



# NEWS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### NCBTMB ANNOUNCES NCAP TEST SPECIFICATIONS

*Invites Public Comments from the Profession*

**OAKBROOK TERRACE, Illinois (June 17, 2011)** – The National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage & Bodywork (NCBTMB) reached another milestone in the development of the National Certification for Advanced Practice (NCAP) credential today with the release of the proposed test specifications.

Sometimes referred to as a test blueprint or an exam matrix, test specifications identify what information may be assessed through the examination, identifying topics (also referred to as domains) and the weighting of those domains. Because test specifications are so critical, it is imperative that they are developed carefully, based on input from across the profession.

Elizabeth Langston, CAE, NCBTMB Director of Exam Development said, “Responses provided by nearly 6,000 eligible practitioners\* through the Advanced Practice Job Task Analysis survey were utilized to guide the decisions of the NCAP Task Force in defining the proposed test specifications. The specifications will now be used to guide the development of test questions and to allow potential test takers to better understand what knowledge, skills and abilities might be needed to successfully pass the exam.”

Additionally, members of the profession are invited to provide commentary on the proposed test specifications until July 1, 2011 on the NCBTMB website. This input will also be considered before the NCAP Task Force submits the test specifications to the NCBTMB Board of Directors for formal adoption.

The development of the NCAP exam will be in strict compliance with the accreditation guidelines established by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) and in accord with the most recent edition of the Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing.

To learn more about the NCAP, visit the Advanced Certification section of NCBTMB’s website at [www.ncbtmb.org](http://www.ncbtmb.org) or contact NCBTMB Director of Exam Development Elizabeth Langston, CAE, at 630-652-0482 or [elangston@ncbtmb.org](mailto:elangston@ncbtmb.org).

*\* Eligibility requirements apply to sit for the NCAP exam. Initial applicants wishing to test must be NCB certified or provide proof of having passed a psychometrically valid exam for entry-level licensure; document professional massage/bodywork experience and/or education; complete continuing education requirements; and be free from sanction or permanent revocation from NCBTMB or any local, state or federal regulatory body.*

## **ABOUT NCBTMB**

The National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage & Bodywork (NCBTMB) was established in 1992 as an independent, nonprofit organization fostering the highest standards of ethical and professional practice in the delivery of therapeutic massage and bodywork through two recognized credentialing programs. NCBTMB examinations are currently accepted or recognized in statute or rule by 38 states plus the District of Columbia. There are nearly 87,000 professionals with NCBTMB certification. NCBTMB's certification programs are accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies.

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