

**OVERVIEW ON THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF MASSAGE ESTABLISHMENTS REGULATED BY POLICE**  
(UPDATED\_MARCH 2017)

S/N	Subject Matter	Exempted Massage Establishment (ME)	Category (Cat) II Massage Establishment (ME)	Category (Cat) I Massage Establishment (ME)	Provisional Category (Cat) I Massage Establishment (ME)
<b>Application/Registration Procedures</b>					
1	Application for Registration/Licence	Registration	Licence	Licence	Licence  Note: A 6-month grace period is given for the licensee to upgrade to a Cat I ME licence by meeting all the Cat I ME licensing criteria. Failing to do so may result in the revocation of the licence issued.
2	Fees	No payment is required.	Licence fee is \$525 for a year.	Licence fee is \$525 for a year.	Licence fee is \$525 for a year.
3	Criteria for Applicant  At least 21 years old at the time of application.  For a foreigner, he must hold a valid work permit or employment pass.	Required	Required	Required	Required
<b>Licensing Criteria</b>					
<p><b>Note: Sunk Investments eg renovation, purchase of equipment, rental of premise will not be regarded as grounds for a licence to be granted. Applicants should ensure that they have obtained the necessary ME licence/approval before starting the use or renovation works on the premise. Applicants are not required to submit any supporting documents at the point of application. However, the applicant may be requested to submit the supporting documents as required by the Licensing Officer during the application process.</b></p>					

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4	Location  Note: All locations to operate a (Exempted, Cat II, Cat I or Provisional Cat I) massage establishment are subjected to the approval of the Police Licensing & Regulatory Department.	Permitted premises include shophouses, HDB neighbourhood centres, private shopping centres, commercial complexes and hotels.	To be situated away from residential areas, hospitals, schools and places of worship  Note: Cat II MEs are not allowed to operate within HDB residential estates, including HDB commercial complexes.	Permitted premises include shophouses, HDB neighbourhood centres, private shopping centres, commercial complexes and hotels.	Permitted premises include shophouses, HDB neighbourhood centres, private shopping centres, commercial complexes and hotels.
5	Certification of masseuses/therapists  Note: Only certificates recognised by Police Licensing & Regulatory Department would be considered.	NA	At least 80% of the masseuses/therapists are to have the required certification recognised by the Police Licensing & Regulatory Department	At least 80% of the masseuses/therapists are to have the required certification recognised by the Police Licensing & Regulatory Department	At least 80% of the masseuses/therapists are to have the required certification recognised by the Police Licensing & Regulatory Department
6	CaseTrust (Consumers Association of Singapore)	NA	NA	Accreditation by CaseTrust	Letter of Acceptance from CaseTrust
7	Capital Investment of at least \$50,000/- in renovations, assets or rental;  Note: Applicants should ensure that they have obtained the necessary licence/approval before starting any renovation works on the premise.	NA	NA	Required	Required
8	Minimum of 2-year lease <b>OR</b> at least 100m <sup>2</sup> of floor area	NA	NA	Required	Required
9	All employees to have company issued uniforms at all times	NA	Required	Required	Required

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<p><b>Operating requirements and Licensing Conditions</b>  <b>(It is an offence under the Massage Establishment Act if the following requirements/conditions are not complied with accordingly)</b></p>					
10	Operating hours  <b>(The Licensing Officer reserves the right to impose shorter operating hours for residential locations where there are law and order issues or concerns over social disamenities.)</b>	No restriction	10am to 11pm	No restriction	No restriction
11	Staff Employment	Only citizens, permanent residents of Singapore and Malaysians with valid work permits are allowed to work in the establishment.	Only citizens, permanent residents of Singapore and Malaysians with valid work permits will be considered for an employee application to work in the establishment	No restriction  Note: The employment of foreign nationals is subjected to the quota decided by the Ministry of Manpower.	No restriction  Note: The employment of foreign nationals is subjected to the quota decided by the Ministry of Manpower.
12	Registration of Employees (including admin staff, cleaner, cashier, masseuses, therapists, etc) working in the massage establishment	NA.  No approval is required from Police Licensing & Regulatory Department for employees to work in the Exempted ME.	Registration is required.  Note: Online approval for the registration of all employees must be obtained from the Police Licensing & Regulatory Department before they can be employed to work in the ME.  If an employee is to be deployed to work in different branches of a company, a separate approval is to be obtained for each branch, i.e. one approval/application per branch.  All employees must be above the age of 18 years.	Registration is required.  Note: Online approval for the registration of all employees must be obtained from the Police Licensing & Regulatory Department before they can be employed to work in the ME.  If an employee is to be deployed to work in different branches of a company, a separate approval is to be obtained for each branch, i.e. one approval/application per branch.  All employees must be above the age of 18 years.	Registration is required.  Note: Online approval for the registration of all employees must be obtained from the Police Licensing & Regulatory Department before they can be employed to work in the ME.  If an employee is to be deployed to work in different branches of a company, a separate approval is to be obtained for each branch, i.e. one approval/application per branch.  All employees must be above the age of 18 years.

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			<p><b><u>Submission of supporting documents</u></b></p> <p>For <u>Malaysian employees</u>, the licensee has to submit a copy of the employee's work permit</p> <p>The licensee is not required to submit any qualification certificates of the employee for this application.</p> <p>The qualification certificates of masseuses, therapists and/or foot-reflexologists are only required to be submitted as one of the supporting documents for an application to operate a massage establishment and a licence renewal application.</p> <p><b><u>Validity of Employee Approval</u></b></p> <p>The approval for employment in a ME as a masseuse, therapist and/or foot reflexologist is valid for up to one year and is tagged to the expiry date of the employee's medical screening result.</p> <p>There is no expiry date for all other employments i.e. manager, cleaner, cashier etc. A one- time approval is given to employees working in positions other than as a masseuse, therapist and/or foot reflexologist.</p>	<p><b><u>Submission of supporting documents</u></b></p> <p>For <u>all foreign nationals</u>, the licensee has to submit a copy of the employee's work permit.</p> <p>The licensee is not required to submit any qualification certificates of the employee for this application.</p> <p>The qualification certificates of masseuses, therapists and/ or foot-reflexologists are only required to be submitted as one of the supporting documents for an application to operate a massage establishment and a licence renewal application.</p>	<p><b><u>Submission of supporting documents</u></b></p> <p>For <u>all foreign nationals</u>, the licensee has to submit a copy of the employee's work permit .</p> <p>The licensee is not required to submit any qualification certificates of the employee for this application.</p> <p>The qualification certificates of masseuses, therapists and/or foot-reflexologists are only required to be submitted as one of the supporting documents for an application to operate a massage establishment and a licence renewal application.</p> <p><b><u>Validity of Employee Approval</u></b></p> <p>The approval for employment in a ME as a masseuse, therapist and/or foot reflexologist is valid for up to one year and is tagged to the expiry date of the employee's medical screening result.</p> <p>There is no expiry date for all other employments i.e. manager, cleaner, cashier etc. A one- time approval is given to employees working in positions other than as a masseuse, therapist and/or foot reflexologist.</p>

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13	Annual medical health screening for employees who will be working as masseuses, therapists and/or foot reflexologists	NA	<p>All employees who will be working as masseuses, therapists and/or foot reflexologists would need to undergo and pass the annual medical health screening.</p> <p>The DSC medical screening number is a compulsory field for the registration of employees who will be working as masseuses, therapists and/ or foot reflexologists.</p> <p><b><u>Renewal of Employee Approval/ Medical Screening Result</u></b></p> <p>The Police Licensing &amp; Regulatory Department will send a renewal notice informing the licensee to send his employee for another round of medical screening, 2 months prior to the expiry of the medical screening result of an employee working as a masseuse, therapist and/or foot reflexologist.</p> <p><b><u>If the new medical screening result is obtained before the expiry of the existing medical screening result</u></b></p> <p>Licensees are not required to submit any application or to update the Police Licensing &amp; Regulatory Department on the new screening numbers. The Police Licensing &amp; Regulatory Department will automatically process the Employee Renewal</p>	NA	<p><b><u>Prior to the upgrading to a Cat I ME</u></b></p> <p>All employees working as masseuses, therapists and/or foot reflexologists are required to undergo and pass their medical screening.</p> <p>The DSC medical screening number is a compulsory field for the registration of employees who will be working as masseuses, therapists and/ or foot reflexologists.</p> <p><b><u>Renewal of Employee Approval/ Medical Screening Result</u></b></p> <p>The Police Licensing &amp; Regulatory Department will send a renewal notice informing the licensee to send his employee for another round of medical screening, 2 months prior to the expiry of the medical screening result of an employee working as a masseuse, therapist and/or foot reflexologist.</p> <p><b><u>If the new medical screening result is obtained before the expiry of the existing medical screening result</u></b></p> <p>Licensees are not required to submit any application or to update the Police Licensing &amp; Regulatory Department on the new screening numbers. The Police Licensing &amp; Regulatory Department will automatically process the Employee Renewal</p>

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			<p>application. No payment is required.</p> <p><b><u>Upon Lapse of the Medical Screening Result</u></b></p> <p>Employees, working as masseuses, therapists and/or foot reflexologists, are not allowed to continue to work in the ME once their existing medical screening results have lapsed and are not renewed on time.</p> <p>Licensee will have to submit fresh applications to re-register his employees via LicenceOne using the new medical screening numbers obtained.</p>		<p>application. No payment is required.</p> <p><b><u>Upon Lapse of the Medical Screening Result</u></b></p> <p>Employees, working as masseuses, therapists and/or foot reflexologists, are not allowed to continue to work in the ME once their existing medical screening results have lapsed and are not renewed on time.</p> <p>Licensee will have to submit fresh applications to re-register his employees via LicenceOne using the new medical screening numbers obtained.</p>
14	<p>Layout</p> <p>Locking devices are not allowed to be installed for the doors of the massage or treatment rooms</p> <p>Rooms used by staff eg rest room and office should have proper signages with a No entry sign to prevent unauthorised entry by customers</p> <p>All rooms shall be numbered and the numbering should be shown on the layout plan</p> <p>Rooms for massage must be clear of permanent or temporary objects or structures, such as paintings or screens, so that there is a clear view of the rooms when the doors are opened.</p>	NA	To be complied	To be complied	To be complied

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15	Serving of alcohol in the ME	No restriction	Not allowed	Allowed	Allowed
16	Admission of customers based on their age	No restriction	No person below the age of 18 years shall be permitted to enter and remain in the establishment unless approval is granted by the Licensing Officer.	No restriction	No restriction
17	Separate facilities for male and female clients	NA	Required	NA	NA
18	Male bodywork masseuse/therapist to provide massage to female clients	No restriction	Not allowed	Allowed	Allowed