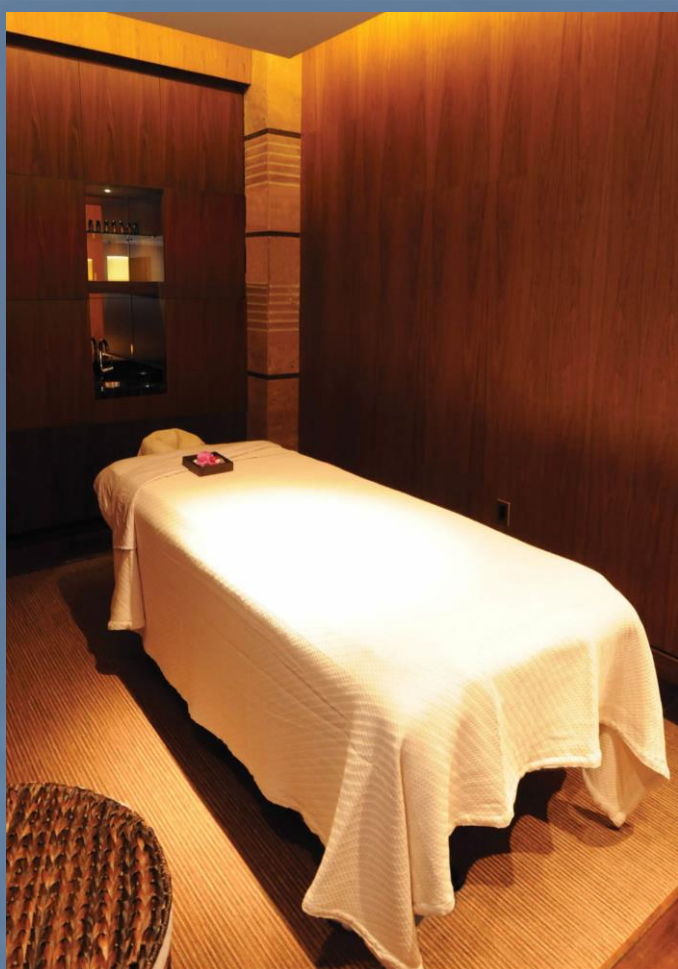


# Certified Massage Therapist



## What do they do?

Massage therapists use their hands, fingers, forearms and elbows to knead muscles to treat injuries and relax their patients.

Massage therapists talk with clients about their symptoms. They find painful or tense areas of the body and they give advice on how to improve posture with stretches or exercise.

## Where do they work?

Most Massage Therapists are self-employed, although many work in chiropractor offices, spas, hotels or fitness centers until they build their own client base. Self-employed therapists have to pay rent for their space, purchase their own equipment and other supplies.

## Pay:

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the average yearly income for Massage Therapists is \$41,420.



## Education:

Massage Therapists in Wisconsin are required to complete a 600-hour massage therapy or bodywork therapy program, pass a state exam and hold professional liability insurance to practice.

### CMT training in Madison:

- Madison Area Technical College: [www.madisoncollege.edu](http://www.madisoncollege.edu)
- Blue Sky School of Professional Massage and Therapeutic Bodywork: [www.blueskymassage.com](http://www.blueskymassage.com)
- East-West Healing Arts Institute: [www.accupressureschool.com](http://www.accupressureschool.com)
- Globe University: [www.globeuniversity.edu](http://www.globeuniversity.edu)

High School students interested in becoming a Massage Therapist should consider taking classes in anatomy, physiology, kinesiology and ethics.

## Accreditation:

Education programs for massage therapy and bodywork training are accredited by the Commission on Massage Therapy Accreditation.

[www.comta.org](http://www.comta.org)



## Potential for Advancement:

There are many types of bodywork that a Massage Therapist could choose to learn and offer to their clients. You can learn more about them here:

[www.massagetherapy.com/glossary/](http://www.massagetherapy.com/glossary/)



## Job Outlook:

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment for Massage Therapists is expected to grow 26 percent between 2016-2026, which is faster than the average across all occupations.

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2017-18 Edition*, Massage Therapists, [www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/massage-therapists.htm](http://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/massage-therapists.htm)

## Certification & License:

After completing their education, Massage Therapists must become certified through the National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage & Bodywork. Learn more at:

[www.ncbtmb.org](http://www.ncbtmb.org)

To practice in Wisconsin, Massage Therapists must also become licensed through the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services.

You can find more information about the licensing exam by going to their website and clicking Licenses/Permits/Registrations:

[www.dsps.wi.gov/HOME](http://www.dsps.wi.gov/HOME)



## Professional Associations:

Massage Therapists can join the Associated Bodywork & Massage Professionals, which is a national organization. Learn more at:

[www.abmp.com](http://www.abmp.com)

Massage Therapists in Wisconsin can join the state chapter of the American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA). You can learn more by going to their website:

[www.amtawi.org](http://www.amtawi.org)



\*Membership in both organizations include limited liability insurance, which is a requirement for working as a massage therapist.

