

Massage Therapy License Exemption Worksheet For Related Touch Therapies

The legislature has determined that massage therapy includes any practice (not already licensed by the state) that performs “structured touch, pressure, positioning or holding to soft tissues of the body” -MCA 37-33-403(4). This means that while practitioners may not consider their work to be massage therapy, the law is broad enough to define those practices as massage therapy and requires the Board of Massage Therapy to regulate these practices through licensure. However, the legislature has also determined that in certain cases these individuals can qualify for an exemption and do not require the Board’s oversight.

This worksheet is intended to determine whether the individual qualifies for an exemption under MCA 37-33-404(5).

Begin with the questions below to determine if you may use this worksheet.

1. Do you perform touch, words, and directed movement to deepen awareness of existing patterns of movement in the body, as well as to suggest new possibilities of movement? Yes / No
Examples include but are not limited to the Feldenkrais method of somatic education, the Trager approach to movement education, and body-mind centering.
2. Do you perform touch to affect the human energy systems, energy meridians, or energy fields? Yes / No
Examples include but are not limited to polarity bodywork therapy, Asian bodywork therapy, acupressure, jin shin do, qigong, reiki, shiatsu, tui na, and craniosacral therapy.
3. Do you perform touch to effect change on the integration of the structure of the physical body? Yes / No
Examples include but are not limited to the Rolf method of structural integration, Rolfing, and Hellerwork.
4. Do you perform touch to affect the reflex areas located in the hands, feet, and outer ears? Yes / No
Examples include but are not limited to reflexology.

If you answered NO to ALL of the above, STOP! **You do not qualify for an exemption under MCA 37-33-404(5), and you must obtain a massage therapy license to practice.**

If you answered Yes to AT LEAST ONE of the above, please read the information below before continuing to the flowchart:

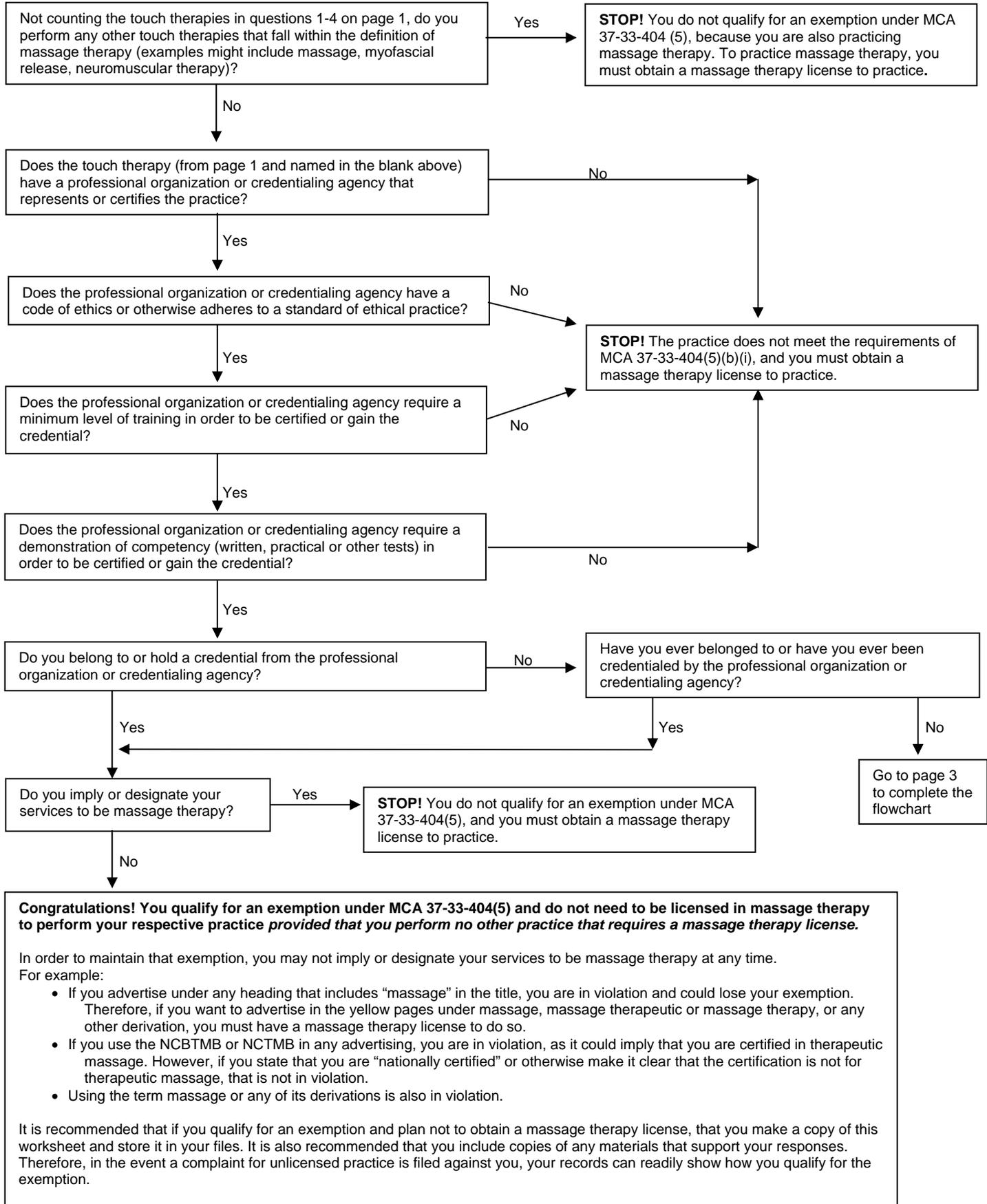
If you perform more than one touch therapy that might qualify for an exemption, you are strongly encouraged to fill out a worksheet for each one. Qualifying for an exemption for one touch therapy only allows practice of that therapy. You may not practice other therapies without first obtaining a license or showing that they are also exempt.

If you do not qualify for an exemption for any one of your touch therapies, you must obtain a massage therapy license to perform that therapy.

Directions to fill out the flowchart on the following pages:

1. Put the name of the touch therapy at the top of the page
2. Circle each answer to show which branch of the flowchart is followed.

Touch Therapy Name: _____



This page is only for those who answered “No” to the question:

