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# The 5 Best American Colleges for a Career in Massage Therapy

The U.S. News and World Report lists Massage Therapist as one of the Best Jobs of 2012, under the Healthcare Category. It is a fact that there are innumerable massage therapy colleges mushrooming across America as a large number of people become more and more interested in a career in massage therapy. You can certainly find massage therapy schools in almost every state, each offering different kinds of courses and training programs so that you become highly specialized and can begin to grow a long client list.

If you are planning to select massage as your career path, then you may be wondering about the coursework and the degrees that offered by most [massage therapy colleges](#). It is always smart to research the best massage therapy schools to determine which will provide you with the necessary opportunity to excel and bloom in this field.

## Top Medical Therapy Colleges in America: Taking Your Career to the Next Level

### Southwest Institute of Healing Arts

The Southwest Institute of Healing Arts is a top choice for the student looking to jump-start their career in massage therapy. It is a private college located in Tempe, Arizona and is accredited by the Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training (ACCET). The main aim of the college is to provide quality professional education to their students so they can not only grow, but also successfully heal the body and soul of their clients. The Southwest Institute of Healing Arts students can acquire degrees and diplomas by enrolling themselves in the following programs:

1. Professional Massage Practitioner
2. Advanced Bodywork Practitioner

3. Mind-Body Wellness Practitioner
4. Western Herbalist
5. Master Massage Practitioner
6. Spa Management and Leadership
7. Mind-Body Wellness Practitioner
8. 600 Hour Yoga Teacher Training
9. Yoga Teacher Training/Yoga Therapist

### **National Massage Therapy Institute**

National Massage Therapy Institute is located in Philadelphia Pennsylvania, and is renowned as one of the best training programs offering hands-on education to its students. It also has branches in multiple locations in the area such as Northeast Philadelphia, PA; Egg Harbor Township/Atlantic City, NJ; Falls Church, VA; and Wilmington, DE. Here you can attend evening, day or weekend massage therapy classes. The best thing that National Massage Therapy Institute offers is placement in local salons, gyms and orthopedic offices. This provides students with real world experience and a helping hand in getting their first job.

### **National Holistic Institute**

National Holistic Institute is one of the most respected massage therapy schools in America, providing the finest professional training to its students. Located in Emeryville California it may be the perfect choice for students to acquaint themselves with excellent massage techniques. The college offers the unique Core 900 Hour Massage Therapist Training Program that helps their students to learn best-practices and techniques and most importantly keep pace with the rapidly growing/changing massage therapy industry.

### **Cortiva Institute**

The campus of Cortiva Institute is located in various locations of the United States like Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Washington, New Jersey, Florida and so on. If you enroll in this college, then you will certainly benefit from the host of other benefits such as exclusive online job boards, financial aid assistance, affordable tuition and job placement assistance. The college provides various kinds of in-depth massage therapy programs to its students, including:

1. Neuromuscular Therapy
2. Swedish Therapeutic Massage
3. Hydrotherapy
4. Sports Massage
5. Myofascial Therapy

## **The Soma Institute**

The Soma Institute is a very popular university with students looking to become successful massage therapists. It is located in Chicago, Illinois and notably has the highest placement rate for student graduates. Students can enroll for a diploma by attending a 750-hour [clinical massage therapy program](#) and a 300-hour master clinical massage therapy diploma program.

It is important that you choose a top massage therapy school so your career starts with the proper skills and the best education; then you can move into the profitable and exciting career of massage therapy and help your clients to work out the kinks of their tiring and hectic lives.