

**Rules  
and  
Regulations  
Relative To  
Sanitary Operation of  
Massage Parlors**

Effective Date: May 18, 1984



**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES**

GOVERNMENT OF GUAM  
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# REGULATIONS RELATIVE TO SANITARY OPERATION OF MASSAGE PARLORS

## SECTION I GENERAL PROVISIONS

### 1.1 PURPOSE

These regulations shall be liberally construed and applied to promote their underlying purpose of protecting the public health.

### 1.2 DEFINITIONS

- (a) “**Construction Permit**” shall mean a permit issued by the Department of Public Health and Social Services giving permission to construct, extend, alter or modify a structure or building to be used as a massage parlor.
- (b) “**Department**” means the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services.
- (c) “**Director**” means the Director of the Department, or his/her authorized representative.
- (d) “**Employee**” shall mean any person who works in a massage parlor for the purpose of practicing massage.
- (e) “**Massage**” means any method of treatment or therapy of the superficial soft parts of the body by rubbing, stroking, tapping, pressing, shaking, or kneading with the hands, feet, or elbow, and whether or not aided by any mechanical or electrical apparatus, appliances, or supplementary aids such as rubbing alcohol, liniments, antiseptic oils, powders, creams, lotions, ointments, or other similar preparations commonly used in this practice.
- (f) “**Massage Parlor or Establishment**” means premises occupied and used for the purpose of practicing massage, provided that when any massage establishment is situated in any building used for residential or sleeping purposes, the massage establishment premises shall be set apart and shall not be used for any other purpose.
- (g) “**Owner, Operator, (Manager)**” shall mean any person having control of the establishment and/or of the persons working or employed therein.
- (h) “**Sanitary Permit**” shall mean a written non-transferable document issued by the Department giving a designated person, association, or corporation permission to operate a massage parlor.

**SECTION V**  
**HEALTH CERTIFICATES**

**5.1 GENERAL**

- (a) No person shall operate, manage, or work in a massage parlor, or establishment, or practice massaging unless the person holds a valid health certificate issued by the Department.
- (b) No owner, proprietor, operator, or manager of a massage parlor or establishment shall knowingly allow any person to practice massage in such facility unless that person has a valid health certificate issued by the Department.
- (c)
  - i. No health certificate shall be issued, new or renewal and no current health certificate shall remain valid unless the applicant undergoes and passes a physical examination once every three months. The physical shall include, among other examination requirements, a skin test for tuberculosis, RPR or VDRL blood tests, and a culture test for Gonorrhea. The results of the physical exam shall be reported to the Department on a report form provided by the Department. One copy of the physical examination report shall be kept on file by the permit holder at the massage establishment where the person works.
  - ii. All information provided on statements made on the physical exam report form shall be true, accurate, and shall provide the information requested. Falsification of any physical exam report by a Health Certificate applicant or holder shall cause the health certificate be denied or suspended respectively until the correct information is provided.
- (d) No health certificate shall be issued, new or renewal, unless the applicant also attends a yearly workshop given by the Department, or in lieu thereof, takes and passes a written examination administered by the Department, Division of Environmental Health.
- (e) When a person applies for a new health certificate, or renewal to work in a massage establishment, he/she shall submit two photographic portraits of themselves. Each photograph shall measure at least 1.25 inches on a side, and no more than 1.5 inch on a side.
- (f) After meeting the above requirements, a health certificate will be issued in accordance with other regulations established for the issuance of certificates in general.

**SECTION VI**  
**SANITARY CONTROLS AND FACILITIES**

**7.1 WATER SUPPLY**

- (a) Enough potable water at the correct temperature and pressure for the needs of the massage establishment shall be provided.