



**AMBI**  
**AMERICAN MASSAGE &  
BODYWORK INSTITUTE**

## Admission

All applicants for the Massage Therapy Diploma program must have a high school diploma, GED or equivalent prior to enrollment, and attestation of having received such education.

In lieu of a high school diploma, the regulations at 34 CFR 600.2 include the definition of a “recognized equivalent of a high school diploma.” One of those equivalents is “an academic transcript of a student who has successfully completed at least a two-year program that is acceptable for full credit toward a bachelor’s degree.”

The following are considered the equivalent of completing a "two-year program," regardless of the time it takes a student to complete the coursework (e.g., on an accelerated schedule):

1. Successful completion of an associate’s degree program;
2. Successful completion of at least 60 semester or trimester credit hours or 72 quarter credit hours that does not result in the awarding of an associate’s degree, but that is acceptable for full credit toward a bachelor’s degree at any institution; or
3. Enrollment in a bachelor’s degree program where at least 60 semester or trimester credit hours or 72 quarter credit hours have been successfully completed, including credit hours transferred into the bachelor’s degree program.

The regulatory provision that allows GED certificate to be considered the “equivalent of a high school diploma” requires obtaining the certificate. The requirement is not satisfied by completing a “GED program.” Once the student has completed all sections of the GED test and passed by satisfactorily meeting minimum scores, the State will issue a certificate of high school equivalency.

The student may also be issued an official GED transcript by the test publisher or the jurisdiction where the test was taken which will provide the test scores for each academic content area of the GED test. The GED transcript meets the definition of a recognized equivalent of a high school diploma if, in addition to the content scores, the official GED transcript indicates that the student passed the GED test.



In determining whether a student's high school diploma is valid, AMBI will check with the appropriate state agency in the State in which the high school is located to determine if a diploma issued from that school is recognized by that State as a high school diploma. AMBI will evaluate the validity of a student's high school diploma if the institution or the Department has reason to believe that the diploma is not valid or was not obtained from an entity that provides secondary school education. AMBI will check with the relevant department or agency in the State in which the high school is located to determine if a diploma from the high school (which does not have to be accredited) is recognized by that State.

If a student is applying with a foreign diploma, it must be sent to a reputable and approved translation service, at the students' expense. The translation and equivalency certification from an approved service must be received to be deemed acceptable.

All programs are conducted in English, and students must be proficient in verbal and written English to begin the AMBI Massage Therapy Diploma program. In addition, each student must be able to display the physical ability to lift and position clients, and display the ability to walk and stand for extended periods of time for their occupation. AMBI reserves the right to determine if applicants can meet these requirements. Applicants must be beyond the age of compulsory school attendance recognized in the Commonwealth of Virginia.