

**Summary of prominent organizations and their role in relation to CE Providers**

**NCBTMB-** (<http://www.ncbtmb.org/>) Currently approves CE Providers (for a fee which is paid by CE Providers) and this approval is accepted in most states. The NCBTMB is a membership organization and those who are members pay a fee. Members are massage therapists and bodyworkers. The organization also offers psychometrically valid exams which are used by some state boards to evaluate license applicants.

**NC Board of Massage and Bodywork Therapy** ([www.bmbt.org](http://www.bmbt.org)) - Licenses massage and bodywork therapists in NC and sets rules and regulations for renewal, such as content matter, and standards for CE Providers. Please note that 24 CE hours is in the Practice Act (law) not the rules and regulations.

**FSMTB** (Federation of State Massage Boards) (<https://www.fsmtb.org/>) - An organization whose members are state massage boards. Note that individuals cannot “join” the FSMTB. The FSMTB offers the MBLEx, a licensing exam now widely used by state massage boards in the US. This organization proposed the MOCC, and some subsequent CE recommendations that are based on the idea that therapists only need to be competent enough to do no harm to the public, and ongoing professional development is not something state boards should be concerned with or legislating for. See the AtkinsonMemo\_121905\_Delegation\_of\_Authority in the docs list.

**AFMTE** (Alliance for Massage Therapy Education) The Alliance for Massage Therapy Education is a non-profit organization established about 4 years ago intended to serve as an independent voice, advocate and resource for the entire education sector – from entry-level massage training programs through post-graduate studies. Unfortunately the orientation has turned out to be heavily skewed towards massage schools, and not much support there for CE Providers, though for a price, you can have your classes listed with them. See <http://www.afmte.org/about/> The Alliance has begun work on a comprehensive effort called the *National Teacher Education Standards Project* (NTESP). The initial phase of the project involved the development of the competency standards for teachers, which is broadly applicable across the continuum of entry-level, continuing education, advanced massage therapy training programs and specialty certification programs. <http://www.afmte.org/education/tesp-core-competencies/>

**AMTA-** American Massage Therapy Association- The most politically active and prominent membership organization for massage therapists in the US. AMTA Conferences on the national, state, regional, and local chapter level sponsor a great deal of CE. Membership is very active and supportive of the profession.

**ABMP** (Associated Bodywork & Massage Professionals) Professional membership organization primarily formed to offer low-cost insurance to therapists and students. The ABMP has become more active regarding education in the last few years, offering online CE, and occasional forays with live CE education on teaching skills and on other hot topics such as research. Not particularly active on the local political scene. <http://www.abmp.com/about/>

**Massage Therapy Body of Knowledge Project (MTBOK)** An ongoing project to define what we know as massage therapists and bodyworkers put together by representatives from the American Massage Therapy Association, Associated Bodywork & Massage Professionals, Alliance for Massage Therapy Education, Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards, Massage Therapy Foundation, and National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork. <http://www.mtbok.org/index.html>

**Massage Therapy Foundation** (<http://www.massagetherapyfoundation.org/>) Non-profit organization originally founded by the AMTA to support research in the field of massage therapy and bodywork. Publishes the Massage Therapy Journal (MTJ).

**International Association of Structural Integrators (IASI)**( <http://www.theiasi.net/>) Umbrella organization for Structural Integrators. Sets standards for CE and approves CE courses for Structural Integrators.