

GEORGIA BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY
CONFERENCE CALL MEETING
June 27, 2008

A conference call for the Georgia Board of Massage Therapy was held on June 27, 2008 at 01:00 p.m., at the Professional Licensing Boards Division offices located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia.

The following members were present:

Absent:

Jane H. Johnson, Chairman
Kathy V. Lescak, Vice Chairman
Melony Phillips, Cognizant
Marlene Gaskill, Consumer Member
Steve Earles

Administrative Staff Present:

Absent:

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director
Serena Gadson, Application Specialist II
Amanda Allen, Board Secretary

Attorney General's Office Representative Present:

Janet Jackson, AAG

Agenda:

Ms. Lescak moved, Ms. Phillips seconded, and the Board voted to approve the agenda with late items added. None opposed, motion carried.

Board Policies; Continued Discussion:

Ms. Phillips moved, Ms. Gaskill seconded, and the Board voted to table the policy discussion on recognizing out of state Massage Therapy School Programs until the next scheduled meeting. None opposed, motion carried.

Board Rules - Discussion on proposed amendments/repeal of current rules:

1. SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHAPTER TO THE GEORGIA BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY RULES: CHAPTER 345-5 LICENSURE BY ENDORSEMENT

PURPOSE: The purpose of the proposed rule amendment is to comply with recent statutory change for licensure by endorsement

MAIN FEATURES: The main feature of the proposed rule amendment is the rewriting of paragraph (d) to comply with the statutory change effective July 1, 2008.

**THE PROPOSED CHAPTER TO THE GEORGIA BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY
RULES, CHAPTER 345-5 LICENSURE BY ENDORSEMENT**

NOTE: Underlined text is proposed to be added; lined through text is proposed to be deleted.

Chapter 345-5 Licensure by Endorsement

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345-5-.01 Endorsement

345-5 Licensure by Endorsement

(1) Any applicant holding a current license, in good standing, as a massage therapist issued by another jurisdiction, state, or territory of the US or foreign country that is equal to or exceeds the Georgia licensure requirements, shall apply for licensure by endorsement by submitting an application on a form provided by the Board, accompanied by the appropriate fee (see fee schedule) and the following:

(a) verification that an applicant is at least 18 years of age; and

(b) three (3) references: two (2) professional references from licensed healthcare professionals or instructors from a massage therapy program and one (1) personal reference (excluding immediate family). All references must have known the applicant for two (2) years; however, for applicants who have graduated from a massage therapy program within one (1) year of the date of their application, the licensed professional references must have known the applicant for only a minimum of six (6) months; and

(c) authorization to perform a criminal background check; and

~~(d) one of the following:~~

~~1. (d) Official verification of current licensure as a massage therapist, in good standing, from another jurisdiction, state, or territory of the United States or foreign country, including a copy of its licensing laws for massage therapist, whose standards for licensure meet or exceed those required by Georgia; or~~

~~2. Current certification by the National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork (NCBTMB) or an equivalent certification (must be certification approved by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies).~~

(e) The Board may request additional verification of any requirements or credentials as it may deem necessary.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-4, 43-1-24, 43-1-25, 43-24A-7, 43-24A-8, 43-24A-10, 43-24A-13 and 43-24A-14

Ms. Lescak moved, Mr. Earles seconded and the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of the following proposed rules does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A § 43-28-7.

Ms. Lescak moved, Mr. Earles seconded, and the Board voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A. § 43-28-7 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed at O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(3)(A),(B),(C),&(D) and that the formulation and adoption of the following proposed rules will impact every licensee in the same manner and each licensee is independently licensed, owned and operated in the field of Massage Therapy.

Ms. Phillips moved, Ms. Lescak seconded, and the Board voted to post Rule 345-5-.01 Licensure by Endorsement with amendments as presented upon receiving the memo of authority from Assistant Attorney General. None opposed, motion carried.

2. SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHAPTER TO THE GEORGIA BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY RULES, CHAPTER 345-6 LICENSURE BY RECIPROCITY

PURPOSE: The purpose of the proposed repeal of the rule to comply with recent statutory changes.

MAIN FEATURES: The main feature of the proposed rule change is to repeal the rule in its entirety to comply with the repeal of O.C.G.A. § 43-24A-12, effective July 1, 2008.

THE PROPOSED CHAPTER TO THE GEORGIA BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY RULES, CHAPTER 345-6, LICENSURE BY RECIPROCITY

NOTE: Underlined text is proposed to be added; lined through text is proposed to be deleted.

Chapter 345-6 ~~Licensure by Reciprocity~~ Reserved

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~~345-6-.01 Licensure by Reciprocity~~

345-6-.01 Licensure by Reciprocity

~~(1) Any applicant holding a current license, in good standing, as a massage therapist issued by another jurisdiction, state, or territory of the US or foreign country that is equivalent to the Georgia licensure requirements, shall apply for licensure by reciprocity by submitting an application on a form approved by the Board, accompanied by the appropriate fee (see fee schedule) and the following:~~

~~(a) verification that an applicant is at least 18 years of age; and~~

~~(b) three (3) references: two (2) professional references from licensed healthcare professionals or instructors from a massage therapy program and one (1) personal reference (excluding immediate family). All references must have known the applicant for two (2) years; however, for applicants who have graduated from a massage therapy program within one (1) year of the date of their application, the professional references must have known the applicant for only a minimum of six (6) months; and~~

~~(c) authorization to perform a criminal background check; and~~

~~(d) official verification of current licensure as a massage therapist, in good standing, from another jurisdiction, state, or territory of the United States or foreign country, including a copy of its licensing laws for massage therapist, whose standards for licensure meet or exceed those required by Georgia.~~

~~(2) The Board may request additional verification of any requirements or credentials as it may deem necessary~~

Authority O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-4, 43-1-24, 43-1-25, 43-24A-7 and 43-24A-8

Ms. Phillips moved, Ms. Lescak seconded, and the Board voted to post the proposed repeal of Board Rule 345-6.01 Licensure by Reciprocity, as presented upon receipt of the memo of authority from Assistant Attorney General. None opposed, motion carried.

Ms. Lescak moved and Ms. Gaskill seconded, and the Board voted to enter into Executive Session in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 43-1-2(k) (1) (2) to receive and review information pertaining to Applications. Voting in favor of the motion were those present who included Board members Phillips, Earles, Lescak, Gaskill and Johnson. The Board concluded Executive Session in order to vote on these matters and to continue with the public session.

Applications:

Post July 1, 2007

Licensure by Application:

Mr. Earles moved, Ms. Lescak seconded, and the Board voted to take the following action on the following applicant for licensure by application:

Oxford, Yvette	Denial withdrawn – approved for licensure; massage therapy education program approved by Board policy; school is ACCSCT accredited.
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Ms. Lescak moved, Mr. Earles seconded and the Board voted to take the following action on the following application for licensure:

Cavazos, Ashley	Approved for licensure; Petition for Variance or Waiver granted by the Board.
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Pre July 1, 2007 (“Grandfathering”) Applications:

Ms. Phillips moved, Mr. Earles seconded and the Board voted to take the following action on applications for licensure by official transcripts:

Applications: A-I (Pam Candler, Applications Specialist)

C.B.	Denied; massage therapy program <u>denied</u> ; not Board recognized as an approved massage therapy program with a minimum of 500 hours.
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R.L.G.	Denied; massage therapy program <u>denied</u> ; not Board recognized as an approved massage therapy program with a minimum of 500 hours.
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Applications: J-Q (Serena Gadson, Applications Specialist II)

A.M. Denied; massage therapy program denied; not Board recognized as an approved massage therapy program with a minimum of 500 hours.

Applications: R-Z (Yvonne LeSane, Applications Specialist)

S.V. Denied; massage therapy program denied; not Board recognized as an approved massage therapy program with a minimum of 500 hours.

Massage Therapy School Report:

Ms. Phillips made recommendations for the approval of the following Massage Therapy Schools as Board Recognized Massage Therapy Educational Programs:

- 1st Choice International, Inc., Glenview, IL.
- Royal Irvin College, Monterey, CA.

Ms. Phillips made recommendations for the denial of the following Massage Therapy Schools as a Board Recognized Massage Therapy Programs.

- N.M.I. – Denied. School does not meet the requirements based on Rule 345-8-.02 Faculty Requirements

Following discussion, Ms. Gaskill moved, Ms. Phillips seconded, and the Board voted to send a copy of the N.M.I. Board denial letter to the Council on Occupational Therapy, Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission, and the National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork. None opposed, motion carried.

- A.I.T.M. – Denied. School does not meet the requirements based on Rule 345-8-.01 Curriculum Requirements

Mr. Earles moved, Ms. Lescak seconded, and the Board voted to accept the Massage Therapy School report as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Additional Business:

The Board voted to reschedule the August 22nd Board meeting to September 5, 2008.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the conference call adjourned at 2:12 p.m.

Minutes recorded by:

Amanda Allen, Board Secretary

Minutes reviewed and edited by:

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director

Jane H. Johnson, Chair
Georgia State Board of Massage Therapy

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director
Professional Licensing Boards Division

These minutes were approved and signed on: _____

