Massage Establishments Regulatory Framework 2026

S/n	Criterion	Exempted ME (From 1 December 2026 onwards, existing exempted ME operators must apply for a Cat 3 licence to continue operations. If not, they must cease operations by 30 November 2027)	Category 1 (Provisional)	Category 1	Category 2 (Provisional)	Category 2	(NEW) Category 3 (Wef 1 Dec 2026)
1	**Licensee**		The licensee, including the responsible officer of the business entity (e.g. Directors) must be assessed to meet the Fit and Proper criteria. For details on the Fit and Proper criteria, please visit (https://www.police.gov.sg/Business-E-Services/Apply-for-Massage-Establishment-Licence).				
2	**Location**		For new and renewal applications, they must be supported by land use approval and/or permission by either the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) or the Housing & Development Board (HDB). Please visit (https://www.police.gov.sg/Business-E-Services/Apply-for-Massage-Establishment-Licence) for a list of hotspots where Police are unlikely to grant a new licence.				
3	**Certification of Masseuses, Therapists**		The licensee shall ensure that at least 80% of all the registered masseuses/therapists have the required certification recognised by the Police Regulatory Department (PRD) during the tenure of the licence. The licensee shall ensure that no more than 20% of all the registered masseuses/therapists are trainee masseuses/therapists at any time. A trainee masseuse/therapist must obtain the certification recognised by PRD within six months. The number of trained masseuses shall be calculated cumulatively from the date of the first registration. For information on the certification recognised by PRD, please visit (https://www.police.gov.sg/Business-E-Services/Apply-for-Massage-Establishment-Licence/Employing-Individuals-in-a-Massage-Establishment) The licensee must ensure that all employees including masseuses, therapists are approved by PRD before they commence employment. See S/n 10.				NA
4	**CaseTrust (Consumers Association of Singapore)**		Cat 1 (Provisional) MEs will be given one year only to obtain the CaseTrust accreditation	For Cat 1 MEs, accreditation by CaseTrust is required.[1]	NA		
5	**Minimum Floor Area**		100sqm		50sqm		NA

[1]Whilst registered Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) practitioners who employ employees (i.e. non-TCM practitioners) to provide massage services are required to apply for a Cat 1 ME licence, their CaseTrust accreditation requirement will be waived if: (1) the ME is the TCM practitioner's primary place of practice registered with the TCMPB, and (2) if the TCM practitioner is also the ME licensee.

Massage Establishments Regulatory Framework 2026

6	**Licence Validity Period**		The Cat 1 (Provisional) licence is valid for one year only	For Cat 1 MEs, applicants may apply for either a 3 or 5 year licence. The Police may not grant a 5 year licence if the applicant has a poor compliance track record.	The Cat 2 (Provisional) licence is valid for one year only	For Cat 2 MEs, applicants may apply for either a 3 or 5 year licence. The Police may not grant a 5 year licence if the applicant has a poor compliance track record.	For Cat 3 MEs, applicants may apply for either a 3 or 5 year licence. (The Police may not grant a 5 year licence if the applicant has a poor compliance track record.)
7	**Fees**		$290 (1 year) $630 (3 years) $980 (5 years)				$340 (3 years) $510 (5 years)
8	**Operating Hours**		7.00 am to 10.30 pm (Note: The Licensing Officer reserves the right to impose shorter operating hours where there are law and order issues or concerns over social dis-amenities.)		10.00 am to 10.30 pm (Note: The Licensing Officer reserves the right to impose shorter operating hours where there are law and order issues or concerns over social dis-amenities.)		7.00 am to 10.30 pm (Note: The Licensing Officer reserves the right to impose shorter operating hours where there are law and order issues or concerns over social dis-amenities.)
9	**Employment of Foreigners**		Only Singapore citizens, Singapore permanent residents and Malaysians with valid work permits may apply to work in the ME.	No restriction on foreign nationalities subject to Ministry of Manpower's approval.	Only Singapore citizens, Singapore permanent residents and Malaysians with valid work permits may apply to work in the ME.		No restriction on foreign nationalities, subject to Ministry of Manpower's approval.
10	**Approval to Employ Individuals to Work in the Massage Establishment**		**<u>All</u>** employees must be approved by PRD before they may commence their employment in the ME.				

Massage Establishments Regulatory Framework 2026

11	**Layout**		The proposed layout of the massage establishment must be submitted together with the application for a licence. Once the layout is approved by PRD, it cannot be changed. If the layout is changed after PRD's approval, the applicant must re-seek PRD's approval.	For Cat 3 MEs, the layout must comply with the following: 1. **Full public visibility**: The massage being administered must always remain visible from outside the premises. 2. **No obscuring devices**: Windows and entrances must not be covered with tinted glass, curtains, blinds, or any device that hides the interior. 3. **No private rooms or partitions**: The premises must not contain rooms, partitions, cubicles, or furniture that allow a massage to be administered in private. The layout for the massage establishment must be submitted together with the application for a licence. Once the layout is approved by PRD, it cannot be changed. If the layout is changed after PRD's approval, the applicant must re-seek PRD's approval.
12	**Employee Uniform**		Licensees must ensure that their employees are not indecently dressed on the premises. Indecent attire refers to attire that has any form of nudity; exposes any part of the genitalia, buttocks, nipples or breasts including through transparent or translucent material; or consists only of underwear, briefs, lingerie, swimwear or a bikini.	
			Licensees must ensure that their employees don uniforms which comprise a shirt or blouse with sleeves that bears the establishment's name or logo and the employee's name, together with pants that are knee-length or longer. If an operator wishes to deviate from the uniform standards, he must write in to PRD with justifications and obtain PRD's approval before he may do so.	NA
13	**Client Register**		Licensees must maintain a proper client register. Failure to do so is an offence.	NA

14	**Prohibitions**		The licensee must ensure that their employees do NOT — 1. offer or provide any sexual service; 2. engage in any indecent act; 3. be indecently dressed; or 4. tout for business or loiter outside the ME It is an offence if a licensee fails to supervise its employees.
15	**Notifications to Police**		The licensee must notify the Police of the following occurrences: 1. Within 7 days of any change in any responsible officer and/or any person having substantial interest in, or control or direction over, the ME business 2. Before any change in the name of the ME 3. Within 3 days after the employee is no longer employed in the ME 4. At least 7 days before the licensee ceases the ME business. It is an offence if a licensee fails to notify the Police within the stipulated timelines.

Issued by the Police Regulatory Department
1 December 2026