

Guiding Light School of Massage Therapy

Iowa Massage Board Category A

Course (6 credit hrs):	Professional Ethics: Therapeutic Relationships & Professional Business Practice
Date of Instruction:	June 30 th , 2012
Instructor:	Joy L. Mellum, L.M.T.
Location:	Guiding Light School of Massage Therapy 51 E. Broadway Street, Fairfield IA

Objective

Review the definition, purpose and importance of professional ethical behavior within the Massage Therapy profession. Main points will include:

1. Representing credentials properly and public safety.
2. Understanding professional boundaries we share with other health professionals.
3. Bringing clarity to the modalities a massage therapist's scope of practice allows.
4. Working with other health professionals.

Skills Obtained

Awareness of the role a Massage Therapist plays when interacting with the public and other health professionals.

Understanding of the tools that are available to Massage Therapists to offer a valid health service.

Tips on how to work successfully with other Health Care professionals.

The Goal

Provide knowledge and awareness of professional ethical standards for the development of mature massage therapy professionals representing the massage profession with ethical decision making and actions.

Professional Ethics

Professional Therapeutic Relationships & Professional Business Practices

Course Outline

Saturday June 30th, 2012 9:30am – 5:00pm

9:30 – 11:00 Review Responsibility of Ethics

- Historical beginning of professional health care of ethics: Hippocrates
- Historical journey of Massage as a Health Therapy
- Explore the cycle of the rise and fall of massage therapy
- Why massage therapy is considered adult entertainment in many state, county and city laws or ordinances
- What is happening in our profession today

11:00 – 11:15 BREAK

11:15 – 12:15 Open Discussion

- Internal conflicts and political activity within the massage profession
- Possible outcomes which will effect the future of massage therapy
- Have we learned from our past?

12:14 – 1:15 LUNCH

1:15 – 2:45 Professional Boundaries

- Why are boundaries important
- Boundaries: therapist and client
- Boundaries: teacher and student
- Boundaries: co-workers
- Boundaries: employer and employee
- Boundaries: other health professionals in massage profession and outside of the massage profession
- Boundaries: business relationships
- The consequences to the public, the profession and ourselves when boundaries are not established

2:45 – 3:00 BREAK

3:00 – 5:00

Business Operation & Ethical Behavior

- Advertising and marketing
- Referrals
- Working with the medical and alternative health professionals
- Responsibility when laws are broken and unethical behavior is done by other in our profession and those not in our profession, but practicing our trade
- Personal, political or religious associations
- The pros and cons of legislation
- Standardized Education pros and cons
- The Spa industry and massage franchise popularity: pros and cons
- Independent Contractor, Sub-Contractor or Employee status
- The need for contracts and business education

This course will raise many questions and offer discussion on the future of Massage Therapy as a profession. It is understood that many have strong thoughts and opinions on these subjects, however, mature professional action is required within this course. The purpose is to find solutions and offer healthy working models. Without a strong foundation the house will fall.

It is a historical fact that much of our political system or legislative process is decided by a few people. Every profession suffers this fate. Perhaps it is lack of awareness or education that allows this to happen.

This course is designed to bring forth awareness and education for those professionals who are serious about the future of the massage therapy profession.

We welcome massage therapists not only from Iowa, but from other states and countries to participate in this course.