

**POLICY**  
**TENNESSEE MASSAGE LICENSURE BOARD**

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**SUBSTANCE ABUSE - APPLICATIONS FOR LICENSURE**

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Any person who has applied for a license as a massage therapist or for an establishment license whose application documentation contains issues involving abuse of drugs and/or alcohol must obtain a favorable recommendation from the Board's peer assistance program before he or she will be considered for licensure.

"Abuse" does not mean a single isolated incident but may be found to exist when a combination of events and/or circumstances, when viewed in their totality, indicate a failure and/or inability to exercise self-control and/or good judgment in relation to alcohol and/or drugs. In determining whether "abuse" exists, criminal convictions may be considered as part of the totality of events and/or circumstances but by themselves do not necessarily constitute "abuse" and the Board's "Criminal Conviction Policy" may also be applied to such convictions.

**Adopted by the Tennessee Massage Licensure Board on this the 5<sup>th</sup> day of December 2005.**

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**Steve Harper, LMT Chairperson**  
**Tennessee Massage Licensure Board**