

Massage Establishments Regulatory Framework 2018

	Criterion	Exempted ME	Cat I ME	Cat I (Provisional) ME	Cat II ME	Cat II (Provisional) ME
1	Criteria for Applicant	NA	<p>The applicant must be assessed to be a Fit and Proper* person to hold the licence.</p> <p>In the event that the applicant is an organisation, a responsible officer from the organisation will also need to be co-licensed. This responsible person is also required to meet the Fit and Proper Criteria.</p> <p>*Guidelines on the Criteria and Requirements for a Person to be Fit and Proper to Hold a Massage Establishment Licence can be found on our website at (https://www.police.gov.sg/e-Services/Police-Licences/Massage-Establishment-Licence).</p>			
2	Location	The onus is on the operator to seek the relevant land use approval, authorisation or permission from URA or HDB.	All locations to be used for the ME must have the relevant land use approval, authorisation or permission from URA or HDB.	All locations to be used for the ME must have the relevant land use approval, authorisation or permission from URA or HDB.	<p>All locations to be used for the ME must have the relevant land use approval, authorisation or permission from URA or HDB.</p> <p>Cat II MEs will generally <u>not be allowed</u> to operate in close proximity to residential areas, schools and places of worships.</p> <p>Cat II MEs will also generally <u>not be allowed</u> to operate within HDB premises, including HDB commercial complexes.</p> <p>However, Cat II MEs may be allowed to operate in private shopping centres within HDB estates subject to the Licensing Officer's approval.</p>	
3	Certification of Masseuses/ Therapists Note: Only certificates recognised by Police Licensing & Regulatory Department (PLRD) would be considered.	NA	<p>The licensee shall ensure that at least 80% of all the registered masseuses/therapists have the required certification recognised by PLRD throughout the period of the licence.</p> <p>The licensee shall ensure that no more than 20% of all the registered masseuses/therapists are trainee masseuses/therapists. Each trainee masseuse/therapist must obtain the certification recognised by PLRD within six months, to be calculated cumulatively, from the date of first registration.</p> <p>Please refer to our website (https://www.police.gov.sg/e-Services/Police-Licences/Massage-Establishment-Licence) for information on the certification recognised by PLRD.</p>			
4	CaseTrust (Consumers Association of Singapore)	NA	Accreditation by CaseTrust is required. ¹	CAT 1 (P) MEs will be given one year only to obtain the CaseTrust accreditation.	NA	
5	Minimum Floor Area	NA	100 sqm		50 sqm	

¹ *From 1 January 2019 onwards, Category I licensees who are Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) practitioners will no longer be required to undergo CaseTrust accreditation if the massage establishment (ME) is personally licensed to the TCM practitioner registered with the Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Board (TCMPB). Whilst registered TCM practitioners who employ employees to provide massage services are still required to apply for a ME licence, they will not need to meet the CaseTrust accreditation requirement for the ME 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.

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6	Licence Validity Period	NA Only One-off Notification Required	PLRD will generally issue a licence with validity period ranging from one year to three years, depending on track record of licensee. PLRD may issue a licence with a period of less than one year if there are special circumstances.	One year	PLRD will generally issue a licence with validity period ranging from one year to three years, depending on track record of licensee. PLRD may issue a licence with a period of less than one year if there are special circumstances.	One year
7	Fees	No payment is required.	Licence fee is \$290 for a year or part thereof			
8	Operating Hours (The Licensing Officer reserves the right to impose shorter operating hours where there are law and order issues or concerns over social disamenities.)	7am to 10.30pm			10am to 10.30pm	
9	Employment of Foreigners	No restriction on foreigners, but subject to Ministry of Manpower's approval.		Only Singapore citizens, Singapore permanent residents and Malaysians with valid work permits will be allowed to work in the ME.		
10	Approval to Employ Individuals to Work in the Massage Establishment	No approval is required from PLRD.	Approval must be obtained from PLRD before any individual may be employed to work in the massage establishment.			

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11	Layout	<p>All massage services must be provided in full view of the public.</p> <p>a) Any customer and any member of public can see at any time the massage services provided in every part of the premises from inside and outside of the premises;</p> <p>b) No window in the premises and no entrance to the premises is obscured with any device or accessory, such as a tinted glass panel, a curtain, blinds or any poster or notice;</p> <p>c) There are no rooms, partitions, cubicles, or other form of furniture in the premises that allow massage services to be administered in private.</p>	<p>PLRD's approval is required for the proposed layout of any massage establishment.</p> <p>Once approval is given, the layout may not be changed without further approval from PLRD.</p>			
12	Employee Uniform	NA	<p>All employees are required to wear the approved uniforms whilst working within the licensed establishment.</p> <p>PLRD's approval is required for a change of uniform.</p>			