



## *Enrollment Catalogue*

*"To keep the body in good health is a duty...otherwise we shall not be able to keep our mind strong and clear."*  
*Buddha*

2025 Student Catalogue  
January 2, 2025  
Volume 57

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MS #1042  
ME #3415



## **Welcome...**

Dear Student,

The Laurel School of Massage is proud to welcome you to our school. You are embarking on a journey that will make you a better person, a more disciplined person, a more fun-loving person, but most importantly a person that will make a substantial contribution to the health of our society.

**“Truly, the greatest gift you have to give is that of your own self-transformation.”**

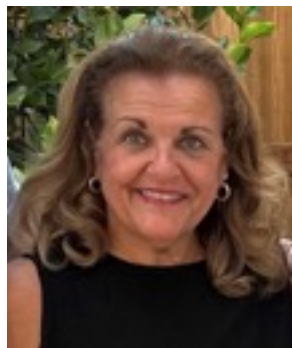


**Lao Tzu**

The information contained in this Handbook will become your “career guide”. It contains what you need to know to help you navigate the journey to attaining your self-transformation...to become a skilled and caring massage therapist.

I will always be available to help you on your journey. Please feel free to request my guidance whenever you feel the need.

Good Luck,



**Caroline Fox Guerin, LMT, MTI**  
**School Director/Owner**  
**Laurel School of Massage**  
**MS #1042 ME #3415**



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## *Introduction*

Laurel School of Massage is a **100% woman owned and operated proprietary educational institution** licensed in 2012 by the Texas Department of State Health Services and now administered by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation; and dedicated to excellence in education. We educate our students by awakening their natural learning process in a safe, fun, and supportive environment so they may become creative, successful, and effective body workers for the highest good of all concerned. Students will learn to assist the body to adapt as human consciousness heals, transforms, and uplifts.

An education at Laurel affords the student the opportunity to expand their personal horizons and to experience through their training and personal growth as they explore the human body and the techniques of massage therapy. Caroline Fox Guerin, the school's Owner/Director, attests that the statements made in this catalogue are true and correct to the best of her knowledge.

### *Important Student Information*

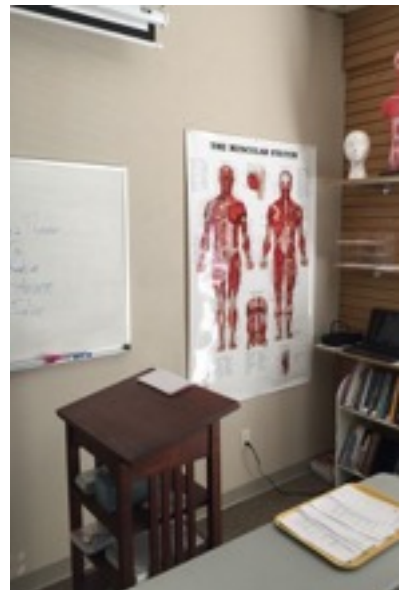
Caroline Fox Guerin is always available to answer your questions or address your concerns. Please contact her if you have any questions related to your school experience.



Entrance Foyer



Separate Lunchroom



Massage Classroom

**Overview**  
**Cost of the Program**

**Day Class – 5 Month Program**

A New Day Class will start on June 13, 2024, with completion on October 31, 2024. Classes are Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM plus internship hours.

**TUITION PAYMENT PROGRAMS**

**Plan I - \$7,300.00 tuition payable monthly with a minimum payment of \$500.00 per month. Balance due at the completion of the program.\***

**Plan II - \$7,100.00 tuition paid in full prior to the commencement of classes by credit card or Pay Pal.**

**Plan III – Cash Discount Pricing/\$6,800.00 Cash or Check paid in full prior to the commencement of classes.**

**Plan I - Requires an initial down payment of \$500.00 which is applied toward the \$7,300.00 tuition. The remaining balance owed is \$6,800.00 due in full prior to the completion of the program. There is no loan qualification for our in-house tuition payment program; no interest or monthly service charges are incurred by timely payment. All payments are due on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. There is a \$35.00 charge for checks returned by the bank for insufficient funds or any other reason. There is a late fee (\$20.00) for payments received after the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month.**

**Plan II - Students that opt for their payment through Pay Pal have 24 months to repay the advanced funds. Students that use a credit card are subject to the terms and conditions of their credit card agreement. Laurel considers credit card and Pay Pal as payment in full.**

**\*Other financial arrangements may be made on a case basis to meet students' needs.**

**ONE-TIME STUDENT INITIAL SETUP COSTS**

**BOOKS**

**SCHOOL TEE SHIRTS (3) – must be worn during internship**

**MASSAGE SPECIFIC SHEETS (3 sets)**

**PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE**

**FURNISHED BY ABMP/EXAM COACH**

**HOLSTER, BOLSTER, LOTION/OIL**

**CPR INSTRUCTION & CERTIFICATION**

**TEXAS REQUIRED JURISPRUDENCE TEST**

**APPLICATION FEE**

**STATE REQUIRED STUDENT PERMIT**

**TECHNOLOGY FEE**

**TOTAL SETUP COSTS**

**\$ 1,700.00**

**These fees are not tuition and must accompany the application for the program; must be paid ten days before the first class day and are non-refundable.**

## I. DIRECTOR and FACULTY



### **Caroline Fox Guerin, School Owner/Director – LMT 107072, MTI 2550 - Instructor**

Caroline graduated from A New Beginning School of Massage in Austin, Texas in 2006. Continuing education has been a major pursuit throughout her massage career, and she continues to expand her massage techniques and knowledge. Other certificates obtained include hydrotherapy, aromatherapy, pre-natal massage, Ayurveda massage, hot stone massage, cupping, and advanced facial massage. She appreciates the knowledge imparted by the many teachers and practitioners that have shared their experiences with her and they have been an inspiration to her. She has been a massage therapist since her graduation and continues those endeavors today. Caroline teaches all subjects with emphasis on Swedish Massage, Hydrotherapy, Health & Hygiene, Business Practices/Ethics, and Internship. Caroline has been the Vice-President of the Texas Coalition of Massage Schools and Instructors since 2016. In October of 2023 she was reappointed to a six-year term to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) Massage Therapy Advisory Board as the Presiding Officer. Caroline has a passion for massage that is evident in all phases of her life.

### **Caroline's Community and Industry Commitment**

- 2017 - Provided free massages to First Responders who served during Hurricane Harvey.
- 2018 - Served on the Standards Committee of the Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards (MBLEx)
- 2021 - Served on the Finance Committee of the Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards (FSMTB)
- 2021 - Panel Member of the FSMTB Strategic Planning Symposium
- 2022 - Served on the Board of Directors of the Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards (FSMTB)
- 2023 - Member of the Finance Committee
- 2019 to the Present - Member of the MBLEx Examination Committee – Chairperson 2019-2023
- 2023 to the Present - Panelist of the ERP – Examination Review Panel
- 2017 to the Present - Texas Department of Licensing & Regulation (TDLR) Massage Therapy Advisory Board – Presiding Officer (2023-2024)
- 2023 – Served as Vice-President of the Board of Directors of FSMTB.
- 2024 to Present – President of the Board of Directors of the Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards



**Dr. Michelle Williams-Hutson – Instructor, LMT 101735, MTI 2942, Licensed Texas Chiropractor 12042**

Dr. Michelle is a graduate of Memorial Hermann School of Massage (2006) and a graduate of Texas Chiropractic College (2008). She also holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Morris Brown College (2003). With 10 years of teaching experience, she can teach all subject matter. She enjoys having students develop a love for the sciences, deepen their critical thinking skills, and advance their hands on skills. In her 15+ years of massage therapy experience, Dr. Michelle has worked in a franchise, a spa setting, and chiropractic offices. In private practice she incorporates various massage modalities where the focus of her practice is women before, during and after pregnancy; infants/children; and athletic adolescents with injury prevention, maintenance, and recovery. Throughout her career, Dr. Michelle has participated in MS 150, numerous chair events, and worked with professional athletes. Her experience gave her the opportunity to travel with Olympic Track and Field sprinters for 2 years and become a member of the Houston Livestock and Rodeo Show Sports Medicine Team as a massage therapist. She realizes the importance of understanding the current information before trying to grasp more. She brings to the classroom her comprehensive professional insight and perspective essay striving for her students to be their absolute best.



**Robert F. Guerin – Business Instructor**

Bob is a 1964 graduate of LaSalle University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting with a minor in economics. He has operated several successful real estate brokerage firms. Bob has served on several committees of the Texas Real Estate Commission, and he has been an arbitration and ethics hearing panelist for the Texas Association of Realtors since 2000. Bob teaches the portion of the



Business Practices curriculum dealing with business plans, mission statements and resume preparation. He also teaches a comprehensive CE course (4-Hours) on setting up your own business.

Massage Therapy Instructors at Laurel School of Massage are affiliated with Associated Bodywork and Massage Professionals (ABMP), an international bodyworkers association or The American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA).



**Coquice (“CC”) Cloud - Red Cross Certified - First Aid/CPR/AED Instructor**

CC has done extensive CPR training in the Houston area for several years. She will be teaching the State of Texas requirements for CPR & First-Aid training of future massage therapist. CC has a master’s in social work degree (MSW) from the University of Texas.

## **II. FACILITY DESCRIPTION AND EQUIPMENT**

Laurel School of Massage is conveniently located near the intersection of Champion Forest Drive and Louetta Road in a neighborhood shopping center. The school space is 2,700 square feet and the center has ample free parking for both students and massage clientele. The building contains two full-size classrooms, a reception area, a school office, a large student breakroom, a student store and two baths, one of which is an ADA compliant bathroom. The student store features EarthLite massage tables and chairs; Sacred Earth oils, lotion, and CBD products; Comfy massage table linens, tools, books, videos, etc. EarthLite massage tables are used and sold at the school. A full-size skeleton with origin and insertion markings, upper torso, arm and leg charts, numerous wall charts, videos and power point presentations are all utilized.

## **III. SCHOOL HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY & OBJECTIVES**

The Laurel School of Massage is a sole proprietorship, a 100% woman-owned business operated exclusively since 2012 by Caroline Fox Guerin, the School Director. The school has been approved and is regulated by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation to operate as a licensed massage therapy school. State of Texas approval was granted on October 11th, 2012.

The Laurel School of Massage strives to provide the public with the opportunity to learn through our education facility the art and science of massage therapy with the ultimate goal of providing the student with the skills and knowledge necessary for obtaining state licensing approval. The art of massage therapy allows the practitioner to not only experience a feeling of accomplishment but also to help their clients to better enjoy their lives. Laurel School of Massage's teachers through our programs are committed to helping their students achieve excellence in massage therapy skills and ultimately to be the absolute best that they can be.

## **IV. OUR PROGRAM DEFINED**

The purpose of the Laurel School of Massage 500-Hour State of Texas training program is to prepare students with the knowledge and skills necessary to apply to become a licensed massage therapist in Texas. A graduating student must pass a national examination, the MBLEx or the Texas State Exam. The Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards governs and administers the Massage & Bodywork Licensing Examination (MBLEx). It serves massage therapy and regulatory communities as the national entry-level licensing examination. The MBLEx is currently utilized for licensure in 46 regulated jurisdictions (states). These also include the District of Columbia and the territories of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Passing the MBLEx exam or Texas State Exam does NOT qualify someone to practice massage in Texas, it merely meets one of the requirements for licensure. A person who has graduated from massage therapy school and passed the MBLEx exam or State Exam must apply for and be granted licensure prior to practicing massage therapy for compensation on the public. The course of study at Laurel will provide a strong background in the theory and practice of massage.

Current Programs Offered are as follows:

The 5-day per weekday program length is approximately 5-1/2 months including the internship.

Ample time will be provided for the students to perform their internship, whereby completing the entire course of study.

## V. COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

The course requirements are as follows:

SM101 - Swedish Massage	200 Hours
A101 - Anatomy	50 Hours
P102 - Physiology	25 Hours
K101 - Kinesiology	50 Hours
PA101 - Pathology	40 Hours
HY101 - Hydrotherapy	20 Hours
BE101 - Business Practices & Ethics	45 Hours
HH101 - Health and Hygiene	20 Hours
I101 - Internship	<u>50 Hours</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>500 Hours</u></b>

### **SM101 Swedish Massage - 200 Hours**

A Swedish massage format will be taught which includes the manipulation of soft body tissue (125 hrs. minimum). Techniques will include effleurage, petrissage, tapotement, friction, vibration, and joint movement. Emphasis will be placed on harmonious flow and nurturing, healing touch. Myofascial release, trigger points, and cross fiber work that are designed to help clients who have specific needs (i.e. neck, lower back problems). Chair massage techniques to promote your massage business. Clinical and sports massage. Palpation skills. Limited spa techniques. Massage for senior citizens. Passive and active stretching techniques.

### **A101 Anatomy - 50 Hours**

We will study the structure of the human body including the bones, joints, muscles, the skin, blood and blood vessels, cells, tissues, membranes, glands, hormones, the heart, the brain, the spinal cord, nerves, the lymphatic system, the digestive system, the respiratory system, the urinary system and the reproductive system.

### **P102 Physiology - 25 Hours**

A study of the normal vital processes of the human body including the processes of cells, tissues and organs, the contractibility of muscle tissue, coordination through the nervous system, digestion, circulatory processes and secretions.

### **K101 Kinesiology – 50 Hours**

Kinesiology is the study of human movement, performance, and function by applying the sciences of biomechanics, anatomy, physiology, psychology, and neuroscience. Students learn the kinesiology of everyday movement including sports activities. The actions of the muscles, how they work together to create movement, will be emphasized. The methodologies will be applied to a client massage session.

### **PA101 Pathology – 40 Hours**

Pathology for each body system, medical terminology, basic pharmacology. The effects of physical and emotional use and abuse/trauma. Emotional states (anxiety, grief, depression, etc.). Contraindications and indications. Diseases, injuries and how they relate to massage.

### **HY101 Hydrotherapy - 20 Hours**

Students learn hydrotherapy principles and techniques including uses of hot and cold water, salt glows, mud packs, paraffin baths, herbal wraps, brushing, steam and the various baths, spa technique.

### **BE101 Business Practices & Ethics – 45 Hours**

The emphasis is on teaching the student how to begin, maintain and nurture a successful and ethical relationship in their massage practice. Goal setting, time management, marketing skills, advertising, bookkeeping, office design and business planning are covered in the course. The student will design their own Business Plan to use as a guide in their practice. Massage therapy laws and rules. Ethical standards set by the massage industry and their role in massage therapy.

### **HH101 Health and Hygiene - 20 Hours**

Recognized methods of sanitation and cleanliness will be used including disease prevention and universal precautions as applied to massage therapy. Elements of a healthy lifestyle will be discussed. Health maintenance practices such as yoga, dance, visualization, and other means of energy balancing will be employed. First Aid and CPR are part of the 500-hour program at Laurel School of Massage and must be completed onsite.

### **I101 Internship - 50 Hours**

The internship program is the 'bridge' between the formal classroom setting and beginning a practice as a massage therapist. Students will be given the opportunity to utilize the skills learned during their massage therapy training by making appointments, discussing client needs and performing massage therapy on the general public. Students will attend internship during hours not in class and will be expected to be available for a minimum of 6 appointments per week. All internship massages are given at the school under the supervision of a licensed massage therapy instructor. Internship may begin in the program when 100 hours of technique and 250 hours of total time have been attained.

**All make up must be completed and outstanding obligations met before a student can start internship.**

## **VI. CONTINUING EDUCATION**

After you complete your course of study at Laurel, you may avail yourself of many of our continuing education offerings. They will add to your professionalism. Continuing Education (CE) is required to keep one's license current. Instead of having to find a new home to advance your skills you can always return to Laurel for all your CE needs. We welcome our former students' ideas for CE classes to be considered for our programs. For the latest information on CE classes call the school or check it out online at our website.

## **VII. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

The Laurel School of Massage does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, religion, nationality, ethnic origin or sexual orientation in the admissions process or administration of its educational policies.

1. Tour of the School - The purpose of the tour is to familiarize the student with the administration, facility, procedures, policies, and to answer any questions you may

have concerning massage and massage therapy training. The tour also gives us a more detailed sense of you as a person and potential student. Because we strongly commit to each student's success, we do in turn look for each applicant to have sufficient emotional maturity, academic and economic stability, and motivation to satisfactorily pursue massage therapy training. However, the tour is optional and is not a condition of enrollment.

2. Submit a completed application and enrollment forms with appropriate fees.
3. Be aware that a prospective student may be ineligible for state licensure if he or she has been:
  - a. Convicted of, pled guilty to, entered a plea of nolo contendere/no contest to, or received deferred adjudication, please check with TDLR to determine your eligibility to attend massage school. This is the prospective student's sole responsibility.

Students must be 18 years of age by the completion date of the program. A parent or guardian must enroll any student starting class before their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.

A prospective student before enrollment shall furnish a photo ID and a copy of their high school diploma or GED document or better to be retained in their school file. State Permit requires the student furnish a 2" x 2" self-photo within the first week of class,

## **VIII. TUITION AND FEES**

The total cost (Tuition Only) for the massage therapy tuition is \$7,300.00, based on \$16.22 per hour times 450 hours. The student is separately responsible for the cost of liability insurance, books, supplies, and uniform shirts. Client fees received from the general public pay for the cost of the student's internship program, and there is no charge to the student for the internship program. All internship fees received from the general public are the property of Laurel School of Massage.

If a student needs a partial program (to complete less than 500 hours of the massage therapy educational program at Laurel School of Massage), then \$25.00 will be charged for each class hour needed, PLUS the \$200 Application Fee, the \$75 student liability insurance, and any textbooks or supplies needed for the classes taken. A student requesting a partial program may enroll at any appropriate time within the program that the curriculum allows.

The fee for private teaching (tutoring) is \$45 per hour. Students may group together and arrange for tutoring and share the \$45 per hour cost.

### **MAKEUP POLICY**

The school recognizes that upon occasion it may be necessary for a student to miss a class. The student will need to attend a makeup class for the day or time missed. **The first 25 hours missed may be made up at no additional charge to the student. All hours over the first 25 hours will need to be made up at the per hour rate of \$16.22 per hour, this fee is not included in the regular tuition charged. (The minimum fee for makeup is 1 hour at \$16.00). Opportunity to do make up is offered on afternoons by appointment. Makeup must be completed within 14 days of the days missed.**



When an application is made, the school and the student sign a contract for the total amount of the program, this contract will supersede any future program offers either at a higher or lower amount.

**All financial obligations must be met prior to receiving diplomas or transcripts.**

All students are required to have their own textbooks and supplies. Listed below are the textbooks used in the program and supplies, along with the cost of the program:

**BOOKS:**

THEORY AND PRACTICE OF MASSAGE THERAPEUTICS  
 MASSAGE, Sixth Edition  
 Mark F. Beck, Copyright 2017  
 ISBN 978-1-285-18755-6

MASSAGE THERAPIST’S GUIDE TO PATHOLOGY, Seventh Edition  
 Ruth Werner, Copyright 2019  
 ISBN 978-0-9982663-4-3

TRAIL GUIDE TO THE BODY - Textbook  
 Andrew Biel, Sixth Edition, Copyright 2019  
 ISBN 978-0998785066

TRAIL GUIDE TO THE BODY STUDENT - Workbook,  
 Andrew Biel, Sixth Edition, Copyright 2019  
 ISBN 978-0991466672

These books must be purchased from the school.

**Total Cost of the Program**

	<b>ALL</b>	<b>CREDIT</b>	<b>IN- HOUSE</b>
	<b><u>CASH</u></b>	<b><u>CARD</u></b>	
<b><u>FINANCING</u></b>			
Tuition	\$6,800.00	\$7,100.00	\$7,300.00
Setup Costs	<u>1,700.00</u>	<u>1,700.00</u>	<u>1,700.00</u>
<b>TOTAL COST FOR THE PROGRAM</b>	<b><u>\$8,500.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$8,800.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$9,000.00</u></b>

**The school does offer an in-house student payment plan:**

**No interest will accrue on monthly payments.** Tuition is only included in the monthly payments. Tuition is payable monthly with a minimum payment of \$500.00 per month. Balance Due at graduation. ***If a longer payment period is desired the student may request other plans or terms available through the school.***

(Payments may be made by cash, money order or check)

For the in-house monthly payment plans, any payments received after 5 days from the due date will be assessed a \$20.00 late fee.



If payment has not been paid, including late fees after the 5 days, the student can be denied admittance to class till payment arrangements have been satisfied.

This action may incur absences that must be made up before completion of the program. If you are late more than 2 weeks with a payment – then you will be dropped from the school.

There is a \$35.00 charge for checks returned by the bank for insufficient funds.

Replacement diplomas and official school transcripts are available through the school. The fee for replacement of a diploma is \$35. The fee for replacement of official school transcripts is \$35.

## **IX. CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY**

Applicants who have not visited the school prior to enrollment will have the opportunity to withdraw without penalty within three business days following either the regularly scheduled orientation procedures or following a tour of the school facilities and inspection of equipment where training and services are provided.

All Tuition paid applicant will be refunded if requested within three days after signing an enrollment agreement and making an initial payment. An applicant requesting cancellation more than three days after signing an enrollment agreement and making an initial payment, but prior to entering the school, is entitled to a refund of tuition paid minus a \$200 handling fee.

If a student enters the Program and is terminated or withdraws, the minimum refund of the remaining tuition will be as outlined below based on the number of clock hours of the program completed. Tuition is charged for all hours scheduled prior to official termination or withdrawal.

The minimum refund will be:

1. Less than 72 hours after the enrollment agreement is signed by the prospective student (until midnight of the third day excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, 100% of all monies paid, or
2. During the first week or one-tenth of the program, whichever is less, 90% of the remaining tuition, or
3. After the first week or one-tenth of the program, whichever is less, but within the first 3 weeks of the program, 80% of the remaining tuition, or
4. After the first 3 weeks of the program but within the first quarter of the program (125 hours), 75% of the remaining tuition, or
5. During the second quarter of the program (126 hours to 250 hours), 50% of the remaining tuition, or
6. During the third quarter of the program (251 hours to 375 hours), 10% of the remaining tuition, or
7. During the last quarter (376 to 500 hours), 0% of the remaining tuition. During the last quarter of the program, the student may be considered obligated for the full tuition.

**REFUNDS WILL BE MADE WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE EARLIEST OF:**

1. The effective date of termination if the student is terminated, or
2. The date of receipt of written notice of withdrawal from the student, or
3. Ten instructional days following the first day of the program if the student fails to enter.

**X. CURRENT CLASS SCHEDULES 500-HOUR PROGRAM**

(Future class schedules are confirmed and published at least 30 days prior to class)

**Day Class – 5-1/2 Month Program**

A New Day Class will start in early 2025. Classes are Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM plus internship hours. Internship is held Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays.

Call the school for more information and specific dates.

**FAILURE TO COMPLETE THE PROGRAM/PROGRAM COMPLETION**

**Students who do not complete the program in the time permitted will be given a partial transcript, providing all financial obligations have been met. If a student has not completed internship hours s/he may re-enroll in the program. Once the student completes all the hours, s/he will be given another partial transcript showing the hours completed during the second enrollment. The school will charge a re-enrollment fee. The Laurel School of Massage re-enrollment fee is currently \$200.**

THE STUDENT/TEACHER RATIO AT LAUREL SCHOOL OF MASSAGE DOES NOT EXCEED 15:1. The school emphasizes small classes to maximize student learning and participation. Upon occasion a student from another class may need to do makeup. The school may have up to 4 students from another class at one time doing makeup. The maximum number of students in a classroom is 14, a total of 28 in the school.

Enrollment for these courses is possible up to the time 50 hours of class have been taught. Enrollment for the 500-hour program begins approximately four months before the start of each class. The day program length is approximately 5-1/2 months including the internship.

Students are given a 10-minute break approximately every one-hour. **By state law students must remain in the school during all break periods.** Please prepare for class each day with this in mind.

Holidays observed are as follows: Good Friday, Easter Sunday, Spring Break, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day. We do not close on President's Day, Columbus Day, Martin Luther King Day.

The normal hours of operation are:

**OFFICE** - The office is open during regularly scheduled class times as shown on the official published class schedules for the 500-hour program. All other times are by appointment only. **Students will not enter the office unless the Director or an Instructor is in the office, and only after being invited into the office. All files, records, and office equipment are not for the use of students.**

SCHOOL - The school is also open during regularly scheduled class times as shown on the official published class schedules for the 500-hour program. **All other times are by appointment only.**

## **XI. ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Attendance is critical both to the continuity of the course and for compliance with state requirements for licensure. Students are responsible for regular, punctual attendance. A master record of attendance is maintained. Each student is responsible for signing themselves in daily on the attendance sheet. The instructor on a daily attendance sheet maintains the number of scheduled hours for each class session and the hours each student was present for each student enrolled in the class. The attendance sheets are turned in to the school office and the students' attendance is then recorded in the school computer, listing any missed time, makeup, tardiness, or absence from class. **Students should be in the school and in their seat at or before the class begins.**

The school recognizes that upon occasion it may be necessary for a student to miss a class. The student will need to attend a makeup class for the day or time missed. **The first 25 hours missed may be made up at no additional charge to the student. All hours over the first 25 hours will need to be made up at the per hour rate of \$16.22 per hour, this fee is not included in the regular tuition charged. (The minimum fee for makeup is 1 hour, or \$16.00). If a student is more than 15 minutes late for a class or misses 15 minutes of any hour s/he is counted as missing the full hour of class. A pattern of lateness short of 5 minutes will be noted and accrued. In school means in your desk at 9:00 A.M. Accumulated short lateness totaling 15 minutes or more will be counted as abuse of the occasional lateness policy and will require make up of one hour.**

Time missed is cumulative, meaning the time missed accumulates even if made up. A student cannot exceed 15% (75 hrs.) of the total clock hours for which the student is enrolled, if they do, the student will be dropped from the school and money for the time accrued in the program is still due according to the catalogue and contract for enrollment. Time missed must be made up within 14 days of the missed time.

The State requires completion of all 500 hours of the curriculum to be eligible to apply for State licensure.

An absence shall be charged for a full day when the student attends none of the scheduled classes on that day. A partial day of absence shall be charged for any period of absence during the day. A student will be terminated from the program if the student accumulates absences of more than 10 consecutive school days or more than 15% (75 hrs.) of the total clock hours for which the student is enrolled per the enrollment agreement. Make-up may be given to each student as needed, make-up time must be scheduled, and no walk-ins for makeup hours. Students who are terminated for excessive absences may be eligible to re-enroll at the beginning of the next grading period.

Attendance is also taken during the internship portion of the program. Students are required to keep scheduled appointments. If a student is absent or late for their client appointment the student will accumulate time missed equal to the amount of time missed for the day. For example, if three hours of internship appointments are scheduled on a given day, and the student is absent for two hours, two hours of absences will be counted for the day. If a student needs to be absent for a scheduled day of internship, but another student can



come into the school and do the appointments, then the student will not accrue any absences for the day and the fill-in student will receive the credit for those internship hours toward their internship requirement. A student may elect to wait for walk-in massage clients at their own risk. Hours spent by students in the clinic but not in actual massage activity do not count toward their internship requirement.

Make-up work shall not be authorized for the purpose of removing an absence. All missed classes must be made up in a timely manner. Course work should be made up within two weeks of the last absence, by scheduling make-up sessions during the school's business hours and when an instructor is available. Students who miss tests because of an absence must make them up within two calendar weeks or a zero (0) grade will be given. Not passing a class or completing make up, may result in an incomplete transcript and no diploma issued to the student. An instructor must be physically present during any make up work.

Each clock hour of class time is made up of 50 minutes of instruction and 10 minutes of break time. Attendance is recorded 5 minutes after the first hour of class begins and continues in 15-minute intervals. If a student arrives more than 5 minutes late, then the student's attendance will reflect tardiness of one-hour and be liable for one-hour of makeup.

## **XII. PROGRESS POLICY**

Students will be informed two weeks prior to the completion of a course of any remaining failing grades. Students will have two weeks at the completion of a course to rectify a failing grade. All courses must be passed with 70% grade or better to have completed that portion of the Laurel School of Massage program. The grading policy is shown below:

End of the first quarter of the program	70%
End of the second quarter of the program	70%
End of the third quarter of the program	70%
End of the fourth quarter of the program	70%

At the end of each quarter the average of the cumulative numeric test scores for each subject will be converted to letter grades as shown below. The student will receive a letter grade on the quarterly evaluation for each subject.

A = 93 – 100
B = 85 – 92
C = 77 - 84
D = 70 - 76
F = 69 or below

If a student is absent from the school and is unable to take a test, then the student will be given two weeks to make up the test before the grade will revert to a zero. Each student is responsible for keeping track of their own grades.

A student who is making unsatisfactory progress will be notified in a timely manner that they are on or about to be on probation. If a student that is on probation achieves satisfactory progress for the subsequent period but has not achieved the required grades for overall satisfactory progress, the student may be continued on probation for one more grading period. If the student on probation fails to achieve satisfactory progress for the first probationary grading period, the student's enrollment may be terminated. The enrollment of a student who fails to achieve overall satisfactory progress for the program



at the end of two successive probationary grading periods shall be terminated. A student who is terminated from the program for unsatisfactory progress may request reinstatement but must wait out one grading period before being eligible to re-enroll.

When a student is placed on probation, the student will be counseled prior to returning to class, and the date, action taken, and terms of the probation shall be clearly indicated on the student's permanent records. Anytime a student needs to repeat a class in our Program for any reason, then the previous grades received in the subject will be erased in favor of the new grades.

If a student voluntarily withdraws from the program, then the student may be eligible to come back to the school within 12 months of their withdrawal by enrolling with a new class. The student will be given full credit for all the coursework successfully completed and the student's tuition will be adjusted accordingly to reflect the partial program needed to complete the course. A re-enrolling student must, regardless of any changes in tuition or curriculum, complete a new and current enrollment agreement. Any re-enrollment, regardless of reason, requires a new enrollment agreement and the payment of a \$200 Application Fee. A student that is terminated from the program may not enroll in a future program unless approved by the School Director.

The cancellation and refund policy shall apply to a student terminated under this section. The effective date of termination for purposes of refunds will be the date of termination from the program. Should the student be terminated or dropped from the program all outstanding money due the school will need to be paid prior to receiving an official transcript.

### **XIII. GRIEVANCE POLICY**

All grievances shall be taken seriously, and every effort shall be made to resolve the grievance. All grievances should be filed in a written statement to the School Director. All discussions shall be held in private. The School Director's decision shall be final in the resolution of a grievance or complaint. If the grievance is still not resolved to the individual's satisfaction, then any individual may contact the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation. In addition, an individual may obtain copies of the Administrative Rules of the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation 16 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 117 (Effective February 1, 2020).

#### **Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation**

**Attention: Enforcement Division**

**P. O. Box 12157**

**Austin, TX 78711**

**Emailed to** [intake@tdlr.texas.gov](mailto:intake@tdlr.texas.gov)

**or file online at** [www.tdlr.texas.gov/complaints](http://www.tdlr.texas.gov/complaints)

### **XIV. STUDENT CONDUCT**

Students must abide by all policies, rules, regulations and procedures of the Laurel School of Massage.

Students shall not engage in any sort of disruptive behavior during classroom instruction and/or while on the school's premises, or any conduct that might endanger the health or safety of any person. Disruptive behavior is any behavior exhibited by a student that

interferes with another student's work or the teacher's ability to teach the class. In all instances, the School Director shall have the final say in deciding whether certain behavior is disruptive. On the first instance the student will receive a written warning. A second instance will constitute grounds for dismissal.

No student shall use, possess, or distribute any narcotic or illegal drug while on the school's premises nor shall any student at any time smoke in the school. Such behavior is cause for dismissal.

If a student enters the school's premises while under the influence of alcohol, he or she will receive a written warning. A second instance will constitute grounds for dismissal.

All students are expected to observe high standards of modesty, personal hygiene, and respect for others, including the avoidance of inappropriate language while at the school. On the first instance, the student will receive a written warning. A second instance will constitute grounds for dismissal.

### **School Dress Code**

All students are expected to observe high standards of modesty, personal hygiene, and respect for others while at the school. The dress code is laid back but should always exemplify integrity and professionalism. Classroom attire should be: LSOM tee shirts (optional for class only) or dark, solid color scrub top, or solid color tee shirt, dark (black, dark gray dark green), solid color scrub pants, and closed toed shoes. Workout clothing is not acceptable including sweatpants and running shorts. All female students are required to wear a bra. Feet must always be covered. Shoes are required outside of the massage room, greeting the client and after the session. Socks are acceptable during the session. No bare feet at any time. Flip-flops, Crocs or similar rubber/plastic-based footwear or bedroom slippers are not acceptable footwear. Hair should be neat, clean, and pulled back or up if long. Fingernails should be clean, polish free and trimmed short. A sweatband or hat may only be worn during the session but not when greeting the clients. Jewelry is unacceptable during a massage session. It would be best if students did not wear any jewelry at school. Breath or body odor should be pleasant or absent. If in doubt do not wear it. LSOM Tee Shirts are required during internship. If the student's attire is inappropriate at the first instance, the student will receive a written warning, asked to leave. A second instance will constitute grounds for dismissal.

### **Visitors**

Under no circumstances may students bring children, pets or guests to classes or an internship appointment.

### **Cell Phones, Other Electronic Devices**

Signage is posted in the classroom stating: ***No Cell Phones, Taking of Photos or Videos or Electronic Devices (including Smart Watches)***. Cell phones cannot be on or used in the classroom during lectures, video, or massage at any time. Use is described as any function of the phone, including texting. **Students may use cell phones during breaks only**. Students may give family members or childcare people the school office number in case of an emergency (832-969-0040). The office staff will come to class and make sure the student is aware of any emergency that needs attention. All electronics must be placed in a basket until the break and returned after the break is over.

If a student interferes with another student's work by acting in a boisterous manner, or acting in an emotionally unstable manner, or being unable or unwilling to adhere to the standards of the school, then the student will receive a written warning. A second instance





will constitute grounds for dismissal. No food or drink, except water in a closed container, is allowed in the classrooms.

Any student terminated regardless of the reason shall be eligible for reinstatement in the next class at the sole discretion of the School Director. If in the opinion of the School Director, the termination was of a nature that reinstatement would not be in the best interests of the school or the student that termination would be irrevocable.

## **XV. STUDENT HEALTH**

Your safety as a massage student is always of utmost concern at Laurel School of Massage. If in the opinion of the School Director, a student's health could impede their ability to perform in a normal manner any classroom studies or Internship, it is within the sole discretion of School Director to deny that student the ability to participate in the program until further notice.

## **VI. STUDENT SERVICES**

The school can make appropriate student records and a letter of recommendation available to any prospective employer with the student's written consent. The school's Business Practices and Professional Ethics class that is included in the 500-hour program teaches students how to set up their own business in massage therapy. The course covers many aspects of obtaining employment in massage. The school does not guarantee employment.

The Director of the school offers each student a complimentary business consultation. During the meeting the Director can focus on a student's interests and show them how to proceed in achieving their goals. A discussion of advertising materials, specific employers in the student's geographical area, and fees to charge are just a few of the topics frequently discussed during the meeting.

## **XVII. PREVIOUS EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

A student wanting to receive credit for previous training from a college, university, or out of state massage school must submit an official transcript to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation for evaluation. Students who present Laurel School of Massage with an acceptable transcript from a department-licensed Texas massage school may be credited with the successfully completed hours that show on the transcript.

### **Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation**

**Attention: Enforcement Division**

**P. O. Box 12157**

**Austin, TX 78711**

**Email to:** [intake@tdlr.texas.gov](mailto:intake@tdlr.texas.gov)

Upon written confirmation of approval for coursework from the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation, the student should provide the school with a copy of the written confirmation to be placed in the student's file.

If coursework is approved, this may result in the program length being shortened and the cost being reduced. A student requesting a partial program may enroll at any appropriate time within the program that the curriculum allows.

All coursework to be used for credit must be submitted to the school at the time of enrollment or prior to the beginning of classes. Once a student has attended the classes they will not be refunded or discounted.

## **XVIII. CRIMINAL HISTORY EVALUATION**

Any student who is concerned that a previous criminal history may make him or her ineligible for licensure as a massage therapist may submit a Criminal History Evaluation application to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation along with required fees. The Department will evaluate the applicant's criminal history report and provide a written determination as to the applicant's current eligibility for licensure. The student can find additional information on the Department's website at:

<https://www.license.state.tx.us/>

## **XIX. COMPLETION OF THE PROGRAM**

To complete the program of the Laurel School of Massage and receive a diploma and program transcripts, a student IS REQUIRED to have:

1. Met all financial obligations to the school.
2. Completed all assignments and/or paperwork including tests.
3. Completed the state requirement of 500 hours of training and maintained a satisfactory grade average of 70% or better in each subject of the program.

All the information contained in this catalogue is subject to change without notice.

Thank you for taking the time necessary to read and understand the policies outlined in this document.

## **XX. CLASS PARTICIPATION**

**Pregnancy** - A pregnant student in the 500-Hour massage therapy program must have written permission from her physician clearly stating that she may participate in all classes and internship and can lift at least 30 pounds. If a student is in the program, it becomes too intense for the student to continue; they may opt to take a leave of absence from the program. After birth we will be pleased to have them re-apply and continue in a later class, with no loss of monies already paid toward the total program cost.

**Illness** – Students are expected to participate in all class activities and internship as they are part of the curriculum. If a student feels they are too ill to participate in Swedish technique class or any other portion of the program, they will need to leave and take an absence for the missed time.

*Providing a quality education is everything at  
Laurel Thank you for choosing Laurel*

**Contents of this catalogue are subject to change without prior notice.**

## NOTES



Laurel School of Massage  
LEARN THE ART AND SCIENCE OF MASSAGE THERAPY

*June 10, 2024*