



## Operating Requirements for Massage Establishments Effective 2/6/25

These brief descriptions of Massage Establishment operating requirements are taken from the Sacramento County Code sections indicated. The information is summarized, and the complete text can be found in the County Code, which is available from our office or online, and is included in the Massage Establishment application package.

**Massage Establishment.** “Massage Establishment” is any commercial place of business that offers massage (4.36.010 I) A Massage Establishment based in the unincorporated area of Sacramento County must obtain both a General and a Special Business License. (4.06.005, 4.36.040)

**Responsibilities.** Massage Establishment owners and managers are responsible for the conduct of all persons on the premises. (4.36.200 D)

**Hours.** A Massage Establishment may not operate or remain open for business between 10 p.m. and 8 a.m. (4.36.090 A) and operating hours must be posted in a location that is clearly visible to customers. A massage begun before 10pm must terminate at or before 10pm

**List of Services.** A Massage Establishment shall have a list of services offered and the price of those services, and shall post the list in a clearly visible place at or near the entrance. The services offered shall be described in readily understandable English. Services not listed shall not be offered. (4.36.090 B)

**Massage Logs.** A Massage Establishment shall maintain Massage Logs in English that:

- Contains a daily record of each Massage Provider who worked that day, with their name as it appears on their Special Business License or California Massage Therapy Council certificate
- The hours (time) they worked each day
- A list of services they performed that day
- The time the service was provided

The massage log shall be available for inspection by the Sheriff or other County officials at all times during regular business hours and must be retained onsite for two years. (4.36.090 C)

**Registered List of Providers and Employees.** Each Establishment must maintain a Registered List of Providers and Employees. Any change requires a new form to be submitted at least 24 hours prior to a new person beginning work and 24 hours after a person has stopped working for the Establishment (4.36.090 D)

**Minors.** Persons under the age of eighteen (18) shall not work at a Massage Establishment. (4.36.090 E)

**Sanitation.** Massage Establishments shall provide a supply of clean towels, coverings and linens. These materials shall not be used on more than one client until they have been laundered. (4.36.090 F)

**Attire.** All persons working in an Establishment shall dress in a manner that does not violate Division 2, Chapter 10.5 of the Business and Professions Code. (4.36.090 G)

**Manager.** Massage Establishments shall have a designated Massage Manager. The Manager shall possess either CAMTC certification or a valid, unexpired and unrevoked Legacy Provider Special Business. The massage logs and Registered List of Providers and Employees shall identify the massage manager at all times, and the manager must be on site at all times while the business is open. **The requirement for a manager does not apply to “sole practitioner” Establishment where only one person is providing massage services.** . (4.36.090 H)

**Providers.** A Massage Establishment shall only allow massage to be provided by persons holding an active Legacy Massage Provider Special Business License or holding an active, valid certificate from the California Massage Therapy Council. (4.36.090 I)

**Display of License.** The Massage Establishment shall display their Special Business License in a conspicuous place within the Establishment where it may be seen by persons entering the premises. A Legacy Massage Provider licensee shall display their Special Business License wherever they provide massage. Massage Providers who hold active, valid certificates from the California Massage Therapy Council shall display their certificates wherever they provide massage. (4.36.090 J)

**Access.** All front, reception, hallway or front exterior doors of Massage Establishments, except employee-only entrances, shall be unlocked during business hours. Clients of the Massage Establishment shall enter or leave the Establishment only through the main entry door. A Massage Establishment with one owner and a maximum of one other Massage Provider may lock the exterior doors. No massage may be given, and no Massage Provider may be in a room with a client, if the door may be locked, unless the only door to the room is an exterior door. (4.36.090 K)

**Prohibited Massage Areas.** No Massage Provider or any other person shall massage the genital or anal areas of a client. No Massage Provider or any other person shall massage the breasts of a female client without the written consent of the client and a medical referral. (4.36.090 L)

**Privacy.** No Massage Provider shall be in a room with a client whose genital or anal area is uncovered. (4.36.090 M)

**Permission of Visitors.** During the hours of operation, visitors shall not be permitted in Massage rooms. Break rooms, dressing rooms, showers, or any other room or part of the Massage Establishment other than the reception and waiting areas or toilet rooms, with limited exceptions (4.36.090 N)

**Prohibition Against Residence.** No one shall reside at a Massage Establishment. (4.36.090 O)

**Prohibition Against Warning Devices.** Devices that can be used as warning systems to alert the staff of a Massage Establishment of the presence of law enforcement are prohibited. Examples of such devices are listed in 4.36.090 P. Each Establishment may have one fixed security camera that must face the reception desk. In the absence of a reception desk, the camera must be located in the main entry area, lobby, or rear entrance of the Massage Establishment. The camera must not be utilized in a manner that acts as an early warning device. (4.36.090 P)

**Exterior Signage.** Any signage for or on a Massage Establishment must correspond to the name on the Special Business License issued to the establishment. (4.36.090 Q)

**Minimum Lighting.** Massage Establishments shall have a minimum lighting equivalent to at least one forty-watt light in each massage therapy room or cubicle. (4.36.090 R)

**Advertising.** A Massage Establishment shall not advertise massage services using the terms "CMT," "certified massage therapist," "CMP," or "certified massage practitioner" in its business name unless massage services are provided only by providers holding active, valid certificates from the California Massage Therapy Council. No Massage Establishment or persons employed or retained by the Massage Establishment may engage in sexually suggestive advertising. Examples of such advertising can be found in 4.36.090 S.

**Visibility.** The exterior windows of a Massage Establishment shall not block visibility into the reception and waiting area with curtains, blinds, tinting, or other material that obstructs, blurs, or darkens the view into the premises during the hours the establishment is open. (4.36.090 T)

**Table Showers.** No person shall install or use a table shower at a Massage Establishment. (4.36.090 U)

**Required Slavery and Human Trafficking Notices for Massage Establishments.** Establishments shall comply with California Civil Code Section 52.6 (a) (13), and shall be printed in English, Spanish, and Chinese. (4.36.090 V)