



Body Wisdom, Inc.
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Disability Policy & Procedures

Compliance

Body Wisdom Massage Therapy School complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Admission Criteria

Applicants, including persons with disabilities, are evaluated for admission according to equal criteria and standards such as the necessary physical and mental-emotional ability to professionally perform and provide bodywork to the general population within any setting, including one-on-one extended 1-2-hour in a small enclosed space, where a client is in a vulnerable position and relies on the practitioner's high standards and ethics to feel and be safe.

Confidentiality

Information given to the school's administration regarding an applicant's personal challenge or a disability, may be shared with school staff and/or faculty as necessary, especially upon acceptance, to accommodate the student's needs.

Disability Accommodations

ADA Definitions:

Physical impairment is any physiological disorder or condition, cosmetic disfigurement, or anatomical loss affecting one or more of the following body systems: neurological, musculoskeletal, special sense organs, respiratory (including speech organs), cardiovascular, reproductive, digestive, genitourinary, hemic and lymphatic, skin, and endocrine.

Mental impairment is any mental or psychological disorder, such as mental retardation, organic brain syndrome, emotional or mental illness, and specific learning disabilities.

The school's approach in case of necessary accommodations for students with disabilities is designed to foster the same independence, self-reliance, and self-advocacy as in all other students to assure a realistic chance of success as licensed massage therapist in this care-giving profession. While Body Wisdom will make reasonable efforts in accommodation a student with disabilities that do not cause an undue burden to the school, the student is expected to take an active role in the accommodation process.

In accordance with logistics related to performing the vocation taught at Body Wisdom, possible accommodations include, but are not limited to adjustable massage tables and stools; advanced receipt of manuals and/or textbooks for brail translations or enlargements for example, extended time for quizzes, tests and assessments, information and assistance for request of accommodations for national exam taking as determined by the [Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards](#). The school and student will work together to determine what accommodations, within reason, will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Body Wisdom does not:

- make accommodations or provide support for services which fundamentally alter the academic requirements for certification, course requirements or basic pedagogy;
- normally alter consistently applied academic policies which are based on academic standards;
- guarantee success or bear responsibility for making students succeed in their courses, and later in professional practice;
- provide professional tutoring or clinical evaluation or intervention service, as well as professional services or tutoring aimed at remediation, personal or academic coaching or case management;
- pay for or provide items or services of a personal nature, such as: personal care assistance; personal purchases; personal medical, adaptive or computer equipment; private transportation; or educational supplies used by all students, including pens, paper, and computer supplies. These are the responsibility of the student.
- The school also does not provide specialized LD tutors, personal coaching or case management. Individuals who need this type of support will be referred to appropriate resources in the community to the extent that they are available.

Documentation & Procedures

Applicants with disabilities are advised to meet with the Student Counselor and/or Director to discuss any questions or concerns about disability accommodations or services needed prior to admission.

No inquiries will be made about disability, and your disability need not be disclosed before admission. If you have questions about disability and admission policies, please contact the Student Counselor.

Like all Body Wisdom students, also those with disabilities, shall take into account their own particular strengths and challenges when selecting elective courses.

Proper medical documentation and educational assessment related to any disability, is essential to understanding the functional challenges that students are experiencing and must be submitted in order to receive accommodations.

It is the student's or student prospect's responsibility to obtain and supply the school with all necessary disability information. Clear, comprehensive, and current documentation must be submitted with sufficient time for it to be reviewed and for any necessary accommodations to be arranged prior to the student starting a certification program. Insufficient information may result in delays in admission and/or receiving accommodations, therefore testing must:

- be current. Generally, this means testing has been conducted within the past one to three years;
- state the disability terms and specify the criteria for diagnosis;
- be performed by a qualified evaluator. Information about their professional credentials, including licensing and certification, and their areas of specialization must be clearly indicated on the report.
- include information about the functional limitations of the student. Please indicate how the student's disability will affect participation in the school's certification program.
- include history, test results, scores, diagnosis and recommendations.

Documentation about a disability may come from different sources, but begins with the individual's own report and is supplemented by medical information from clinical providers, educational evaluations, faculty observations or from other support systems that can shed light on the challenges that need to be addressed. This documentation helps the school, possibly with the help of additionally consulted experts, to determine the type of accommodations and services needed.

Accommodation and services requests will be reviewed upon receipt of appropriate documentation, and determinations will be made in a timely manner. Retroactive accommodations cannot be made. The school will consider the student's preferred accommodation requests but has the right to offer an equally effective alternative.

Documentation must:

- include diagnosis and course of treatment;
- describe the nature and severity of the student's functional limitations;
- state the duration for which the limitations are expected to continue;
- contain scores and identify tests administered as appropriate;
- substantiate the need for specific accommodations requested;

If the clinician feels that the student's condition or learning difficulties are significant enough to constitute a disability, this should be explicitly stated.

Not accepted are:

- Brief note from a doctor that simply requests an accommodation; information or notes written on prescription pad; or a copy of aftercare instruction given to patients.
- Documentation of a disability which is not comprehensive or which identifies "problems or challenges," but does not specifically diagnose a disability will need to be supplemented in most cases.
- Medical documentation or testing for learning disabilities in grades K-12 under special education programs which meet the requirements of individual states may or may not be acceptable at the college level.
- Disability information is not reviewed to assess the need for medical or clinical intervention or remedial educational services. Clinical consultation to correct or remediate specific learning or medical problems is not provided or paid for by the school.

Grievances

If you disagree with the final decision of the school about your accommodations, please contact the Director to see if an informal resolution can be achieved. If you wish to file a formal grievance about decisions or treatment by any staff or faculty member, please submit your concerns in writing to the Director.