



ALABAMA BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY
2777 Zelda Road
Montgomery, AL 36106
Phone: 334-420-7233
Fax: 334-263-6115
Website: almtbd.alabama.gov

May 8, 2020

Memorandum

TO: Licensees and/or Applicants

FROM: Keith Warren, *Executive Director*

SUBJECT: COVID-19 Latest Update

Good Afternoon,

Today, May 8, 2020, Governor Kay Ivey has amended her current Safer At Home Order to expand the reopening of businesses. This expansion DOES apply to massage therapy establishments and services. Massage therapists and businesses are able to reopen on Monday, May 11 with the highlighted guidelines below, which are in effect until May 22, 2020.

Exert of Kay Ivey's amended order:

“...Close-contact service providers.

Effective May 11, 2020, close-contact service providers—such as barber shops, hair salons, waxing salons, threading salons, nail salons and spas, body art facilities, tattoo services, and massage therapy establishments and services—shall comply with the following rules:

- a. Social distancing. Employees shall not knowingly allow clients or persons accompanying a client to congregate within six feet of a person from another household.
- b. Facial coverings. Each employee shall wear a mask, or other facial covering that covers his or her nostrils and mouth, at all times while providing services within 6 feet of a client.
- c. Hand sanitation. (i) Employees shall wash their hands thoroughly with soap and water immediately before providing services within 6 feet of a client. (ii) Employees of all close-contact service providers are encouraged—and employees providing nail services or facial services are required—to wear gloves when

Continued on next page

providing services within 6 feet of a client. To the extent employees wear gloves when providing services, they should use a new pair of gloves for each client and should put them on immediately after washing their hands.

In addition to complying with the requirements of this paragraph, close-contact service providers are strongly encouraged to read and implement the Alabama Department of Public Health's "Guidelines for Close Contact Personal Service Businesses," available at <https://alabamapublichealth.gov/covid19/assets/cov-sah-close-contact.pdf>....

16. Duration. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until 5:00 P.M. on May 22, 2020. Prior to 5:00 P.M. on May 22, 2020, a determination shall be made whether to extend this Order—or, if circumstances permit, to relax this Order.”

The Board is waiting on further guidelines to be issued by the Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards. As soon as that is made available, it will be distributed to all currently licensed therapists in Alabama.

The Board appreciates your patience and understanding during these unique circumstances. We are working diligently to provide you with the latest, most accurate information available. ALMTBD is a professional licensing board and does not have the authority to make decisions regarding the status of your business during this pandemic, but we are actively spreading the guidelines and orders issued by the Governor and the Alabama Department of Public Health to ensure all of our licensees are informed.

You can view the full order here: <https://governor.alabama.gov/assets/2020/05/Safer-at-Home-Order-FINAL-5.8.2020.pdf>

Resources:

Our latest updates: <http://almtbd.alabama.gov/news.aspx>

Department of Labor News for Workers Impacted: <https://www.labor.alabama.gov/covid19resources.aspx>

Governor Kay Ivey's Latest News: <https://governor.alabama.gov/newsroom/>

Alabama Department of Health's Latest News: <https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/infectiousdiseases/2019-coronavirus.html>

CDC's Latest News: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

“Do Not Enter If You Think You Have The New Coronavirus” Poster:

<http://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/infectiousdiseases/assets/cov-donotenter-poster.pdf>