

## U.S. STATE REGULATIONS ON REIKI HEALING

Does Reiki Healing require a license? Good question! It never requires a license when performing it on yourself, however some states do require a license when applying Reiki healing to others. We've done some digging and found the following information. However, the tables and corresponding information below should be used only as a guide. Sacred Mists does not warrant any of the information provided as current nor comprehensive and we are not keeping current on the licensing requirements for each individual state but our own.

We encourage you to check with your own state and local government agencies for information pertaining to your future Reiki practices and fulfilling any and all requirements necessary prior to healing or practicing on others. Thank you!

### Table Key:

- \*REQUIRED\* = indicates that current Board of Massage Therapy requires anyone practicing Reiki to be a certified massage therapist.
- LP = State Legislation to create Board of Massage is Pending
- None = No Board, No Pending Legislation
- Safe = indicates that the massage board does not consider Reiki to be massage. Nor are there other special laws restricting your practice.
- \*Safe\* = May be local regulations (city or county)
- ? = Board Exists - Disposition Unknown
- BI Unknown = being investigated - not known if board exists or if there is pending legislation.
- UA = URGENT ACTION NEEDED!

### *Status by State*

#### State Summary:

Must be Certified: [3]  
Reiki Isn't Regulated: [20]  
Unknown: [14]  
No Board: [4]  
Pending Legislation: [8]  
Pending Massage Board Decision: (0)

ALABAMA - Safe

ALASKA - ???

ARIZONA - Safe

ARKANSAS - UA

CALIFORNIA - Safe

COLORADO - Safe  
CONNECTICUT - ???  
DELAWARE - Safe  
FLORIDA \*Required\*  
GEORGIA - ???  
HAWAII - ???  
IDAHO - ???  
ILLINOIS - Safe  
INDIANA - ???  
IOWA - Safe  
KANSAS - Safe  
KENTUCKY - ???  
LOUISIANA - Safe  
MAINE - Safe  
MARYLAND - Safe  
MASSACHUSETTS - Not Safe  
MICHIGAN - Safe  
MINNESOTA - ???  
MISSISSIPPI - Safe  
MISSOURI - Safe  
MONTANA - Needs Your Attention!!  
NEBRASKA - ???  
NEVADA - ???  
NEW HAMPSHIRE - Sort of Safe  
NEW JERSEY - Safe  
NEW MEXICO - Safe  
NEW YORK - Safe  
NORTH CAROLINA - Safe  
NORTH DAKOTA - Not Safe  
OHIO - ???  
OKLAHOMA - ???  
PENNSYLVANIA - Safe  
RHODE ISLAND - Safe  
OREGON - ???  
SOUTH CAROLINA - ???  
SOUTH DAKOTA - ???  
TENNESSEE - Safe  
TEXAS - Safe  
UTAH - Safe  
VERMONT - Safe  
VIRGINIA - Safe

WASHINGTON - Safe  
WASHINGTON, DC - Safe  
WEST VIRGINIA - Safe  
WISCONSIN - ???  
WYOMING - ???

**ALABAMA** - Safe

Keith Warren, Executive Secretary of the Board has stated that Reiki is not considered massage therapy in this state. (4-18-00)

Address:  
PO Box 56  
Montgomery, AL, 36101-0056

(334) 269-9990.

On Line Definitions state that a massage therapist is “A person licensed pursuant to this chapter who practices or administers massage therapy or touch therapy modalities to a patron for compensation.”

**ALASKA** - None

As of 4-17-00, Alaska does not have a Board of Massage Therapy, nor pending legislation that we know of.

**ARIZONA** - Safe

Arizona has not yet passed a massage act that we know of. There is no state licensing in the state of Arizona. It is done city by city. In Tucson, the licensing is done by the Tucson City Business Licensing Dept. There is a written and hands on test conducted by a volunteer massage board.

For information in Tucson, contact:

Tucson City Licensing  
255 W. Alameda  
Tucson, AZ 85701.

520-791-4566.

If have information about other cities in Arizona, please share it with us.

**ARKANSAS** - Unknown - Update Needed. Board Member Information.

Contact Information:

Arkansas State Board of Massage Therapy

103 Airways  
Hot Springs, Arkansas 71903-0739

Phone: (501) 623-0444

The board of massage therapists are beginning the task of discussing “Rules and Regulations” and will have an in-depth discussion of Reiki at that time. The time of the meeting is not yet known as of this update (05-12-00). The time for masters and practitioners to deal with the Arkansas board of massage therapy is now, before they reach their conclusion. Join the Arkansas\_Reiki\_Coalition Egroup!

Correspondence with the Arkansas Board of Massage Therapy will bring you up to date on what we know and will continue to be updated. If your not a member of the Reiki and Spiritual Healing Coalition mailing list, please join! Also, contact the legal index for regular updates.

While the Arkansas Law and the Board of Massage have indicated that they feel they regulate all “hands-on bodywork techniques and procedures”, they have not committed to a definite “Yes” or “No” in regards to Reiki.

On Line Info. (No home page)

Contact:

Arkansas State Board of Massage Therapy  
103 Airways  
Hot Springs, AR, 71903-0739

Phone: (501) 623-0444  
Email: [asbmt@hsnp.com](mailto:asbmt@hsnp.com)

### **CALIFORNIA** - Safe

California has not passed a massage act. California is regulated by city or county. There is no know regulation of Reiki in the state of California. However, we need to watch this state to see if pending legislation is introduced. Check with your local cities licensure department to see if there are any local requirements for Reiki masters and Practitioners. With the number of massage therapists in this state and the amount of money involved, it is a matter of time before state legislation is introduce, all though we have no indications at this point that there are any efforts underway.

### **COLORADO** - Safe

There is no board of massage therapy in Colorado. Some counties do regulate massage therapy, others do not. None, that we know of, regulate Reiki. Massage Parlor Act (includes massage therapist) - is the only state statue we could find about massage therapy.

**CONNECTICUT** - Unknown - Update Needed.

CT Massage Therapy Inquiries

Dept of Public Health

Tel: 203-566-1284

Some web info. At: Massage Therapist Licensure

**Contact:**

Massage Therapy Licensure

Department of Public Health

410 Capitol Avenue - MS#12APP

PO Box 340308

Hartford, CT 06134-0308

Attention: Tresti Quiller

(860) 509-7570

**DELAWARE** - Safe

Reiki is not regulated by the board of massage therapy in this state as it fails to meet the legal definition of manipulation of tissue. (70 Del. Laws, c. 582, § 1.) Title 24, Chapter 53, § 5302. Definitions. (6) "Practice of massage and bodywork" shall mean a system of structured touch applied to the superficial or deep tissue, muscle, or connective tissue, by applying pressure with manual means. Such application may include, but is not limited to, friction, gliding, rocking, tapping, kneading, or nonspecific stretching, whether or not aided by massage oils or the application of hot and cold treatments. The practice of massage and bodywork is designed to promote general relaxation, enhance circulation, improve joint mobilization and/or relieve stress and muscle tension, and to promote a general sense of well-being.

**FLORIDA** - \*Required By Board Of Massage, Not by Florida Law\*

Board of Massage Therapy interpretation requires Reiki Practitioners to be Cert. Massage Therapists, NOT Florida law. Legally Reiki fails to meet the definition of manipulation of tissue. The board's hyperationalized position that "touch equals manipulation" fails to hold water when held up to the light. Action is required to bring about a legal board position related to Reiki.

FL Dept of Professional Regulation

Board of Massage Therapy

Tel: 904-488-6021

Contact:

Florida Department of Professional Regulation  
Board of Massage  
Northwood Center 1940 N. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0774

(904) 488-6021

**GEORGIA** - Safe - Updated: 09-20-02

**HAWAII** - Unknown

HI Professional and Vocational Licensing Division  
Tel: 808-586-2696

Contact:

State of Hawaii Professional & Vocational Licensing Division Department of Commerce  
& Consumer Affairs  
PO Box 3469  
Honolulu, HI 96801

(808) 586-3000 or (808) 586-2699

**IDAHO** - None

As of 4-17-00, Idaho has no board of massage therapy, nor pending legislation.

**ILLINOIS** - Safe

Reiki has been exempted from massage law in the text of the legislation ( 92\_HB2271enr ) Updated: 09-20-02

**INDIANA** - Unknown - Update Needed.

In Fort Wayne: massage therapist must be certified with the city. Other cities may have similar regulations. There is no state board of massage therapy in Indiana. Legislative attempts in the past have not yet been successful. Schools of massage therapy are certified through the state board of proprietary education.

**IOWA** - Safe

Sharon Cook  
515-242-5936  
scook@idph.state.ia.us

[Check SF2113 - Sec 147.2 Code 1999]

Contact:  
Board of Massage Therapy Examiners  
Iowa Department of Public Health  
Lucas State Office Bldg  
4th Floor  
Des Moines, IA 50319-0075

Tel: (515) 281-6959  
Contact: Phylis Prall

**KANSAS** - Safe

Contact:  
Kansas State Board of Healing Arts  
235 Topeka Blvd.  
KS 66603-3068

Tel: (785) 296-7413  
Fax: (785) 296-0852

Massage Therapy is not regulated in Kansas nor is Reiki.

**KENTUCKY** - Unknown - Update Needed.

No legislation, past or present found on the Kentucky Legislative Search Service.  
Still investigating.

Possible Contact:  
Cabinet For Health Services  
275 East Main Street  
Frankfort, Kentucky, 40621

**LOUISIANA** - Safe

LA Board of Massage Therapists  
Tel: (225) 658 - 8941

Contact:  
Louisiana Board of Massage Therapists  
PO Box 1279  
Zachary, LA 70791

**MAINE** - Safe

ME Dept of Professional and Financial Regulation  
Tel: 207-624-8603

**Contact:**

Marlene McFadden  
Department of Professional & Financial Regulation  
Licensing & Enforcement Division  
35 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0035  
Web: <http://www.state.me.us/pfr/led/massage/index.htm>

**MARYLAND - Safe**

Update: 4-20-01: Maryland SB 194, which clarifies that - "Massage Therapy DOES NOT include the laying on of hands consisting of pressure or movement on a fully clothed individual to specifically affect the electromagnetic, energy or energetic field of the human body" was signed into law by Governor Glendenning on Friday, April 20th, 2001. (Thanks to Mary McGovern of Maryland for the update.)

Update: 6-01-01: Maryland House Bill 289 took effect June 1, 2001, exempting Reiki and other energy modalities from Board of Massage authority. Text of bill

**MASSACHUSETTS - Safe???? - Updated 09-20-02**

In MA, check with your local City or county office of licensure to see if there are any local regulations that affect Reiki practitioners. If you find out there are some in your city or county, please notify us! [URLI@sacredpath.org]

If you live in Mass. Please contact the organization below. Thanks!

Reiki Task Force  
Center for Balance  
709 Washington Street  
Newtonville, MA 02460  
Whlbdyhlth@aol.com

**City Information:**

The City of Lowell, MA - claims you need a license to practice Reiki - the only license they give is - right! - a massage license!

Westport, MA - the Board of Health says you don't need any type of license through the town or state because Reiki is not a form of massage therapy.

Town of Westport  
MA Board of Health  
856 Main Road  
Westport, MA 02790



508-6361015.

Send city information to: [webmaster@sacredpath.org](mailto:webmaster@sacredpath.org)! Thanks! Please include any contact information for the city official you spoke with so we can post it. Thanks!

**MICHIGAN** - Pending Legislation?

HB5219 - Massage Therapy Act stuck in committee (4-18-00). Involvement now could exclude Reiki from the start!!

**MINNESOTA** - Safe

According to your new law (passed in 2000) for unlicensed practitioners, you should fall under its provisions to practice legally as an energy worker...lucky you!! And according to the law's writer, Diane Miller, they intentionally did not list Reiki separately, but rather included it in the category of energy workers.

**MISSISSIPPI** - Safe

From the AMTA in Mississippi - bill introduced in the legislature for the last six years. Was turned down in the senate this year (2000). Looks good for next year. Officially dead this year. \*\*\*\*\* Reiki is specifically exempt from this bill \*\*\*\*\* --

Beverly Bazzill, President of the MI AMTA  
Office number: 662-323-8111

**MISSOURI** - Safe

Check out ReikiProjectMissouri - a group of Reiki masters and practitioners who have come together to form an group that can educate massage boards and other governmental agencies about Reiki.

Revised Online Statues: <http://www.moga.state.mo.us/statutes/c300-399/3240240.htm>

--- <<< Reiki is not under board authority in this state. >> ---

Division of Professional Registration  
Massage Therapy Board  
PO Box 1335  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-1335

Tel: 573-751-0845  
Fax: 573-751-0878

Web: [www.ecodev.state.mo.us/pr/massagetherapy/](http://www.ecodev.state.mo.us/pr/massagetherapy/)  
Email: [profreg@mail.state.mo.us](mailto:profreg@mail.state.mo.us)

**MONTANA - Pending Legislation**

THE HEALTH WORKS INSTITUTE NEWSLETTER talks about getting legislation passed for massage therapy. Reiki Practitioners in Montana may want to have Reiki specifically excluded from this bill. If you are interested in networking with folks in Montana, please contact: [crystalgardens@earthlink.net](mailto:crystalgardens@earthlink.net).

Health Works Institute  
111 South Grand, Annex 3  
Bozeman, MT 59715  
Phone: (406) 582-1555  
Fax: (406) 522-0493  
Email: [programs@healthworksinstitute.com](mailto:programs@healthworksinstitute.com)  
Web site: [www.healthworksinstitute.com](http://www.healthworksinstitute.com)

**NEBRASKA - ?**

NE Bureau of Examining Boards  
Dept. of Health  
Tel: 402-471-2115

Contact:  
Health and Human Services Credentialing Division  
PO Box 94986  
Lincoln, NE 68509-4986

Attention: Chris Chiles  
(402) 471-2115

**NEVADA - PENDING**

Was in very early stages of writing a bill that was scheduled to be introduced in 2000 or 2001. Updated Needed.

The situation in Nevada is a confusing one. While there is no state board of massage therapy nor pending legislation, sources close to the Los Vegas chapter of the AMTA has informed us that the AMTA has hired a consultant to write legislation to be introduced this year or next (2000 or 2001). Preliminary indications are that cities and counties, which currently regulate massage therapy, also require Reiki masters and practitioners to be certified massage therapists. This has not yet been confirmed however. To complicate matters, with prostitution legal in some cities, local attitudes are that all healing modalities need to be regulated in order to keep a control on the prostitution. Chances are that in this state, legislation will require Reiki masters and practitioners to be certified massage therapists. We will keep digging into local

regulations as well as legislative efforts in this state. If you live in Nevada, please check with your city or county about regulations affecting Reiki. Let us know what city or county you checked on and what their requirements are or aren't. We'll add the information to the National Survey. Now might be a real good time for those in Nevada to organize a group that will work with those creating the legislation which will be introduced this year or next. With regulations affecting Reiki at the county and city level, you can bet it'll be included at the state level, too.

Seems that massage therapy is currently under the authority of C.O.P.E., the Commission on Proprietary Education. Some information found at: NV Admin. Code 394.535 Massage schools: Programs of instruction.

New Hampshire - Sort of Safe! - Updated: 08-21-02

NH Dept. of Public Health

Bureau of Health Facilities Admin.

Tel: 603 - 271- 5127

Contact:

New Hampshire Office of Program Support Health Facilities Administration Health & Welfare Bldg

6 Hazen Dr.

Concord, NH, 03301-6527

When practicing Reiki, if you will be touching people, you need some sort of license - a massage license or a physical therapist license - some license. It appears that the issue is not so much the modality but whether or not the body is touched. So, if you do not touch people, you don't need any license.

#### **NEW JERSEY - Safe**

The New Jersey board of massage therapists have no interest in regulating Reiki. Some work has been done by a private group seeking to certify Reiki under the auspices of a group called the NJ Assoc. of Massage Therapists, Body Workers and Somato Therapists, which would somehow report back to the state Board of Nursing. The problem is that with no standard practices for the training or practice of Reiki providers, there's nothing upon which the Board of Nursing or anyone else can base certification. The closest anyone can suggest is polarity, and I think it would be ridiculous to certify Reiki practitioners based on a technique that's anything other than pure Reiki - as is the case with massage, too.

#### **NEW MEXICO - Safe**

Reiki is specifically exempted from massage regulation in the Board of Massage

Therapy Rules.

NM Board of Massage Therapy

Tel: 505-827-7013

Members of the Board

Contact:

Board of Massage Therapy Regulation & Licensing Department

PO Box 25101

Santa Fe, NM 87504

(505) 827-7013

Thanks for the information Don!

### **NEW YORK - Safe**

Reiki was previously considered massage. After seeing a standard Reiki treatment, the New York Board of Massage Therapy reversed it's opinion and declared "...Reiki not massage".

NY Board for Massage Therapy Education Dept

Division of Professional Licensing

Tel: 518-474-3866

New York State Board of Massage Therapy has ruled that Reiki is not massage.

Contact:

New York State Board of Massage Therapy Cultural Education Center

Room 3041

Albany, NY 12230

Attention: Dr. Doyle

(518) 473-1417 or (518) 474-3866

### **NORTH CAROLINA - Safe**

Pursuant to Rule Section .0203, the Board considers practitioners of movement education (Alexander Technique, Body-Mind Centering, Feldenkrais Method, and Trager Psychophysical Integration), as well as practitioners of certain energy-based techniques (Healing Touch, Jin Shin, Medical Qi Gong, Polarity Therapy, Reflexology, Reiki, Specific Kinesiology, and Therapeutic Touch), to be within the scope of the exemptions set forth in the Practice Act and are therefore exempt from licensure requirements.

Following threats of legal action by polarity therapists, the North Carolina State

Board of Massage and Bodywork Therapy exempted almost a dozen energy and movement therapies from the 1998 law.

**NORTH DAKOTA** -\*Required\*

Board of Massage Therapy interpretation requires Reiki Practitioners to be Cert. Massage Therapists, NOT North Dakota law.

Contact:

North Dakota Massage Board

PO Box 701

Dickenson, ND 58601

Attention: Mary Lamay, President of the Board  
(701) 348-3634

**OHIO** - Unknown - Update Needed.

Contact:

State Medical Board

77 South High St.

17th floor

Columbus, OH, 43215

(614) 466-3934

Contact: Carolyn Mack

**OKLAHOMA** - Unknown - Update Needed.

**OREGON** - Unknown - Update Needed.

Oregon Board of Massage Technicians

State Office Building

800 NE Oregon Street

Suite 407B, Portland, OR 97232

Attention: Wanda Woods

(503) 731-4064

East-West College of Healing Arts

<http://www.ewcha.com/>

Call 1-800-635-9141

**PENNSYLVANIA** - Safe

**RHODE ISLAND**

Legislation exempts Reiki from massage board.

**SOUTH CAROLINA - ? - Update Needed.**

South Carolina Department of Labor Licensing and Regulation

PO Box 11329

Columbia, SC 29211-1329

110 Centerview Drive

Koger Business Center

Columbia, SC 29210

(843) 896-4494

**SOUTH DAKOTA - None**

As of 4-17-00, it does not appear that South Dakota has a massage board, nor pending legislation. Things are handled county by county. Check your county out and let us know!

**TENNESSEE - Safe**

TN Board of Massage Therapy

Tel: 615-532-5083

Tennessee Massage Licensure Board

425 Fifth Avenue North

1st Floor Cordell Hull Building

Nashville, TN 37247-1010

**TEXAS - Safe**

Reiki excluded in Board of Massage Therapy rules.

**UTAH - Safe**

UT Dept of Commerce

Div. of Occupational and Professional Licensing

Tel: 801-530-6628

State of Utah Department of Commerce Division of Occupational & Professional Licensing

Heber M. Wells Bldg

4th Floor 160 E. 300 South

PO Box 45805  
Salt Lake City, UT 84145-0805

Attention: Linda Johnson  
(801) 530-6551

**VERMONT** - Safe

Reiki in Vermont is not regulated, nor is massage. Neither are mentioned in state laws or regulations. In fact, under the laws regulating psychotherapists, energy therapies and psychic reading and the like are specifically excluded from regulation under this section. Please see the Vermont Laws online at the Vermont State homepage. They are searchable in great detail, and I have done so. There may be a few communities that regulate or attempt to regulate massage and Reiki. Some prohibit "arcane oriental arts". These communities rarely exercise such rules, and these rules are gradually failing legally. I would consider Vermont to be a "safe" state.

Lawton R. Smith RM  
Email - lrsmith@sover.net  
Homepage - <http://www.sover.net/~lrsmith/>

**VIRGINIA** - Safe - Update Needed.

This issue has not been addressed in Virginia. Reiki practitioners do not need to be certified massage therapists in Virginia. For statute information, check URL: <http://www.dhp.state.va.us>

Contact:  
Virginia Board of Nursing  
6606 W. Broad St. Richmond, VA 23230  
(804) 662-9909

**WASHINGTON STATE** - Safe

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsqa/hpqa/Massage/default.htm>  
WA Dept. Of Health, Health Professions Quality Assurance Div.

Email: [rob.darling@doh.wa.gov](mailto:rob.darling@doh.wa.gov)  
Contact: Rob Darling  
(360) - 236 - 4866

State of Washington Department of Health  
HPQA Division Health Professions  
1300 SW Quince Street, PO Box 47868

Olympia, WA 98504-7868

Revised Code of Washington 18.108 - Washington Administrative Code 246-830

**WEST VIRGINIA** - Safe

WV Massage Therapy

Contact: (304) 528-5551

Louise Franklin (Huntington, WV)

**WASHINGTON, DC** - Safe - Updated 09-21-02

**WISCONSIN** - Unknown - Update Needed.

Department of Regulation & Licensure

1400 E. Washington Avenue

PO Box 8935, Madison, WI 53708

Tel: 608/266-8609

Fax: 608/267-0644

**WYOMING** - Unknown - Update Needed.

\*\*\*from: "Reiki Practitioners Worldwide" Yahoo group \*\*\*