

MASSAGE THERAPY, ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE



The 16-month Associate of Applied Science Degree in Massage Therapy provides students with the competencies that enable them to learn not only the basic massage therapy skills but also the advanced techniques in a clinical setting. Students complete over 1,000 massage therapy instruction hours. Students can sit for the Federation of State Massage Therapy Board's Massage and Bodywork Licensing Examination (MBLEx) before completing the degree by receiving a Certificate of Proficiency in Massage Therapy. All applicants for State Medical Board of Ohio massage licensure are required to pass the MBLEx exam. Students who are awarded the associate degree will also receive the Short-Term Certificate in Advanced Massage Therapy.

Program contact: Learn more

This degree program contains one or more embedded certificates which will be automatically awarded when the certificate requirements are completed. If you do not want to receive the embedded certificate(s), please notify the Office of the Registrar at RegistrarOffice@tri-c.edu.

Learn more about how certificate credits apply to the related degree.

Program Admission Requirements

Application must be submitted to the Massage Therapy Program Office at the Eastern Campus.

- High School Diploma/GED/HiSet or TASC.
- Non-native English speaking applicants: Admission into Cuyahoga Community College is premised on a complete and accurate initial application to the College, including, if applicable, proof of English Language Proficiency Requirements for admission as indicated on the English Language Proficiency Requirements for Admissions to the College, and available on the web at: <http://www.tri-c.edu/get-started/international-students/english-language-proficiency-requirements-for-admission.html>
To be accepted into any selective admission programs, students must successfully complete English as a Second Language (ESL) course(s), as referenced above, if deemed necessary by the College at the time of enrollment. Admission is conditioned upon achieving the necessary grade point average (GPA), English language proficiency requirements and any specific pre-requisite courses, and by meeting program accreditation or licensing requirements as evidenced in the Program Handbook for the specific program.
- GPA. If courses already taken at Tri-C or other college/university, overall minimum of 2.5 GPA. (High school GPA is used for students

without a college/university GPA.) Students with an overall GPA lower than 2.5, but no lower than 2.0, can be accepted as "Conditional Status" students. Contact the Program Director for more information regarding "Conditional Acceptance" and "Conditional Status."

- Completion of the following courses with grade of "C" or higher, or appropriate score on English and Math Placement Tests:

Code	Title	Credit Hours
ENG-0995	Applied College Literacies	4
MATH-0915	Basic Arithmetic and Pre-Algebra	4

Other Information

- The program accepts 26 students in the day program and 26 in the evening program (a combined total of 52 each year which includes students in the Certificate and Degree programs).
- Students must submit evidence of good health and required immunizations before acceptance to the program. Student will not be accepted or will be dismissed from the program if significant limiting health conditions are present to prevent student from performing the essential functions of a Massage Therapy student and/or constitute a hazard to health and safety of participants or classmates.
- Once accepted, students must maintain a 2.5 GPA throughout program. Students with an Overall and/or MT course GPA below 2.5 but no lower than 2.0 will be placed on Conditional Status. Students who drop below 2.0 GPA are dismissed from the program.
- Students will be placed on Conditional Status if a "U," Unsatisfactory, is received for any of the Massage Therapy courses during Academic Progress Reporting in the first semester.
- Accepted applicants are required to attend Orientation held prior to the start of fall semester.
- Pass/No Pass (P/NP) and Audit (A) grading options for English and Math or any other courses in the Massage Therapy Program Sequence not accepted.
- Students must meet all college, program and medical board admissions requirements before acceptance to the program. This includes timely and correct completion of all required paperwork. Students are then accepted on a "first-come, first-served" basis, once per year.
- Ohio Medical Board accepts the Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards Massage and Bodywork Licensing Examination (MBLEx) for licensure. Applicants for Ohio massage licensure are required to sit for and pass the MBLEx and then apply to the Ohio Medical Board for licensure. Students must complete all courses in the Certificate of Proficiency or Post-Degree Professional Certificate sequence with a letter grade of "C" or better and meet all other college, program, and Ohio Medical Board requirements.
- All massage courses in the sequence can only be repeated once to improve a grade.
- Tri-C Health Careers criminal background check required before acceptance to the Massage Therapy Program.
- Important: Arrests, charges or convictions of criminal offenses may be cause to deny or limit licensure or employment opportunities and may limit the student's ability to obtain federal, state, and other financial aid. Students are encouraged to investigate these possibilities before applying to the Massage Therapy Program. In addition to the criminal background check required before acceptance to the program, the State Medical Board of Ohio requires that all applicants for massage licensure must submit BCII and FBI

fingerprints and a criminal background check as part of the massage licensure application process. Please see Rule 4731-4-02(D) of the Ohio Administrative Code for factors the Medical Board may consider when reviewing the results of a criminal record check.

Program Learning Outcomes

This program is designed to prepare students to demonstrate the following learning outcomes:

1. Use observation, verbal, and other assessment tools to plan and perform a general relaxation massage.
2. Show proficiency in anatomy and physiology studies, massage theory, and techniques to be eligible to sit for the *Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards (FSMTB) MBLEx examination required for licensure as a Massage Therapist by the Ohio State Medical Board.*
3. Apply the knowledge of anatomy to the study of cells, tissues, and different systems of the body.
4. Apply the detailed knowledge of anatomy as it relates to the study of muscles, joints, and ligaments.
5. Use the knowledge of physiological principles as it relates to the different systems of the body and massage therapy.
6. Apply the knowledge of pathological conditions as they indicate or contraindicate the applications of massage therapy.
7. Apply the principles of pharmacology as it relates to the indications and contraindications to massage therapy.
8. Develop a business plan that will address principles of small business management, entrepreneurship, and marketing for a private practice.
9. Demonstrate work ethic, hygiene, office management, customer service, time management, and team work skills needed in a clinic setting.
10. Communicate verbally and in writing, including SOAP charting, to clients, colleagues and other health care professionals.
11. Conduct yourself professionally, ethically and legally, especially regarding sexual and substance abuse issues, according to the State Medical Board of Ohio and American Massage Therapy Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice including identifying and referring patients to an appropriate licensed healthcare professional as needed.
12. Apply emergency, safety, and sanitation protocols according to OSHA and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) regulatory standards for a clinic and hospital setting.
13. Use physical observation, verbal investigation and advanced assessment techniques to create and perform advanced treatment plan for disorders to the human body.
14. Educate the patient, within the scope of practice as defined by the State Medical Board of Ohio, on the principles of treatment used for specific disorders, proper body mechanics, as well as suggest appropriate modalities.

Suggested Semester Sequence

First Semester		Credit Hours
HTEC-1050	Introduction to Medical Terminology	2
MT-1242	Somatic Studies I	3
MT-1302	Massage Therapy I	2
MT-1312	Applied Musculo-Skeletal Anatomy	3
MT-2301	Pathology for Massage Therapists	3

Select one of the following:		3
ENG-1010	College Composition I	
ENG-101H	Honors College Composition I	

Credit Hours 16

Second Semester		Credit Hours
MT-1272	Somatic Studies II	3
MT-1321	Functional Assessment in Massage Therapy	2
MT-1331	Massage Therapy II	3
MT-2351	Ethics for Massage Therapists	1
MT-235L	Massage Therapy Clinic I	2

Select one of the following:		1
EMT-1310	Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation	
HLTH-1320	CPR-AED for Healthcare Professionals	

Select one of the following:		3
COMM-1010	Fundamentals of Speech Communication	
COMM-101H	Honors Speech Communication	

Select one of the following:		3
PSY-1010	General Psychology	
PSY-101H	Honors General Psychology	

Credit Hours 18

Summer Session		Credit Hours
MT-1280	Somatic Studies III	2
MT-2202	Massage Modalities and Career Paths	3
MT-2361	Business Practices for Massage Therapists	1
MT-236L	Massage Therapy Clinic II	2
MT-2701	Comprehensive Somatic Studies for Massage Therapists	1
MT-2991	Comprehensive Massage Therapy	1
MATH-1190	Algebraic and Quantitative Reasoning (or Any Approved Ohio Transfer 36 Mathematics course)	3

Credit Hours 13

Third Semester		Credit Hours
MT-2311	Advanced Massage Therapy	3
MT-2380	Advanced Massage Therapy Clinic	3
Select one of the following:		3
BADM-1020	Introduction to Business	
BADM-1301	Small Business Management	
BADM-2010	Business Communications	
BADM-201H	Honors Business Communications	
MARK-1080	Social Media Marketing	

Select one of the following:		3
PHIL-2050	Bioethics	
PHIL-205H	Honors Bioethics	

Select one of the following:		4
PSY-2020	Life Span Development	
PSY-202H	Honors Life Span Development	

Select one from the following:		1
PE-1020	Weight Training	
PE-1060	Cardio-Fitness	
PE-1430	Physical Relaxation Techniques	

PE-1440	Yoga
Credit Hours	
	17
Total Credit Hours	
	64

MATH-1140, MATH-1141, MATH-1200, MATH-1270, and MATH-1280 can no longer count towards fulfilling the college-level mathematics requirement. These courses were re-classified as developmental mathematics by the state of Ohio in 2016. Tri-C established a 5-year transitioning window for students who had completed these courses prior to 2016 to apply them towards meeting graduation requirements, which expired in Summer 2021. It is highly recommended to see a counselor to determine the appropriate math required for your current major.