

1 21 NCAC 30 .0701 is proposed for amendment as follows:

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3 **21 NCAC 30 .0701 CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**

4 (a) Pursuant to G.S. 90-632, a licensee, when renewing a license, shall document that they have completed at least  
5 24 contact hours of approved continuing education during the immediately preceding licensure period, provided the  
6 licensure period is two years or more. If the licensure period is less than two years, but more than one year, the  
7 licensee shall document that they have completed at least 12 contact hours of approved continuing education.

8 (b) For the purposes of this Section, "approved continuing education" means a course ~~offered as follows:~~taught by  
9 an individual or institutional provider based in subject matter that relates to the practice of massage and bodywork  
10 therapy, and that is within one or more of the descriptions of Acceptable Subject Matter as set forth in Rule .0703(a).  
11 Such providers are not required to be approved by the Board.

12 ~~(1) by an approved provider as defined in Rule .0702;~~

13 ~~(2) a course approved by the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental~~  
14 ~~Medicine (NCCAOM); or~~

15 ~~(3) a course in anatomy, physiology, pathology or business management taken at a post-secondary~~  
16 ~~institution of higher learning.~~

17 (c) Distance learning, as defined in Rule .0702 of this Section, shall not comprise more than 12 hours of the  
18 required continuing education hours per licensure period.

19 (d) Licensees shall document that they have completed at least three contact hours of continuing education in  
20 professional ethics as defined in Rule .0702 of this Section, out of the minimum of 24 hours of approved continuing  
21 education required for license renewal. This may be obtained through supervised classroom instruction or distance  
22 learning.

23 (e) Licensees must attend at least 90% of the published contact hours of an in-person continuing education course to  
24 be granted credit by the provider. Partial course credit shall not be granted.~~Business management, as defined in Rule~~  
25 ~~.0702 of this Section, shall not comprise more than three hours of the minimum 24 hours of approved continuing~~  
26 ~~education required for license renewal.~~

27 (f) Licensees shall ensure that each continuing education course for which they claim credit on their application for  
28 renewal of licensure is consistent with the definitions and requirements set forth in this Section.

29 (g) The Board may audit licensees at random to assure compliance with these requirements.

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31 *Authority G.S. 90-26(9); 90-632(a)(1)*

1 21 NCAC 30 .0702 is proposed for amendment as follows:

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3 **21 NCAC 30 .0702 CONTINUING EDUCATION DEFINITIONS**

4 The following definitions apply to this Section:

5 (1) Continuing education. -- Learning experiences that enhance and expand the skills, knowledge, and  
6 attitudes of massage and bodywork therapists that enable them to render competent professional  
7 service to clients, the profession and the public.

8 (2) Distance learning. -- Courses taken by home study ~~that are produced by an approved provider,~~  
9 whether delivered synchronously or asynchronously online by computer means, by recorded video  
10 or audio media, or by printed materials. ~~by videotape, audiotape, printed materials, or computer-~~  
11 ~~based means.~~ The licensee shall demonstrate achievement of learning objectives and completion  
12 of course requirements to the provider before credit is given.

13 (3) One "contact hour" of continuing education. -- At least 50 minutes of any one clock hour during  
14 which the student participates in a learning activity in the physical presence of an instructor, or in  
15 a distance learning activity designed and delivered by an approved provider. One semester credit  
16 hour at a post-secondary institution shall be equivalent to 16 contact hours.

17 (4) Professional ethics. -- A system of conduct guided by principles which are intended to ensure the  
18 safe and effective practice of massage and bodywork therapy. Acceptable subject matter for  
19 required professional ethics courses may include: compliance with Practice Act and Rules of the  
20 Board, management of the client/therapist relationship, boundary functions, professional  
21 communication skills, conflict resolution, cultural diversity issues, and standards of practice.

22 ~~(5) Business management. -- Courses that enable the licensee to learn and apply business skills to~~  
23 ~~create a successful professional practice.~~

24 ~~(6) Post secondary institution of higher learning -- A degree granting institution accredited by an~~  
25 ~~accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education.~~

26 ~~(7) Approved provider. -- One that has been granted the designation of "Approved Provider for~~  
27 ~~Continuing Education" by the National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage and~~  
28 ~~Bodywork (NCBTMB). The provider shall have this designation when the course begins and shall~~

29 ~~maintain this designation continuously until the course is completed. The Board does not~~  
30 ~~recognize any retroactive designation of provider approval. Except as herein stated, the provider~~  
31 ~~shall follow all regulations set forth by its accrediting agency. The Board may also recognize a~~  
32 ~~verifiable continuing education provider outside the United States or its territories that is a post-~~  
33 ~~secondary institution of higher learning approved by the educational regulation authority of that~~  
34 ~~foreign country.~~

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36 *Authority G.S. 90-626(9); 90-632*

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2 21 NCAC 30 .0703 is proposed for adoption as follows:

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4 **21 NCAC 30 .0703**      **APPROVED SUBJECT MATTER FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES**

5 These standards apply to courses offered by providers of continuing education that have subject matter and learning  
6 objectives that relate directly to the scope of practice of massage and bodywork therapy.

7 (a) The following areas of subject matter are deemed acceptable for continuing education courses:

8       (1) Applications of massage and bodywork therapy for specific needs, conditions or client  
9           populations;

10       (2) Theory, philosophy or methodology of manual, energetic or movement-based techniques which  
11           are utilized with clients for therapeutic, educational or relaxation purposes;

12       (3) The structure, function, kinesiology or pathologies of the body;

13       (4) Client assessment protocols; skills for client record keeping and case management; strategies for  
14           interfacing with other licensed health care providers;

15       (5) Theory or practice of ergonomics as applied to therapists or clients;

16       (6) The use of external adjunctive agents such as water, light, sound, heat, cold or topical applications  
17           of plant or mineral-based substances;

18       (7) The use of mechanical devices or adjunctive tools that mimic the actions made possible by the  
19           hands;

20       (8) Body-centered or somatic psychology, psychophysiology, interpersonal skills – which may  
21           include communication skills, boundary functions, and the phenomena of transference,  
22           countertransference and projection;

23       (9) Standards of practice; professional ethics; compliance with the Massage and Bodywork Therapy  
24           Practice Act and Rules of the Board; compliance with federal regulations such as HIPAA and  
25           ADA;

26       (10) Strategies for the marketing or development of massage and bodywork therapy practices;  
27           procedures for third-party reimbursement;

28       (11) Hygiene; standard precautions and methods of infectious disease control; organization and  
29           management of the treatment environment;

- 30           (12) Development or analysis of research protocols for massage and bodywork therapy;  
31           (13) First Aid or Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation; or  
32           (14) Teacher training, which may include areas of knowledge, skills or attitudes set forth in the *Core*  
33                   *Competencies for Massage Therapy Teachers*, published by the Alliance for Massage Therapy  
34                   Education.

35 (b) The following areas of subject matter are deemed unacceptable for continuing education courses:

- 36           (1) Practices outside the scope of massage and bodywork therapy which are prohibited pursuant to  
37                   G.S. 90-623(d);  
38           (2) Psychological counseling or diagnostic methods, emotional release-based cathartic therapies, or  
39                   regression-oriented therapies;  
40           (3) Courses taken by licensees for personal enrichment or self-care, including dance, yoga, Pilates,  
41                   t'ai chi, martial arts, strength training or fitness classes, meditation, astrology, religious or spiritual  
42                   practices;  
43           (4) Ancillary business administration skills, including bookkeeping, accounting, tax preparation, use  
44                   of computer hardware or software, technical writing or graphic design;  
45           (5) Participation in supervision groups, whether facilitated by a peer or mentor;  
46           (6) Apprenticeship with another massage and bodywork therapist or another licensed health care  
47                   provider;  
48           (7) Teaching experiences where the licensee is either a presenter or a teaching assistant, and where the  
49                   licensee is compensated for their teaching role;  
50           (8) Volunteer service work, or participation in professional membership organizations;  
51           (9) Provision of massage and bodywork therapy services as part of a research study; or  
52           (10) Therapeutic sessions where the licensee is in the role of client receiving the professional service.

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54 *Authority G.S. 90-626(9); 90-632*