

## WHAT IS MERT®-WA?

MERT®-WA, a volunteer program of the Washington Chapter of the **American Massage Therapy Association®**, prepares and manages massage practitioners for deployment to disaster sites to provide massage for rescue and recovery workers.

## MERT-WA MISSION?

The AMTA MERT®-WA Team is committed to respond to emergencies with the power of compassionate, professional touch to promote the health and well being of humanity.



## POTENTIAL DEPLOYMENTS

### **Emergency Deployment:**

Forest Fires    Floods    Tornados  
Earthquakes    Avalanches    Hurricanes  
Mass casualty incidents    Bombings  
Windstorms    Terrorists attacks  
Large fire (5+ homes/buildings)  
School shootings  
Line of duty deaths: Firefighters, Law enforcement officers and Emergency medical team members

### **Community Outreach:**

This is the non-emergent aspect of MERT. Throughout the year the MERT Team goes to local departments on prescheduled days to give free 15 minute massages to local crews. Pre scheduling allows you to work around current obligations.

## WHY JOIN MERT-WA?

### **A Chance To Give Thanks**

MERT offers LMP's a meaningful way to give back to those brave men and women who risk their lives for us everyday. MERT provides the structure to make this possible.

### **Expanded Professionalism**

You can add being a MERT Team member to your list of credentials.

### **Easy Time Commitment**

Volunteer as much or as little as you want. Being available to go with little notice is difficult for most, so that is why we also have prescheduled events in local areas.

### **A Sense of Togetherness and Fun**

The MERT program offers another great chance to get LMP's together as a group both in fun and in purposeful ways. This will give great networking opportunities.

### **Marketing**

You are able to give out your business cards to potential clients at deployments and outreaches. Many of these people will be having their first massage from you. What a great opportunity to sell yourself and massage.

### **Trainings, CE and courses**

You get related classes for free like CPR, critical incident stress management and more. Responder Training is offered 4 times a year throughout the state and at the AMTA state convention. Leadership Training is in the Spring.

## REQUIREMENTS

- Must be AMTA, *American Massage Therapy Association*, Active Professional member or current NCTMB, *National Certificate in Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork*, practicing legally.
- Must have liability insurance coverage of at least \$2,000,000 per occurrence and \$6,000,000 aggregate.
- Completion of required MERT Responder Training course.
- Current state license in good standing.
- To be a Chapter Coordinator or Team Leader you must be an AMTA Professional Active member in good standing and have completed the Leadership

## RESPONSIBILITIES

Be in compliance with all membership requirements for the AMTA MERT-WA program.

- Abide by the AMTA Code of Ethics for Massage Therapists.
- Participate in an incident at the request of a Team Leader or via a designated phone tree list for activation.
- Administer specific massage techniques for responders/rescuers and agree to follow all the guidelines established by AMTA MERT-WA Program.
- Provide 30 days advance notice to their Chapter MERT Coordinator if they no longer wish to be a part of the Team.
- Volunteer for or be assigned additional duties on an as needed basis.

## DUES & FEES

\$35.00 Initial Application fee for AMTA members.

\$45.00 Initial Application fee for non-AMTA members.

\$25.00 Annual renewal fee for AMTA members.

\$35.00 Annual renewal fee for non-AMTA members.

\$10.00 Training class fee for Responder Training and/or Leadership Training.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

AMTA MERT®-WA

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[www.amta-wa.org](http://www.amta-wa.org)

Our web page has a downloadable application, calendar of events with training classes and meetings.



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Washington Chapter

AMERICAN MASSAGE THERAPY ASSOCIATION®

MERT®-WA

MESSAGE EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

Helping those who help us in times of need