



May 26, 2021

Dear School Administrators,

As announced on January 2, 2020, NAMA has set a “compliance” deadline of July 1, 2021 for all NAMA Recognized programs to be offering “live and in-person (in a classroom or clinic with faculty physically present)” classes as per our [*Educational Requirements document*](#).

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 deadline, 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 July 1, 2021 forward.

We understand that a few schools have accepted applicants early and during COVID restrictions and that these students may be under the impression that all their classes will be virtual. For these students, as well as students that still may not wish to attend live classes even when the school is offering them, we recommend that the school provides these 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 July 1, 2021 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 a NAMA professional member.

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 July 1, 2021, 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 July 1, 2021 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 programs beginning on or after July 1, 2021, live in-person classes will begin per state and local public health guidelines. 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. 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.

Sincerely,



Hilary Garivaltis
NAMA, Executive Director