

**CERTIFICATION OF EMERGENCY RULES
FILED WITH THE
LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OTHNI LATHRAM, DIRECTOR**

Pursuant to Code of Alabama 1975, §§41 22 5(b) and 41 22 6(c) (2)a. and b.

I certify that the attached emergency amendment is a correct copy as promulgated and adopted on Wednesday, May 13, 2026.

AGENCY NAME: Alabama Massage Therapy Licensing Board

RULE NO. AND TITLE: 532-X-6-.01 Continuing Education Requirements

EXPIRATION DATE OF RULE: Thursday, September 10, 2026

NATURE OF EMERGENCY: The Board intends to permanently repeal a provision related to required continuing education, in light of the imminent transition of the agency to the management of the Alabama Department of Public Health. The operative date of that provision is June 30, 2026, which is likely to disrupt the transition process. The emergency rule is necessary to ensure that the rule does not take effect and subject some licensees to requirements that are likely to be repealed by final rule at the end of the APA process.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-43A-6

SUBJECT OF RULE TO BE ADOPTED ON A PERMANENT BASIS: Yes

NAME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF PERSON TO CONTACT FOR COPY OF RULE: Honor Ingels
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(334) 293-5236

Honor L. Ingels

Honor L Ingels

Signature of officer authorized
to promulgate and adopt rules and
regulations or his or her deputy

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MAY 13, 2026
LEGISLATIVE SVC AGENCY

5. The board shall adopt a program of continuing education for licenses which shall be a requisite for the renewal of licenses issued pursuant to Chapter 43A of Title 34 of the Code of Alabama.
6. Continuing education means participation in an approved program or learning experience that is designed to facilitate continued competency, including ethical and legal practice in the therapeutic massage and bodywork profession, through participation in a learning process that enhances the licensee's current knowledge, skills, and abilities through programs, seminars, workshops, and classes in areas related to the practice of massage.
7. One hour of continuing education is defined as no less than 50 uninterrupted minutes of learning.
8. Every massage therapist licensed by the board must complete sixteen (16) contact hours of continuing education within the 24 months preceding the date of renewal of licensure, from approved providers of continuing education, as a condition for renewing the license to practice massage therapy.

~~a. Effective June 2026, each licensed massage therapist must complete, as part of the required 16 hours of continuing education required for the first renewal subsequent to June 30, 2026, 8 mandatory contact hours developed, approved, or provided by the board related to the legal aspects of MT practice, discipline, human trafficking, and illegal practice within the 24 months preceding the date of renewal of licensure, as a condition for renewing the license to practice massage therapy.~~

~~1. The board may accept comparable education to satisfy this requirement, provided that a review by board staff determines the content is comparable in content and provided by a board approved provider.~~

5. The licensee is required to maintain documentation of continuing education in the licensee's files for at least four (4) years.
6. Effective January 1, 2025, the licensee shall submit copies of certificates of completion of sixteen (16) contact hours of continuing education from approved providers of continuing education to the board in a form specified by the board concurrent with the application for renewal of the license.

Author: Alabama Massage Therapy Licensing Board

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-43A-6.

History: New Rule: Filed January 29, 2001; effective March 5, 2001. **Amended:** Published September 29, 2023; effective November 13, 2023. **Repealed and New Rule:** Published September 30, 2024; effective November 14, 2024. **Amended:** Published September 30, 2025; effective November 14, 2025. **Amended (ER):** Filed May 13, 2026; effective May 13, 2026; expires 120 days, September 10, 2026.