

Getting Your License in Oregon

Applying for the Written and Practical Exams

Total time from graduation to licensure: approximately 3 months

I. Applying for Your License – Overview of Steps

1. Graduate or complete licensing requirements
2. Apply for, take and pass at least one written exam from one of the agencies listed below
3. Take a CPR class
4. Apply for, take and pass the Oregon Practical Exam
5. Take the 25-question, at-home Oregon Jurisprudence Exam (statutes)
6. Once all the above are completed and submitted to the Oregon Board, you'll receive a license application
7. Complete the license application and mail to the Oregon Board

II. Written Exam Agencies (CHOOSE ONE) – Information and Application Steps

1. Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards (FSMTB) – an association of state massage boards
 - a. The FSMTB offers one exam to test you in entry-level knowledge:
 - ◆ Massage & Bodywork Licensing Exam (MBLEx)
 - a. Mostly western-based massage exam content
 - b. General Information About the FSMTB - MBLEx
 - ◆ One option for the written exam in Oregon and Washington
 - ◆ Apply when you're ready to take the exam, no need to wait for graduation
 - ◆ This is the required exam in some states – please research prior to taking your written if you plan to move to another state.
 - c. Specifics
 - ◆ \$195 Exam Fee
 - ◆ 125 multiple choice questions (on a computer)
 - ◆ 2 hrs 20 minutes to take the exam
 - ◆ Passing score of 630 (on a scale of 300-900)
 - ◆ Taken at testing centers located in both the Portland & Salem metro areas
 - d. Applying for the Exam
 - ◆ Read Exam content outline
 - ◆ Send fee & completed application to FSMTB (or apply online)
 - ◆ Receive notice to schedule (usually 2 weeks after applying)
 - ◆ Schedule your own exam date (within 90 days of notice to schedule)
 - ◆ Take and pass your exam – results are automatically e-mailed to state of your choice
2. National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage & Bodywork (NCBTMB)
 - a. *The NCBTMB offers 2 exams to test you in the areas in which you're most comfortable:*
 - ◆ National Certification Exam for Therapeutic Massage (NCETM)
 - a. Western-based massage exam content
 - ◆ National Certification Exam for Therapeutic Massage & Bodywork (NCETMB)
 - a. Western and Eastern-based massage exam content
 - b. General Information
 - ◆ One option for the written exam in Oregon & Washington
 - ◆ Certification is an additional credential and does not replace a license in any state; this is NOT a national license to practice massage (a national license does not exist).
 - ◆ Certification renewal is not required in Oregon and Washington, but if you prefer to keep it renewed, you will need to do so every 4 years with continuing education, documented work hours and a fee.
 - ◆ This is the required exam in some states – please research prior to taking your written if you plan to move to another state.

- c. Specifics
 - ◆ Certification option: \$225 Exam Fee for either NCETM or NCETMB
 - a. You must have completed all education prior to taking the exam
 - ◆ 160 multiple choice questions (on a computer)
 - ◆ 2 hours 40 minutes to take the exam
 - ◆ Passing score of 300 (on a scale of 100 – 600)
 - ◆ Taken at testing centers in the Portland and Salem metro areas
- d. Applying for the Exam – Online Timetable
 - ◆ Download application handbook from www.ncbtmb.com or apply online
 - ◆ Apply online – OSM's School Code: 022403-00
 - ◆ 1 – 3 days later: payment processed by Wachovia Bank
 - ◆ 2 – 3 weeks later: processing of your application by NCBTMB
 - ◆ You're eligible to take the exam 3 months from the day your application is approved, you may schedule your own exam date within this time period
 - ◆ Exam results are printed at the exam site immediately following your exam
 - ◆ Make a copy of your exam results and mail them to the OBMT
 - ◆ If getting licensed in WA, be sure to indicate score results be mailed directly to WA on your NCBTMB application

III. Oregon Board of Massage Therapists – Practical Exam Application Steps

1. General Information
 - a. This is the required and only practical exam for Oregon Licensing
 - b. Scored in 3 content areas: Communication & Assessment, Massage & Bodywork, Kinesiology
2. Specifics
 - a. \$200 Exam Fee
 - b. 50 Minutes – all verbal & demonstration, no written questions
 - c. Passing score of 70% in each content area; this is a point-based exam
 - d. Taken at the Oregon Board of Massage Therapists office in Salem, OR
3. Applying for the Exam
 - a. Receive transcript packet from OSM 2-4 weeks after graduation
 - b. Mail completed application fees, copy of current CPR card (front & back), copy of photo ID, passport-sized photo and official transcripts to OBMT.
 - c. Receive practical exam approval, test date & jurisprudence exam via mail (7 – 10 days after application)
 - d. Take & pass practical exam, mail in/bring completed jurisprudence exam (30 – 60 days for test date and results)
 - e. Complete license application & mail with \$100 fee – receive license in the mail (7-10- days after results are received)
 - f. Celebrate and start marketing yourself!

IV. Important Information

1. You can apply for all exams at the same time
2. You must be in good financial standing with OSM to receive your transcripts
3. Consider becoming a TA or Tutor and use your old tests & quizzes - it's a great way to review for the exams

V. Links

1. Oregon School of Massage – Licensing Info Videos: www.oregonschoolofmassage.com/licensing.php
2. Oregon Board: www.oregon.gov/obmt
3. Washington Board: www.doh.wa.gov/massage
4. FSMTB: www.fsmtb.org
5. NCBTMB: www.ncbtmb.com
6. Massage-Exam.com: www.massage-exam.com (use D0ECC57B07 for a 20% discount)
7. Professional Associations: ABMP: www.abmp.com AMTA: www.amtamassage.com

Agency	NCBTMB	FSMTB
What is it?	Licensing Exam & Certification	Licensing Exam
Cost	\$225	\$195
Education	500 Hrs - See Application for details	No Requirement
Exam Content	Western or Western & Eastern	Entry-level - mostly Western
Number of Questions	160 - Mult. Choice on a computer	125 - Mult. Choice on a computer
Time Given to Take the Exam	2 Hrs 40 Mins	2 Hrs 20 Mins
Passing Scaled Score*	(from 100 low to 600 High) 300	(from 300 low to 900 High) 630
Transcript & Diploma Needed?	Yes	No
End Result	Exam, Certification, Renew/4 yrs	Exam - No Certification or Renewal
States Accepted	Alabama	Arkansas
	Arizona	California
	California	Colorado
	Colorado	Washington D.C.
	Connecticut	Florida
	Delaware	Georgia
* See NCBTMB & FSMTB	Washington D.C.	Indiana
Handbooks for more information	Florida	Iowa
on Scaled Scoring.	Georgia	Louisiana
	Illinois	Maine
	Indiana	Mississippi
**For more detailed information, please	Iowa	Missouri
read your candidate handbooks and	Kentucky	New Hampshire
visit the websites for each organization.	Louisiana	New Mexico
	Maine	North Carolina
NCBTMB	Maryland	Oregon
www.ncbtmb.com	Mississippi	South Carolina
FSMTB	Missouri	Tennessee
www.fsmtb.org	Nebraska	Texas
	Nevada	Utah
	New Hampshire	Washington
	New Jersey	West Virginia
	New Mexico	
	North Carolina	
	North Dakota	
	Oregon	
	Rhode Island	
	South Carolina	
	South Dakota	
	Tennessee	
	Texas	
	Utah	
	Virginia	
	Washington	
	West Virginia	
	Wisconsin	
		More states are in the process of considering adopting the MBLEx, some of which are awaiting legislative action to change statutory language, others are currently in the rules process