hour certificate.

**Can I waive MASG110, MASG210, MASG215, MASG218 if I already have a 250-hour Massage Therapist certificate from a accredited school?**
Yes, as long as you have completed similar college credit classes (e.g., equivalent course curriculum, hours, units) at a university or college that is a Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) accredited school. We cannot except courses completed at a massage school. Complete a Waiver Form and attach a copy of your 250-hour certificate along with your transcripts. The department chair can work with students to choose the appropriate classes needed to receive the required 500-hour / 1000-hour certificate. [https://www.miracosta.edu/instruction/downloads/Sub-WaiverForm.pdf](https://www.miracosta.edu/instruction/downloads/Sub-WaiverForm.pdf)

**Can I waive MASG courses if I completed similar courses from another college?**
Yes, as long as the courses were from a university or college that is a Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) accredited school and you received credit. Extension courses are non-credit and do not count toward the certificate. Complete both a Petition for Course Substitution Form: [https://www.miracosta.edu/instruction/downloads/Sub-WaiverForm.pdf](https://www.miracosta.edu/instruction/downloads/Sub-WaiverForm.pdf) And a Prerequisite/Priority Enrollment Form to be turned into Admissions & Records. [http://www.miracosta.edu/studentservices/admissions/downloads/Prerequisite-PriorityRegform.pdf](http://www.miracosta.edu/studentservices/admissions/downloads/Prerequisite-PriorityRegform.pdf)

**Can I waive courses because I have previous knowledge on the topic?**
No. All courses are needed to fulfill 500-hour / 1000-hour requirement.

**Can I enroll in MASG110 and MASG210 during the same semester?**
Yes. The two classes are offered as 8-week classes over a 16-week semester. MASG110 is always the 1st 8 weeks and then MASG210 is always the 2nd 8 weeks. You must enroll through Admissions and Records to sign up for MASG110. At the completion (and a passing grade) in MASG110 you will need the MASG210 instructor to provide you with an add code. You will need to register with Admissions and Records during this first week of the class being offered. Students that miss this deadline will not be allowed in this class. No exceptions.
8. **QUESTIONS REGARDING PREVIOUS CERTIFICATES/COURSES AT MIRACOSTA:**

   **I started with the “old” 500-hour / 1000-hour Certificate of Achievement. Please advise.**
   Students who started classes under the “old” certificates (Spring 2016 or earlier) have catalog rights to the certificate in the catalog when they stated classes at MiraCosta. Students can choose if they want to use the “old” certificate with all the required classes as long as they have not missed more than two consecutive semesters at MiraCosta (e.g., fall and spring or spring and fall) or can choose to switch to the “new” certificates that began in the fall of 2016.

   **What happens when I took Chair Massage (MASG218) for 2 units and now it is “Chair Massage and Aromatherapy” for 3 units?**
   If choosing to complete a “new” certificate students must meet the required hours. 500-hour students can take either a 1 unit HEAL292 Internship Studies Course or choose from one of the offered MASG courses (MASG240, 250 or 260.) 1000-hour students must take a 1 unit HEAL292 Internship Studies Course.

9. **HOW DO I TAKE THE MBLEx AND REGISTER THROUGH CAMTC?**

   **Complete steps outlined below for taking the MBLEx:**

   1. For California students, the MBLEx will be the sole licensing exam for the massage profession. Student must go to the MBLEx website [https://www.fsmtb.org/](https://www.fsmtb.org/) and apply. The fee to take the exam is $195. It does take 5-7 days for processing and you will receive the notice to schedule (NTS) email confirmation.
   2. Call or schedule online with a testing center within 90 days (after 90 days you must apply and pay the fee again.) You will need the NTS to schedule. MiraCosta students should be well prepared but there are a number of study sites/ study guides for the exam. The exam is 100 multiple choice questions and you will have 2 hours to complete.
   3. Exam proof will be sent directly from the examining board to CAMTC.

   **Complete steps outlined below for registering with CAMTC:**

   1. Download CAMTC application, complete by hand, sign and date.
   2. Attach your passport photo.
   3. Include a photocopy of your driver’s license or government issued ID.
   4. Provide supporting documentation which includes a copy of the MiraCosta Certificate of Achievement granted.
   5. Include your application fee of $150 made payable to: CAMTC or pay online. You can also enter your credit card information where indicated on the Application form.
   6. Get your live scan fingerprints completed. This is a separate process that you MUST do in order to become a Certified Massage Therapist. You will have to print a “Live Scan Request” form from the CAMTC website, and bring that form with you to one of the Live Scan Locations listed on the CAMTC website. Expect to pay a one-time fee of approximately $80 - $90 to the Live Scan Vendor.
   7. Mail application to: CAMTC ONE CAPITOL MALL, SUITE 800 SACRAMENTO, CA 95814