

FINANCIAL AID

Information Packet



2018-2019

Congratulations on taking your first steps towards a career in Massage Therapy!

At the Center for Natural Wellness School of Massage Therapy we try to make it easier for our students to create a financial plan by offering many options for funding your education. On the following pages we have outlined some of the financing options that are available to you, as well as the estimated cost of attending our school.

All students are required to meet with our Financial Aid Administrator and have a complete financial plan in place before starting classes.

All students are required to pay a \$100 enrollment deposit in order to register for and reserve a seat in the Program. The enrollment deposit will be applied toward tuition payments, and should be paid upon receipt of a letter of acceptance from CNWSMT. If the enrollment deposit is not paid, the student forfeits his/her seat in the Program.

The student hereby agrees to pay CNWSMT the tuition balance of \$17,400 (tuition of \$17,500 minus the \$100 enrollment deposit).

Tuition Costs

Application Fee: \$50 (*fee is waived if applicant attends one admissions event or is a veteran*)

Tuition: \$17,500 (*including \$100 deposit*)

Included in the price of full tuition:

Course Materials	Distributed at the start of each course*
Massage Table	Distributed after the 4 th week of instruction*
Review Classes	Held post-graduation before each state exam
\$100 Credit	At the CNWSMT Book Store (<i>no cash value & non-refundable</i>)

Required Textbooks NOT included in Tuition:

1. Applied Anatomy and Physiology for Manual Therapists, Archer \$73.00
ISBN: 9781605476551
2. A Massage Therapist's Guide to Pathology, Werner \$66.00
ISBN: 9781496310828
3. Myology and Kinesiology for the Massage Therapist, Moorcroft \$67.00
ISBN: 9781451155693
4. Psychology of the Body, Greene \$49.00
ISBN: 9781608311569
5. Business Mastery, Sohnen-Moe \$36.00
ISBN: 9781882908059

* All Required textbooks are available for purchase at the CNWSMT Bookstore. Book prices are subject to change. Please note that CNWSMT provides all proprietary course materials, supplies and an Oakworks Synergy Massage Table Package. Oakworks Synergy Massage Table Package is packaged specifically to meet the needs of our educational criteria and is not available as a retail package. The Massage Table package is to be ordered after the 4th week of instruction. If a student is dismissed or withdraws from the program before completing 100 scheduled clock-hours of the program, the student must forfeit the massage table that is included in the Tuition Price or be charged \$350. Students will also be charged the full retail value of all items received (i.e. books, t-shirts, etc.) if they have not completed 100 hours. Students electing to upgrade the standard table package must pay for upgrades at the time the order is placed. Each student may only receive ONE massage table per Full Paid Tuition at CNWSMT.

****School policies subject to change based on Federal Regulation Guideline updates.****

Financing Options

FEDERAL STUDENT AID – We encourage all of our prospective students to apply for Federal Student Aid by filling out a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). For a fast response you may apply online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Our federal school code is **037733**. If you do not have Internet access or would prefer not to apply online, please contact our Financial Aid office.

CNWSMT participates in the following Federal Student Aid Programs:

- ✓ FEDERAL PELL GRANTS – Need-based gift aid that does not need to be repaid
- ✓ FEDERAL DIRECT STAFFORD LOANS – Loans for students (non-credit based)
- ✓ FEDERAL DIRECT PLUS LOANS – Parent Loans for Undergraduate Students

PERSONAL LOANS THROUGH BANKS AND CREDIT UNIONS – Many banks offer personal loans for education, but we recommend that you check with your bank and shop around for the best interest rate. We have found that local credit unions prove to be a good option for private education loans, both in the rates that they offer and in the customer service that they provide. Below are some local credit unions in the Albany, NY area that offer private educational loans for our Massage Therapy program:

- Capital Communications Federal Credit Union - www.capcomfcu.org
- State Employees Federal Credit Union - www.sefcu.com
- Community Resource Federal Credit Union - www.communityresource.coop

Additional Funding Options

ACCES-VR – Adult Career and Continuing Education Services-Vocational Rehabilitation. Contact ACCES-VR to meet with a counselor at (518) 473-8097 or online at www.acces.nysed.gov/vr.

MONTGOMERY and POST 9/11 G.I. BILL; DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS – Education funding for qualified veterans. Call 1-888-GIBILL-1

599 NYS Unemployment Training Program – Extend your unemployment benefits. CNWSMT is an Eligible Training Provider within the NYS Unemployment Training Program. Please contact your unemployment office for more information.

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act – Grant funding may be available to help displaced workers in need of job training to re-enter the workforce. Contact your One-Stop Career Center, visit www.capreg.org or www.doleta.gov/wioa for more information.

TAA/Trade Adjustment Assistance – Help for trade-affected workers who have lost their jobs as a result of increased imports or shifts in production out of the United States. Visit <http://www.doleta.gov/tradeact/benefits.cfm> for more information.

American Opportunity Credit - The American Opportunity Credit is a Federal tax credit of up to \$2500 for your out-of-pocket educational costs. Please consult with your tax professional or visit www.irs.gov for more information.

529 Savings Plans (Tax advantaged savings programs for college education) – CNWSMT is an approved institution for those who would like to use their 529 savings plan to pay for college. Please contact your provider for more information.

School-Based Financing Options

- ✓ **FULL PAYMENT PLAN** – The tuition balance of \$17,400 (tuition of \$17,500 minus the \$100 enrollment deposit) is paid in full before the first day of instruction.
- ✓ **DEFERRED PAYMENT PLAN** – Participation in the Deferred Payment Plan is subject to an administration fee of \$100. The administration fee is added to the tuition balance of \$17,400 (tuition of \$17,500 minus the \$100 enrollment deposit) and the total balance of \$17,500 due is paid according to the following schedule:
 - The 1st payment is due the day before the first day of instruction, and amounts to \$8,750 (50% of the total balance due). Federal Student Aid eligibility may be considered for this initial payment.
 - The 2nd payment is due at the beginning of the fourth month of instruction, and amounts to \$4,375 (25% of the total balance due).
 - The 3rd payment is due at the beginning of the seventh month of instruction, and amounts to \$4,375 (25% of the total balance due).
- ✓ **MONTHLY PAYMENT PLAN** – If other funding options have been exhausted, students may be eligible to participate in a Monthly Payment Plan (MPP). Under the MPP, students are required to make an initial down payment of at least \$7,400. Federal Student Aid eligibility may be considered for this initial payment. The remaining balance is then paid in monthly installments. Terms of loans are subject to the program length chosen. Students who are combining the MPP with their Federal Student Aid and are financing a tuition balance of \$3,000 or less may take advantage of extended terms up to 36 months. Students with a balance greater than \$3,000 may also be considered for terms up to 36 months, but only after further review. Additional application items may be requested from these students. Students wishing to be considered for the MPP must submit a complete application for participation in the MPP to CNWSMT. This application may be obtained from the Financial Aid Office. A credit review will be performed and the student will be notified of the approval status of their MPP application within seven days of receipt by CNWSMT. Students will be required to enter into a loan agreement (retail sales contract) with CNWSMT for the terms of the loan and will be charged an interest rate of 6% on the tuition balance that is financed with the Monthly Payment Plan.

Please contact our Financial Aid office with any questions you may have about funding your education. We are here to help!

Possible Additional Costs

Required Tutorials to cover material missed due to absence: Students that are absent from a class are required to immediately make-up the class work/material that was missed. Instructors may require students to obtain a tutorial to go over material missed due to absence. Such tutorials cost \$35 per hour. The price of these tutorials may be shared by up to four students. **If a tutorial is not cancelled with 24 hours notice a fee of \$35 will be charged.**

Extra Help Tutorials: *The no cost extra help tutorials may not be used to fulfill required tutorials due to absence.* CNWSMT staff and faculty are available for extra help in all of the classes taught at CNWSMT. Extra help tutorials are no cost for students and graduates until they pass the NYS Board Exam. **If a tutorial is not cancelled with 24 hours notice a fee of \$35 will be charged.**

Exam Re-take: Students are given the chance to retake any final exam that they did not successfully pass the first time. Students are subject to a \$35 proctoring fee for any retake or make up of a final exam.

Unexcused Absences from Student Clinic, Community Service Rotation, or Sporting Event: An unexcused absence is defined as, but not limited to, missing clinic, a community service rotation, or a sporting event without a reasonable excuse, going to work instead of attending above, failure to inform the Clinic/Community Service/Sporting Event staff that you cannot cover your shift by 11 AM of the day you're scheduled to work (for afternoon, Friday and Saturday shifts, by 8AM), public transportation difficulties or repeated absence or tardiness due to circumstances which are normally considered non-repeating events. **Students will be charged a fee of \$40 for an unexcused absence that results in missing a partial or complete shift.**

Transfer/Withdrawal/Dismissal Fee: Students may wish to transfer from their current program into another program. Students will be charged a fee of \$150 if they choose to switch programs, withdraw completely, or are dismissed.

Class Test-Out: Students may request to "test-out" of classes for which they have documentation of completion of equal hours and content at an accredited program or school. The Director of Education must approve the request to test out of any course. If approval is granted, the Student must successfully pass the final exam of the course. A \$100 test-out fee will apply. Testing out of any course must occur before the start of the program. Testing out of a course may affect your financial aid eligibility.

Fees Associated with NYS Licensure and National Certification: *FEES MAY VARY

NYS Licensing Application Fee	\$108
NYS Licensing Exam Fee	<u>\$260</u>
*TOTAL NYS Cost:	\$368

*Optional Massage and Bodywork Licensing Exam Fee (MBLEX): \$195

FAQ

Q: *I already went to college. Can I get Financial Aid at CNWSMT?*

A: In most cases, yes. While there are limits in the Stafford program to the total loan amount that a student can borrow, those aggregate limits are quite high. It's important to note that those who have already earned a Bachelor's Degree are no longer eligible to receive a Pell Grant.

Q: *Can I get Federal Stafford Loans even if I have bad credit?*

A: Stafford Loans are not credit based, but need based. As long as you are otherwise eligible, your credit score will not keep you from obtaining a Stafford Loan. If you have a previous Federal Student Loan that is in default status, however, you must bring that loan into good standing before you can receive any more Federal Aid.

Q: *My family earns too much money to get any aid. How can I pay for school?*

A: Grant aid is reserved for those students with the greatest financial need, but there are other factors involved in determining a student's eligibility, including family size and the number of people attending college. Stafford Unsubsidized Loans are available regardless of the family income, as long as the student meets all other eligibility criteria.

Q: *I am having trouble filling out my FAFSA. Where can I go for help?*

A: You can call 1.800.4-FED-AID for FAFSA customer service, or you can call our Financial Aid office for help over the phone or to schedule an appointment.

Here are some videos to help guide you through the Financial Aid process.

Overview of the Financial Aid process:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kbJ55UWMEFE>

FAFSA Overview:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c-23SMf5DyQ>

How to fill out the FAFSA:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VRyXfUStHO0>

After the FAFSA: What happens next?:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1c1gNefSw78>

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On the Web:

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Financial Aid Administrator

Theresa Conklin
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Director of Admissions

Alicia Lombard
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Registrar/Bursar

Steve Satalino
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Helpful Websites

www.fafsa.ed.gov - complete your FAFSA online
www.studentloans.gov - complete your MPN online, manage your Direct Stafford Loans
www.studentaid.ed.gov/completefafsa - free help for completing the FAFSA
www.myedaccount.com – access your Direct Stafford Loan account

Helpful Phone Numbers

1.800.4-FED-AID – Federal Student Aid Information Center
1.800.848.0979 – Direct (Stafford) Loan borrower services

For more information about our graduation rates, the median debt of students who completed the program, and other important information, please visit our website at <http://www.cnwsmt.com/statistics/>

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