



OFFICE OF PHYSICAL THERAPY LICENSURE

CINDY KLYN, PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Welcome Physical Therapists to DORA's new email updating program!

My name is Cindy Klyn, Program Director of the Office of Physical Therapy Licensure. Thank you for making last Fall's renewal process run so smoothly. To date, we have 5,412 Physical Therapists licensed in the State of Colorado. This is the first E-Update from this office and we look forward to communicating with you via these E-Updates over the years to come. We will try to keep you abreast of events affecting your profession within Colorado, including rule changes, amendments, and renewal notices. Our [website](#) is also a wonderful resource for information regarding regulation of Physical Therapists and other similar licensees or registrations in Colorado. Please pay specific attention to the [Complaint Process](#). While we hope no one has to go through this process, we encourage you to familiarize yourself with the process should a complaint be filed against you at some point.

New Legislation: Massage Therapy Practice Act

New legislation from the 2008 legislative session resulted in a new state statute, C.R.S. 12-35.5-102 ("The Massage Therapy Practice Act"), which requires anyone offering or practicing massage in the State of Colorado to be registered with the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA), Division of Registrations. The following is in effect until December 31, 2009, please check the website for future changes.

Education and Experience Needed (see Practice Act and Rules for more information):

- Five (5) years professional massage experience and 300 hours of massage training; **OR**
- Successful completion of a massage therapy program with 500 hours of course work; **OR**
- Pass the MBLEx, NCETMB, or NCETM exams; **OR**
- Licensed or registered as a massage therapist in another state.

All applicants must submit to fingerprinting and criminal background check.

All massage therapists must be registered by April 1, 2009 to continue practicing or offering massages in the State of Colorado. However, emergency rulemaking was commenced to allow provisional registration until June 30, 2009 if applicants submitted their application and fee to the Division, met all registration requirements and submitted their fingerprints to the Colorado Bureau of Investigations prior to April 1, 2009. The Division must have received the application and fee by March 31, 2009. Please check the website for more information.

The Practice Act was initiated and promoted by massage professionals and the massage professional associations nationally and within Colorado in an effort to safeguard the public health, safety, and welfare and to protect the public from incompetent, unethical, or unauthorized practice.

Please check the [Office website](#) for updates. The website has answers to frequently asked questions, a link to download the application, a copy of the Practice Act, a copy of the Rules & Regulations, and other information necessary to apply for registration.

PTs Exempt: Upon analysis of specific practice acts, it has been determined the physical therapists **can** practice, advertise, or represent massage services **without** being registered as a massage therapist in the State of Colorado pursuant to C.R.S. §12-41-103(6)(b)(I)(A) and §12-41-114(1)(d).

Please note: The Director finds that massage therapists still count as one of the three individuals supervised by physical therapists unless the massage therapist is providing services to patients referred by the physical therapist and billing services as an independent practitioner.

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<http://www.dora.state.co.us/physical-therapy>