



Arizona Board of Chiropractic Examiners

Legal Updates and Newsletter

Fall 2013

Board Members

James J. Badge, D.C.
Chairman

Richard A. Guarino, D.C.
Vice-Chairman

Norris Nordvold
Member

Gregory Katsaros, D.C.
Member

Upcoming Board Meetings:

October 16, 2013
November 13, 2013
December 18, 2013

All Board meetings are open to the public and take place in the Board office conference room. Meetings generally begin at 9:00 a.m. However, both meeting dates and times are subject to change. You may refer to the website for meeting notices and agendas.

Examinations:

Jurisprudence examinations are given at 10:00 am on the 1st Friday of each month. Applicants must have a complete application on file with the Board one month prior to the exam to be scheduled to take the test.

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Welcoming Our Newest Members

The Arizona State Board of Chiropractic Examiners would like to welcome its newest members, Richard A. Guarino, D. C. and Gregory Katsaros, D.C.

Graduating from National Chiropractic College, Richard A. Guarino, D.C. has held an Arizona chiropractic license for 16 years and presently practices in Phoenix. He currently serves as the Vice-Chairman of the Board. Recently reappointed by the governor, Dr. Guarino's term will expire on July 1, 2018.

A graduate of Cleveland Chiropractic College Los Angeles, Gregory Katsaros, D.C. has been licensed in Arizona for 19 years and currently practices in Tempe. His term will expire on July 1, 2017.

Elections

At its July 17, 2013 meeting, the Board held its annual election of officers. During the election, a motion was made by Gregory Katsaros, D.C. and seconded by Norris Nordvold to nominate James J. Badge, D.C. as Chairman. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was then made by Dr. Katsaros to nominate Richard A. Guarino, D.C. as Vice-Chairman. Mr. Nordvold seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

New Continuing Education Rules

In January, the Board implemented new continuing education rules. This means that the continuing education you take (or have taken) this year must meet the new requirements. The requirements are as follows:

Online Courses

To qualify for credit in Arizona, an online continuing education course must have been approved by this Board. The provider of the course should be able to supply you with the approval number issued to them by the Board if their course was approved. The course approval number should also appear on the certificate of course completion or transcript you receive from the provider.

Please note that ALL Arizona course approval numbers are preceded by the letters "AZCE". If the course approval number you are given by a provider does not begin with those letters, it is not an Arizona approval number. You are able to verify course approval numbers by checking the list of approved courses on the homepage of our website or by contacting the Board office. Please have the approval code handy if you choose to call the office.

Live In-Person Courses

To qualify for credit in Arizona, a live, in-person continuing education course must:

- A. Be provided by an accredited college or university. (This does not include sponsored or co-sponsored courses or those taught by an adjunct faculty member of an accredited college or university.)

OR

Be provided by the American Chiropractic Association or the International Chiropractors Association.

OR

In cases of CPR, be provided by the American Heart Association, the American Red Cross or an ASHI training program.

OR

Be approved by the State of Arizona, Board of Chiropractic Examiners. (If the Board approved the course, it will have an approval number that begins with the letters "AZCE".)

AND

- B. Be on one or more of the following subjects: Adjusting techniques; Spinal analysis; Physical medicine modalities and therapeutic procedures; Record keeping and documentation; Ethics; CPR (up to four hours); Public health; Communicable diseases; Sexual boundaries; Emergency procedures; Acupuncture; Nutrition; Examination; Assessment and diagnostic procedures to include physical, orthopedic, and neurological procedures; Radiographic technique; Diagnostic imaging and interpretation; Laser as permitted by law; Clinical laboratory procedures limited to urine collection, fingerpicks and venipuncture; Anatomy; Physiology; Bacteriology; Chiropractic orthopedics and neurology; Chemistry; Pathology; Patient management; Evidence-based clinical intervention models; Symptomatology; Arizona jurisprudence; Participation in the NBCE examination development or administration.

AND

- C. Be comprised of 50 continuous minutes of instruction for each hour of continuing education credit awarded.

For additional information about the new continuing education rules, including information about receiving credit for teaching, please refer to the homepage of our website or contact the Board office.



A Note about Board Approved CE

All of the continuing education courses that have been approved by the Board are listed on the homepage of our website, azchiroboard.us. If you are uncomfortable choosing a continuing education course that meets the above requirements on your own, you may wish to choose a course from the list. Doing so will ensure that the course you take qualifies for credit toward your license renewal.

Consulting the Board-approved continuing education course list is a necessity for anyone who intends to take an online course. If you are considering taking a course online, you must check the list to see if the course you wish to take has been approved before taking the course. There are websites that falsely advertise that their courses have been approved by this Board. If you do not check the approved course list, you may end up spending time and money on a course that does not qualify for credit. The Board cannot waive the CE requirements or provide retroactive course approval for any licensee that takes an unapproved course. If you take a course that does not qualify for credit, you will be required to take additional coursework in order to renew.

The Board asks you to note that approval of a course does not constitute endorsement of that course. The courses on the list applied for and received the Board's approval, but the Board does not recommend or promote any of the courses.

Record Keeping Requirement

Beginning in calendar year 2014 (between January 1, 2014 and December 31, 2014) and in every even-numbered calendar year thereafter, you will be required to complete two hours of continuing education in record keeping to be eligible for license renewal. You will be required to report your compliance with this requirement on your license renewal application.

While you are not required to complete a specific record keeping course to fulfill this requirement, the course you choose must meet the continuing education requirements set forth in statute and rule to qualify for credit. When choosing a record keeping course, please keep in mind that billing and coding is not the same as recordkeeping. If you take a billing and coding course, it will not meet the record keeping requirement or qualify for continuing education credit toward your license renewal. A list of all of the courses that have been approved by the Board is posted on our website and there are several courses that may be used to fulfill this requirement on that list.

Please note that the two hour record keeping requirement is not in addition to but part of the twelve hours of continuing education you are required to complete annually. The remaining ten hours of continuing education you must complete may be in record keeping, but you may only apply the additional record keeping hours toward your license renewal, you may not apply them towards the two hour record keeping requirement in subsequent years.



Address Changes

All licensees are required by law to keep their addresses and telephone numbers current with the Board. Those who fail to notify the Board of a change in their mailing, office or home address or their office or home telephone number in writing within 30 days of the change are subject to a \$50.00 penalty.

To make changing your address easier, the Board has posted an address change form in the Forms section of the website. While you are welcome to use that form, you may also send a letter, postcard or even a handwritten note. If you choose not to use the form, please indicate the address or telephone number you would like changed (mailing, office or residential).

You may submit your change to the Board by mail, fax or email. Changes submitted by email must be in the body of the message. Staff will not open an attachment.

Chiropractic Assistant Externs

While there may be some debate about the existence of the Loch Ness Monster or Sasquatch, there is no debate about chiropractic assistant externs. They do not exist. Arizona law has no provision for chiropractic assistants to act as externs. In fact, taking on a student without the proper authorization or calling a chiropractic assistant an extern may be a violation of the Chiropractic Practice Act.

The Board has not approved any chiropractic assistant training courses that include an externship as part of the required training. There are programs for medical assistants, massage therapists and physical therapy technologists that have been approved as chiropractic assistant training courses and many of those courses have externships. However, the assistants in those programs should receive all of the education required to register them as chiropractic assistants without their participation in the externship.

If you take on one of these students, please remember the following:

1. You must notify the Board of your employment of the chiropractic assistant (regardless of whether you are paying them) within 7 days of their hire.
2. Hiring a student does not make you a Board-approved CA training course instructor. You may inform the CA of your policies and procedures, but you are not authorized to provide the coursework required for registration unless you are a Board-approved instructor.
3. You must register the chiropractic assistant upon completion of their training (again, regardless of whether you are paying them). If they completed their training before arriving at your office, register them immediately.
4. Do not refer to the chiropractic assistant as an extern. The term extern is defined in rule as a chiropractic student participating in a Board-approved preceptorship and should not be used to describe a chiropractic assistant.

The Board has forms for each stage of the chiropractic assistant training process, from employment to coursework completion and registration on our website in the Forms section.



House Bill 2045

In June, the governor signed House Bill 2045 which requires healthcare providers who are owners or employees of a legal entity with three or more licensed healthcare providers to post their direct pay prices for their 25 most commonly provided services online or make them available upon request. The bill specifies how services are to be identified, how often the list is to be updated and the timeframe from which the list is to be determined.

HB 2045 also requires healthcare providers to obtain a person's signature on a notice before accepting direct payment from that person if the healthcare provider is contracted as a network provider for a healthcare system in which the person is an enrollee. A sample notice is provided in the bill.

For more information about House Bill 2045, please visit the website of the Arizona State Legislature, azleg.gov. You may search for the bill using their Bill Number Search function.



Disciplinary Actions

Licensees who have had a disciplinary action imposed by the Board from September 1, 2012 to August 31, 2013 include:

Scott Carrell, D.C.
#2011-110 & 2012-029 – Probation, Civil Penalty, Censure

Robert A. DeFazio, D.C.
#13F-001-CEA & 13F-042-CEA – Revocation

Trevor T. Ferguson, D.C.
#2013-019 – Civil Penalty

Joseph L. Greer, D.C.
#2012-081 – Letter of Concern, Civil Penalty

Joanne Hauptert, D.C.
#2012-010 – Probation

Gene James, D.C.
#2012-096 – Civil Penalty

Christopher Komarnisky, D.C.
#2012-041 – Letter of Concern

Steven L. Levine, D.C.
#2012-101 – Revocation

Clifton G. Mack, D.C.
#2012-050 – Probation

Cary B. McDonald, D.C.
#2013-008 – Civil Penalty

Arthur A. Mejia, D.C.
#2012-005 – Letter of Concern, Civil Penalty

Michael D. Miller, D.C.
#2012-059 – Letter of Concern, Civil Penalty

S. Scott Moller, D.C.
#2012-051 – Letter of Concern, Civil Penalty

Lawrence D. Paule, D.C.
#2012-083 – Civil Penalty

Nicholas K. Poff, D.C.
#2012-105 – Probation, Letter of Concern, Civil Penalty

Taylor I. Ramsdell, D.C.
#2012-075 – Civil Penalty

Carol M. Reed, D.C.
#2011-090 & 2011-014 – Surrender

Rachelle R. Roeder, D.C.
#2013-014 – Civil Penalty

Charles P. Spear, D.C.
#2013-011 - Revocation

Roger P. Walker, D.C.
#2012-056 – Probation

James L. Warlick, D.C.
#2012-048 – Probation, Civil Penalty

You may review the above disciplinary actions on our web site, azchiroboard.us.

To view an action, choose the "Find a Chiropractor" link. Then, type in the first name, last name or license number of the licensee in the criteria box on the search page. Next, choose the correct licensee from the resulting list. A summary of the action should appear. You may review the entire Order by choosing the "View Order" link above the summary.

You may also order a list of disciplinary actions from the Board. The cost for a list of disciplinary actions varies based on the length of time you request and the number of actions taken during that period. The Board charges .25 per page with a minimum charge of \$2.00 for each list. Please contact Board staff for the cost before submitting your payment.