



NEWS RELEASE
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July 20, 2020—For Immediate Release

AFMTE Releases “COVID-19 Related Recommendations for Massage Therapy and Bodywork Educators”

Alliance for Massage Therapy Education (AFMTE) has released a new set of recommendations for massage therapy and bodywork educators during the COVID-19 pandemic. These recommendations, compiled by a Task Force of leaders in therapeutic massage and bodywork education, are available at: [afmte.org/covid-19-related-recommendations-for-massage-therapy-and-bodywork-educators](https://www.afmte.org/covid-19-related-recommendations-for-massage-therapy-and-bodywork-educators).

“The return-to-campus guidelines that were emerging from elsewhere in higher education helped us recognize the unique needs in massage and bodywork education that would need to be addressed. It was important for AFMTE to be of service to the profession. By examining issues related to teaching, learning, and instructional design in addition to hygiene and safety, the Task Force was able to compile a resource to support decisions by school owners, program directors, educators and administrators. Flexibility and adaptability are key in the months to come,” says AFMTE Vice President and Chair of the Task Force Michele Renee, DC, MAC, MT

“Continuing education (CE) emerged as an essential area for consideration. Many states require hands-on hours for renewal, and CE often involves travel for workshop presenters and/or participants. This is a potentially risky situation—especially for participants who reside in an area with a resurgence of infections. AFMTE is uniquely positioned within the massage profession to point out this paradox and recommend solutions that are safe and promote quality advanced learning,” adds AFMTE Task Force Member and Director Virginia Cowen, PhD, LMT.

The AFMTE Board of Directors supported the project by reviewing and offering feedback on the recommendations.

“These guidelines are not mandates. They are designed to supplement guidelines from other sources,” offers AFMTE President Stan Dawson, DC.

If you are a massage and bodywork educator and would like more resources for navigating the COVID-19 crisis, visit <https://www.afmte.org/covid19/>.

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About the Alliance:

The Alliance for Massage Therapy Education’s mission is to serve as an independent voice, advocate and resource for the therapeutic massage and bodywork education community. The Alliance may be contacted at PO Box 40014 Tucson, AZ 85717. The phone number is (520) 329-2627, the general office email address is admin@afmte.org, and the website is <http://www.afmte.org>.

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