



Colorado Coalition of Massage Therapists

Meeting Agenda June 10, 2026 at 8:00am MT

Dial in using your phone 1-646-749-3122, access code 210-308-653#

<https://meet.goto.com/210308653>

Roll Call - CCMT Representatives in Attendance

- Cobi Clark, AMTA-Colorado Chapter Government Relations Director
- Shelly Cox, AMTA-Colorado Chapter President
- Christine Hooper, AMTA National Program Manager, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs
- Jada Thompson, AMTA National - Government Relations
- Erin Haden, ABMP Government Relations Coordinator
- Laura Puryear, ABMP Government Relations Director
- Garin Vorthmann, Colorado Legislative Services - state lobbyist
- Caroline Woodhouse, Colorado Legislative Services
- Kris Will, Education Director - Colorado School of Healing Arts
- Chris Smith, School Director – Colorado School of Healing Arts
- Bonnie Chan, CCMT Volunteer & AMTA-Colorado Chapter Secretary

1. Colorado State legislation

a. General updates:

- i. Veto deadline is June 12 but we don't anticipate any vetoes for bills we are following.
- ii. Election overview: June 30 primary election are coming up.
- iii. 65 house seats & 21 senate seats up for election this year.

2. National legislation

a. Minnesota - Voluntary registration bill signed into effect by governor.

b. US Department of Education Gainful Employment Rule – Impact on MT Programs

- i. **Status:** No more updates, but some groups are planning litigation if the rule goes into effect.
- ii. **Summary:** The U.S. Department of Education has proposed rules that would measure program performance based on graduates' income as reported on federal tax returns. Under the proposed framework, graduates of massage therapy (MT) programs are generally earning more than individuals with only a high school diploma. However, if a program's graduates fall below the federal income benchmarks, the program risks losing access to federal financial aid. This rule would affect massage therapy schools, cosmetology schools, private occupational schools, and

four-year colleges alike. Any institution that continues to fall below the benchmark by July 2027 would face financial aid restrictions, and by July 2028 federal financial aid could be fully cut off. Loss of eligibility would last for 10 years. The rule is scheduled to officially begin in July 2026. Public comment remains open through March 3. Stakeholders are being encouraged to weigh in, as the current formula does not account for part-time employment, rural workforce conditions, age, or gender factors. While the Department estimates that approximately 2% of programs nationwide would be impacted, private occupational schools could be disproportionately affected.

3. County and local establishment licensing ordinance update

a. No Updates

4. No meeting in July. We will meet again August 12. We are changing from GoTo Meeting to Google Meet for the August meeting.

Proposed agenda for next meeting

1. State legislation update
2. National legislation update
 - a. US Department of Education Gainful Employment Rule – Impact on MT Programs
3. County and local establishment ordinance update

Next meeting: August 12, 2026 at 8:00 a.m. MT

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/won-jxuf-odb>

Or dial: (US) +1 317-602-1223 PIN: 432 010 066#

To propose an agenda item for the next meeting, please contact: cmonline@gmail.com

Previous minutes archived online at <http://ccmtonline.com/ccmt-minutes-archive/>

ABOUT CCMT

Colorado Coalition of Massage Therapists (CCMT) is a collaboration of representatives of the American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA), Associated Bodywork and Massage Professionals (ABMP), and Colorado massage schools.

American Massage Therapy Association - AMTA - National and Colorado Chapter

- Shelly Cox, AMTA-Colorado Chapter President
- Cobi Clark, AMTA-Colorado Chapter Government Relations Director
- Bonnie Chan, CCMT Volunteer & AMTA-Colorado Chapter Secretary
- Christine Hooper, AMTA National Program Manager, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs
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Associated Bodywork and Massage Professionals - ABMP – National

- Erin Haden, ABMP Government Relations Coordinator
- Laura Puryear, ABMP Government Relations Director

School Representation

- Kris Will, Education Director - Colorado School of Healing Arts
- Chris Smith, School Director – Colorado School of Healing Arts

Volunteer Opportunities

Massage Therapy Legislative Awareness Day is open to all LMT volunteers for coordination, recruitment, and participation

CONTACT INFO

Email – CCMTonline@gmail.com

Website – <http://www.CCMTonline.com>

Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/ccmtonline>

LAN – Legislative Alert Network – Subscribe here: <http://ccmtonline.com/ccmt-lan/>
