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States are not required to modify their hours of education requirements for state licensure; the 625-hour requirement applies only to the massage therapist seeking the multistate license.

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### What is IMpact?

The FSMTB, in collaboration with the Council of State Governments, developed the Interstate Massage Compact (IMpact).

IMpact allows massage therapists who live in a compact member state and meet eligibility requirements to be granted a multistate license and practice in ALL compact member states.

One of these requirements is that a massage therapist must have at least 625 clock hours of massage education or the substantial equivalent. The Compact Commission will draft rules to define acceptable education, which could include core and continuing education.

### Why 625 Hours?

- The massage education Entry-Level Analysis Project (ELAP) identified 625 hours as the minimum number of hours required to receive a thorough entry-level education. (<https://elapmassage.org/>)
- The optimal performance range of massage therapy education hours, to achieve a passing score on the Massage & Bodywork Licensing Examination (MBLEx), has been identified as 600-650.
- When receiving 600-650 hours of education, 81% of MBLEx applicants pass the MBLEx on the first try.

To learn more about IMpact and for a list of eligibility requirements, please visit [massagecompact.org](https://massagecompact.org).

### AHEAD OF THE CURVE

According to a 2022 FSMTB survey of massage therapy schools nationwide, 70% offer programs that provide at least 625 clock hours of entry-level education and 85% provide at least 600 hours.

The average number of clock hours of education was 723.