



June 30, 2021

Dear School Administrators,

We recognize that our school communities have navigated inherent challenges in these unprecedented times. Knowing this, the NAMA Board of Directors have adjusted the previously published compliance deadline and the required language for your websites and collateral materials from **July 1, 2021 to January 1, 2022.**

In addition, the NAMA Board of Directors, recognizes that there may continue to be pandemic related issues impeding schools' operations beyond our new deadline of January 1, 2022. NAMA will require schools to communicate in writing should they be unable to meet the requirements. Please see the highlighted statements below.

To the schools that are already in compliance and that have communicated that they will be complying, we thank you for your diligence and efforts.

For programs that are still working on meeting this compliance we offer a few suggestions as well as additional statements to include in your promotional materials, to ensure that all students are fully aware of your programs format for cohorts beginning January 1, 2022 forward.

The NAMA Board recognizes that ever changing state and local guidelines could impact the ability of schools to hold in person classes. Additionally, and for a multitude of reasons, NAMA also realizes that some students may not be able to attend live classes. As we work to understand the complexities and challenges faced by individuals within our community we remain committed to helping our schools find solutions. Below we are sharing and encouraging schools to consider two options:

1. offer a **professional track** that allows the students to complete the program under the NAMA live in person requirements (this track will require the school to offer the live in-person hours starting with cohorts beginning January 1, 2022 onward); and
2. offer a **non-professional track** that allows students to live stream for most of the course minus the hands on and interactive sessions provided during the live class sessions – (students must be informed that this track is ***not a NAMA recognized program*** and will ***not meet the requirements to sit for the NAMA Certification***)

Board exam to become a certified professional or to be eligible to be NAMA professional members.

For students who are signed up for the “professional track” during the current enrollment period, but prefer not to attend the live classes, the school can offer them the option to finish the live in-person portion during the following scheduled program or by other alternative arrangements.

We offer the following language which can be included in your student agreements to provide full transparency regarding the student’s responsibilities in the professional track:

“Students enrolled in a NAMA recognized program which begins on or after January 1, 2022, are responsible for ensuring that they have fulfilled their live in-person hours requirement prior to graduation (see Educational Requirement document)”. This statement should be included in the school’s current application, student policies and student agreement.

To ensure that schools remain in compliance with NAMA’s January 1, 2022 deadline, and allow for adjustment to any state and local continued restrictions, NAMA is now requiring each school to include the following statement in its current application, student policies, catalog and website:

Required statement:

“For students enrolled in a NAMA-recognized program beginning on or after January 1, 2022, live in-person classes are required to be offered unless state and local public health guidelines mandate otherwise. In the instance that any further pandemic complications should arise, the program format may be adjusted accordingly. See our published schedule for details.”

To avoid confusion regarding the possibility of students having to attend live classes, and to allow students to plan accordingly, NAMA is requiring that this statement be clearly visible and communicated to students. NAMA also suggests that each school’s published schedule of classes include details regarding which sessions students are required to attend in the live classroom or clinic setting.

NAMA remains committed to the standards we have set and also sensitive to the unforeseen consequences of the pandemic. **If the school is forced to make pandemic adjustments to programs beginning after January 1, 2022 due to state or local public health guidelines, or for any other reason, they must inform NAMA in writing, detailing the adjustments being made and the plan the school has to return to the compliance guidelines, which will be reviewed by the NAMA Standards Committee case by case.**

Requirements for reporting compliance adjustments:

- Must be received by NAMA within 30 days prior to the January 1, 2022 compliance deadline
- Must provide reasons for adjustments in detail
- Must provide a 6-month plan for returning to standards compliance
- Must provide updates every 90 days in writing to the NAMA Standards Committee
- Should the NAMA Standards Committee deny the adjustments, or the school does not meet the reporting deadlines, the program will be removed from the NAMA website and will fall out of NAMA Recognition status

We ask that all schools consider the information in this letter, update their programs accordingly, and once updated, notify NAMA by sending an email to Hilary Garivaltis, Executive Director at hilary@ayurvedanama.org.

Please reach out to me should you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,



Hilary Garivaltis
NAMA, Executive Director