



**EASTERN CAMPUS**

# **Massage Therapy**

## **Application Guidelines Fall 2026**



4250 Richmond Road, Highland Hills, Ohio 44122

216-987-2426

[www.tri-c.edu/massage](http://www.tri-c.edu/massage)

# Table of Contents

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| <b>Phase 1</b>                                    | <b>3</b> |
| <b>Academic Admission Requirements</b>            | <b>3</b> |
| <b>How to Apply</b>                               | <b>3</b> |
| <b>Schedule &amp; Location</b>                    | <b>3</b> |
| <b>Program Costs &amp; Course Sequences</b>       | <b>4</b> |
| <b>Financial Aid &amp; Scholarships</b>           | <b>4</b> |
| <b>Phase 2</b>                                    | <b>4</b> |
| <b>Provisional Acceptance</b>                     | <b>4</b> |
| <b>Background Check &amp; Health Requirements</b> | <b>4</b> |
| <b>Program Orientation</b>                        | <b>5</b> |
| <b>Frequently Asked Questions</b>                 | <b>6</b> |

# Phase 1

## Academic Admission Requirements

1. High school transcript/GED/HiSet/TASC
  - Post Degree Professional applicants are required to submit their college transcript to show an Associate's Degree or higher has been awarded
2. Grade Point Average (GPA)
  - Good Standing Acceptance: 2.5 GPA or higher
  - Conditional Acceptance: Overall GPA lower than 2.4 - 2.0
    - GPA lower than 2.0 cannot be accepted into the program
3. Achieve the appropriate score on English and Math Placement Tests OR proof of course completion for ENG-0990 and Math-0910 with a letter grade of 'C' or higher OR submit a transcript indicating that an Associate Degree or higher has been awarded.

## How to Apply

Fall 2026 applications are accepted August 2, 2025 – July 31, 2026.

1. Apply to the college to become a Tri-C student; [Tri-C Getting Started: Cleveland Ohio](#). Be sure to declare your major as either the Massage Therapy Certificate of Proficiency, Associate of Applied Science - Massage Therapy or Post Degree Professional Certificate - Massage Therapy. See the links below for more information about these options.
2. Submit high school/GED/HiSet/TASC and college transcripts (if applicable) to the Registrar's Office for evaluation.
  - How to submit transcripts: [Tri-C Transcripts: Cleveland](#)
  - **Please note, admission to Tri-C does not mean automatic acceptance to the MT program**
3. Once you have been admitted to Tri-C you will begin receiving emails at your new student email address indicating your next steps. You will also receive an email each time you complete a step. **Please be sure to check your student email frequently.**

## Language Proficiency Requirements

Admission into Cuyahoga Community College is premised on a complete and accurate initial application to the College, including, if applicable, proof of English Language Proficiency Requirements for admission as indicated on the English Language Proficiency Requirements for Admissions to the College, and available on the web at: [English Proficiency Requirements for Admission](#).

To be accepted into any selective admission programs, students must successfully complete English as a Second Language (ESL) course/s, as referenced above, if deemed necessary by the College at the time of enrollment. Admission is conditioned upon achieving the necessary grade point average (GPA), English language proficiency requirements and any specific pre-requisite courses, and by meeting program accreditation or licensing requirements as evidenced in the Program Handbook for the specific program.

## Schedule & Location

The program is offered at the Eastern Campus in Highland Hills. A daytime schedule and an evening schedule are offered to conveniently fit into your life. The Fall 2026 program begins August 24, 2026, and runs through August 8, 2027. See the attached daytime and evening schedule for class days and times.

## Program Costs & Course Sequences

Tuition and fees are subject to change by the College Board of Trustees [Tri-C Tuition and Payment Schedule: Cleveland oh](#)

### Certificate of Proficiency [Course Sequence; Certificate of Proficiency](#)

In-County tuition: \$4,308

Out-of-County tuition: \$5,253

### Post Degree Professional Certificate [Course Sequence; Post-Degree Professional Certificate](#)

In-County tuition: \$4, 308

Out-of-County tuition: \$5,253

An additional \$2,420 is estimated in cost of textbooks, supplies, background check and health requirements.

## Financial Aid & Scholarships

Tri-C maintains a full-service Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office on each campus. This office is dedicated to helping students navigate financial aid options for paying for their college expenses. Students can meet with a Student Financial Aid Advisor to obtain information about various financial aid options, which includes grants, scholarships, student loans, and public benefits. Learn more here: [Tri-C Student Financial Aid and Scholarships: Cleveland Oh](#)

Phone: 216-987-6000, Option #2

Email: [financialaid@tri-c.edu](mailto:financialaid@tri-c.edu)

Federal School Code: 003040

Choose Ohio First Scholarship: [Choose Ohio First Scholarships at Tri-C](#)

American Massage Therapy Association Scholarship: [Student Scholarships | AMTA \(amtamassage.org\)](#)

Massage Envy Scholarship: [Massage Envy Scholarship Entry \(massageenvyscholarshipsweepstakes.com\)](#)

## Phase 2

### Provisional Acceptance

Once a student applies to the program and academic requirements are met, applicants will be granted *Provisional Acceptance* into the Massage Therapy program.

Provisional Acceptance reserves the student's seat; permission is given to enroll in fall courses. Students will be sent an email notifying them of their acceptance and the next steps.

To receive *Final Acceptance*, students must complete a background check and health requirements through the college's designated document management account. **Do not start a background check until you receive instructions on how to do so.**

### Background Check & Health Requirements

Provisionally Accepted students must purchase a document management account to complete the background check and health requirements. An instructional video is provided prior to purchasing the account; the cost is \$130.

## Health Requirements

1. **Tuberculosis** - Submit an IGRA Blood Test (QuantiFERON or T-Spot) from within the last year or a Two-Step PPD TB Test (Double Mantoux) dated 7 – 21 days apart. TB test(s) must be completed annually.

Below is an explanation of the two options:

- a) *Option 1:* IGRA Blood Test (lab report required). The healthcare provider must document results, date and their provider information.
  - b) *Option 2:* A two-step PPD TB Test (Double Mantoux). Obtain test 1, return 48-72 hours to have test read. Obtain test 2 one to three weeks after test 1 is administered, return 48-72 hours to have test read. Administered dates, read dates and results are required on the documentation
2. **Health Release** – Specific college form will be provided in account
  3. **Influenza Vaccine** – The earliest a flu shot can be submitted for the upcoming flu season is August 1, 2026; it is due by November 1, 2026. The Influenza vaccine must be completed annually.

### “Ohio Revised Code 4731-1-15(D)”

Arrests, charges or convictions of criminal offenses may be cause to deny or limit licensure or employment opportunities in specific careers such as massage therapy. Students are encouraged to investigate these possibilities before applying to the program. For factors the State Medical Board of Ohio may consider when reviewing the results of a criminal record check, and the list of disqualifying offenses, visit the website: [State Medical Board of Ohio > The Board > Disqualifying Criminal Convictions](#)

Compliance will include any required immunizations per current CDC and Ohio Department of Health guidelines.

Massage Therapy students are required to participate in hands-on labs and clinics. Students are not permitted to participate in hands-on activities without completion of the background check and health requirements. Therefore, if time is missed during the hands-on labs or clinics due to an incomplete requirement, the time must be made up on-site.

If requirements are not met by the third week of the full-term fall semester, students must withdraw from the program courses and will be responsible for any costs incurred. If students anticipate they cannot meet the deadline, please contact the Program Director immediately for assistance.

## Program Orientation

At orientation, provisionally accepted students will meet their instructors, staff, alumni and fellow classmates! Textbooks, uniforms and other important information will be reviewed. **Attendance is mandatory.**

### Date & Time:

Day students attend on August 17, 2026 from 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Evening students attend on August 17, 2026 from 5:30pm – 7:30pm

### Location:

Tri-C East Campus Health Careers & Technology (EHCT) Building Room 124E

4250 Richmond Road, Highland Hills, OH 44122  
Park in Lot D1

## Frequently Asked Questions

1. Can I apply to the program even though I need to complete the prerequisite requirements?
  - Yes, students are permitted to apply before completion of prerequisites.
2. What if I attended school outside of the U.S.?
  - High school transcripts- follow the instructions on this form: [foreign-high-school-transcript.pdf \(tri-c.edu\)](#)
  - College transcripts- Transcript must be evaluated by [Educational Perspectives](#). A request must be made for a Catalog Match Report for courses to be eligible for review by Tri-C. The cost of the evaluation is the responsibility of the student. The evaluation should be sent directly to the Office of the Registrar at Tri-C.
3. What if I already completed human anatomy and physiology courses?
  - If students are interested in transferring any human anatomy and physiology courses, ask the Program Director about the Massage Therapy Program rules for Credit by Exam (CBE).
4. Does this program have a Student Clinic?
  - Yes! Tri-C's Massage Therapy Student Clinic is an on-site educational facility where students provide low-cost massages under the guidance of their instructor in the second and third semesters. Community members, Tri-C staff, faculty and students are invited to participate in the student's clinic learning experience. Our goal is to help students feel comfortable moving into any massage setting after gaining hands-on, real-world experience before graduation. Watch our clinic video! [Student Massage Therapy Clinic](#)
5. Can I pick and choose how many classes I want to take?
  - No, all classes must be taken in sequential order each semester.
6. What if I had an IEP or 504 in high school?
  - Student Accessibility Services (SAS) provides classroom accommodations and academic and other support for students. Learn more here: [Tri-C ACCESS - Students with Disabilities: Cleveland](#)
7. What's the Advanced Short-Term Certificate?
  - This certificate provides advanced bodywork training which enhances a massage therapist's career by preparing them for positions in specialized areas of massage therapy. This certificate is optional for graduates of the Certificate of Proficiency and Post Degree Professional Certificate.
8. What happens after I complete the program?
  - Graduates are prepared to take the Massage & Bodywork Licensing Exam (MBLEx) and apply for licensure with the State Medical Board of Ohio. The fee for the MBLEx exam is currently \$265, the current licensure application fee is \$153.50.
9. Does the program keep in touch with alumni?
  - Yes, we send employment opportunities to alumni. Employers frequently seek to hire Tri-C Massage Therapy graduates! We also invite alumni to participate in the clinic, visit our job fair and other events! Watch our graduate video: [Massage Therapy Industry & Tri-C Graduates](#)
10. What if I have other questions that weren't addressed in this handbook?

- Reach out to Program Director, Nancy Broadbent, at 216-987-2426 or [Nancy.Broadbent@tri-c.edu](mailto:Nancy.Broadbent@tri-c.edu)

We look forward to the opportunity to help you with your educational goals and dreams to become a licensed massage therapist!

