

**NOTICE OF SUBSTANTIVE POLICY STATEMENT
ARIZONA BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY**

1. Subject of the substantive policy statement and the substantive policy statement number by which the policy statement is referenced:

SP-MT-002, Clarification of the term “supervised instruction” for purposes of A.R.S. § 32-4222, Qualifications for Licensure.

2. Date the substantive policy statement was issued and the effective date of the policy statement if different from the issuance date:

October 25, 2010

3. Summary of the contents of the substantive policy statement:

The substantive policy statement clarifies that supervised instruction includes two types of instruction: classroom and clinical. The policy states how the requirements in A.A.C. R4-15-101 are applied for classroom and clinical instruction and clarifies that classroom training may be provided in a classroom or distance learning format.

4. A statement as to whether the substantive policy statement is a new statement or a revision:

This is a new substantive policy statement.

5. The name and address of the person to whom questions and comments about the substantive policy statement may be directed:

Name: Kathleen Phillips, Deputy Director
Address: 1400 W. Washington, Suite 300
Phoenix, AZ 85007
Telephone: (602) 542-8604
Fax: (602) 542-8804
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6. Information about where a person may obtain a copy of the substantive policy statement and the costs for obtaining the policy statement:

A free copy of the substantive policy statement may be obtained from the Arizona State Board of Massage Therapy, 1400 W. Washington, Suite 300, Phoenix, AZ 85007 or on the Board’s website at www.massageboard.az.gov.

SUBSTANTIVE POLICY STATEMENT
SP-MT-002
CLARIFICATION OF THE TERM “SUPERVISED INSTRUCTION” FOR PURPOSES
OF A.R.S. § 32-4222, QUALIFICATIONS FOR LICENSURE

This substantive policy statement is advisory only. A substantive policy statement does not include internal procedural documents that only affect the internal procedures of the agency and does not impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties or include confidential information or rules made in accordance with the Arizona Administrative Procedure Act. If you believe that this substantive policy statement does impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties, you may petition the agency under Arizona Revised Statutes § 41-1033 for a review of the statement.

The purpose of this substantive policy statement is to clarify the term “supervised instruction” as it is used in A.R.S. § 32-4222, Qualifications for Licensure.

A.R.S. § 32-4222(B)(1) and (B)(2)(a) require that an applicant for licensure complete a course of study of massage therapy or bodywork therapy consisting of five hundred classroom hours of supervised instruction at a board recognized school. (The hours requirement is currently seven hundred hours as established in A.A.C. R4-15-201(A)(2)).

A.A.C. R4-15-101(19) states that “supervised instruction” means the massage therapist responsible for a massage therapy student at a Board-approved school:

- a. Is present at the location where the massage therapy student is performing massage therapy as part of the massage therapist’s education,
- b. Is immediately available for consultation, and
- c. Evaluates the performance of the massage therapy student.

A student who receives instruction at a board recognized school receives two types of instruction. One type of instruction is classroom instruction, which is the physical or distance learning environment in which didactic teaching or lecturing takes place. The other type of instruction is clinical, which is the hands-on application of massage therapy.

The Board interprets the provisions in R4-15-101(19) (a), (b), and (c) to apply to clinical instruction because subsection (a) states that the student is actually performing massage therapy.

Because a student is not performing massage therapy when receiving classroom instruction, R4-15-101(19) (a) does not apply to classroom instruction. However, R4-15-101 (b) and (c) do apply to classroom instruction. This means that if a massage therapist responsible for a massage therapy student at a board approved school is immediately available for consultation and evaluates the classroom performance of the massage therapy student, the classroom instruction may be provided in a classroom or in a distance learning format.

Effective: October 25, 2010
Arizona State Board of Massage Therapy
1400 W. Washington, Suite 300
Phoenix, AZ 85007