

Chiropractic Assistants

811-010-0110 (1) ~~The certification period for Chiropractic Assistants begins on August 1 and ends on July 31. The certification period for chiropractic assistants in Oregon is a period equal to 12 months, expiring on the last day of the chiropractic assistant's birth month/renewal date.~~

a) ~~Exception. During the transition from an annual renewal to a birth month renewal, the certification period will be from August 1 of the year of transition to the last day of the assistant's birth month/renewal date.~~

b) ~~—A 30 day grace period will follow the certification period whereupon the cChiropractic Aassistant may continue to practice. Any Cchiropractic Aassistant who has not renewed by September 1 must cease practice.~~

a)c) ~~*The chiropractic assistant must complete six hours of continuing education during the 12 months prior to the expiration of the annual Certificate of Registration.~~

(2) Chiropractic Assistants may be certified upon compliance with the following standards and procedures:

(a) The Chiropractic Assistant applicant shall successfully complete a Board approved training course offered by an association, college or otherwise approved person. The initial training course shall be at least twelve hours in length, of which eight hours shall be didactic training and four hours shall be practical training.

(A) The practical training must be in physiotherapy, electrotherapy and hydrotherapy administered by a health care provider licensed to independently provide those therapies.

(B) A chiropractic physician may perform the initial practical training provided this is direct contact time.

(C) The initial training must have been completed within 60 days preceding the application submission date;

(b) The applicant shall complete an application form and an open book examination supplied by the Board;

(c) If an applicant has a certificate or license from another state and adequate documentation of training, the Board may waive the requirement for the initial training course; and

(d) A person initially certified between March 1st and May 31st is exempt from the continuing education requirement for renewal.

(3) The training course verification form, completed application form, completed examination, and fees in the following amounts shall be submitted to the Board:

(a) A non-refundable application fee - \$50;

(b) A non-refundable examination fee - \$35; and

(c) An initial certification fee - \$50. A refund of the certification fee will only be allowed when requested within 60 days of the initial application.

(d) In circumstances beyond the applicant's control (e.g. board review of criminal history) the Board may determine to refund the fees or portion thereof.

(e) In the event the Board requires the NBCE chiropractic assistant examination in lieu of the Board's examination, the fee in subsection (b) will be waived.

(4) The Board shall maintain an incomplete application file for six months from the date the application was received; afterward, applicants will need to re-apply.

(5) The applicant shall be at least 18 years of age.

(6) The Chiropractic Assistant shall not perform electrotherapy, hydrotherapy, or physiotherapy until he or she receives a certificate from the Board.

(7) A Chiropractic Assistant shall be directly supervised by the Chiropractor at all times. The supervising Chiropractor must be on the premises.

(8) The Chiropractic Assistant scope of practice

(a) includes physiotherapy, electrotherapy and hydrotherapy, taking vitals such as height, weight, blood pressure, temperature, pulse, respiration and/or body fat percentages and other duties as described by the Board, and

(b) does not otherwise include performing physical examinations, taking initial histories, taking X-rays (unless properly licensed), interpretation of postural screening, doing manual muscle testing, or performing osseous adjustments or manipulations or other tasks as authorized by the Board.

(9) Chiropractic Assistants shall report to the Board, in writing, his/her mailing address and place of employment. Notification of a change of mailing address or place of employment must be made within 10 days of the change.

(10) Renewal. At least 30 days prior to the renewal due date ~~On or before each June 1~~, the Board of Chiropractic Examiners shall send the renewal notice to the ~~C~~chiropractic ~~A~~assistant at the last known mailing address, and/or email address.

(11) On or before the last day of the birth month ~~each July 31~~ the Chiropractic Assistant shall ~~mail~~

a) Submit to the Board of Chiropractic Examiners the completed renewal form with a renewal fee of \$75, or-

b) Complete the online renewal application, and authorize the \$75 renewal payment electronically.

~~a)c~~ c A certificate that is not renewed on time may not be renewed except:

i. ~~(a)~~ Upon submission of the completed renewal form, ~~written application proof of~~

~~continuing education,~~ and payment ~~to the board~~ of the ~~renewal fee plus a~~ delinquent fee of \$25 for renewals submitted ~~between~~ during the 30 day grace period August 1 and August 31 of each year; or

- ii. ~~(b)~~ Upon ~~written applications~~ submission of the renewal form, proof of continuing education, and payment to the board of the renewal fee plus a delinquent fee of \$50 for renewals submitted ~~on~~ after the 30 day grace period September 1 or later; and
- iii. ~~(c)~~ Upon submission of proof of compliance with or exemption from the requirements of ORS 684.092.

(12) A Chiropractic Assistant has up to one year following their ~~July 31~~ renewal date to renew and reinstate their certificate upon meeting the provisions of (11)(a) through (c) above. After 12 months a person must restart the application process.

(13) Continuing education programs may be comprised of subjects that are pertinent to clinical practices of chiropractic. Continuing education must meet the criteria outlined in OAR 811-015-0025 sections (8), (9) and (10). No continuing education hours may be carried over into the next renewal year. Evidence of successful completion of six hours of continuing education during the 12 months preceding the renewal must be submitted upon request by the board.

(14) The Chiropractic Assistant's certificate shall be displayed at all times in the Chiropractic Physician's office during the Chiropractic Assistant's employment.

(15) The Board may refuse to grant a certificate to any applicant, may suspend or revoke a certificate, or may impose upon an applicant for certification or Chiropractic Assistant a civil penalty not to exceed \$1,000 upon finding of any of the following:

(a) Cause, which is defined as, but not limited to, failure to follow directions, unprofessional or dishonorable conduct, injuring a patient, or unlawful disclosure of patient information. The supervising Chiropractic Physician is required to notify the Board, in writing, of any dismissal of a Chiropractic Assistant for cause within ten days. The Board shall determine if there is cause for action and shall be governed by the rules of the Board adopted pursuant to ORS Chapter 183;

(b) Conviction of a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude or a felony; or

(c) Failure to notify the Board of a change of location of employment as required by these rules.

(16) Unprofessional or dishonorable conduct is defined as: any unethical, deceptive, or deleterious conduct or practice harmful to the public; any departure from, or failure to conform to, the minimal standards of acceptable Chiropractic Assistant practice; or a willful or careless disregard for the health, welfare or safety of patients, in any of which cases proof of actual injury need not be established. Unprofessional conduct shall include, but not be limited to, the following acts of a Chiropractic

Assistant:

(a) Engaging in any conduct or verbal behavior with or towards a current patient that may reasonably be interpreted as sexual, seductive, sexually demeaning or romantic (also see ORS 684.100).

(b) A certificate holder shall not engage in sexual relations or have a romantic relationship with a current patient unless a consensual sexual relationship or a romantic relationship existed between them before the commencement of the Chiropractic Assistant-patient relationship.

(A) "Sexual relations" means:

(i) Sexual intercourse; or

(ii) Any touching of sexual or other intimate parts of a person or causing such person to touch the sexual or other intimate parts of the Chiropractic Assistant for the purpose of arousing or gratifying the sexual desire of either Chiropractic Assistant or patient.

(B) A patient's consent to, initiation of or participation in sexual behavior or involvement with a Chiropractic Assistant does not change the nature of the conduct nor lift the prohibition.

(C) In determining whether a patient is a current patient, the Board may consider the length of time of the Chiropractic Assistant-patient contact, evidence of termination of the Chiropractic Assistant-patient relationship, the nature of the Chiropractic Assistant-patient relationship, and any other relevant information.

(c) Use of protected or privileged information obtained from the patient to the detriment of the patient.

(d) Practicing outside the scope of the practice of a Chiropractic Assistant in Oregon;

(e) Charging a patient for services not rendered;

(f) Intentionally causing physical or emotional injury to a patient;

(g) Directly or indirectly engaging in threatening, dishonest, or misleading fee collection techniques;

(h) Soliciting or borrowing money from patients;

(i) Possessing, obtaining, attempting to obtain, furnishing, or prescribing controlled drugs to any person, including self, except as directed by a person authorized by law to prescribe drugs; illegally using or dispensing controlled drugs;

(j) Aiding, abetting, or assisting an individual to violate any law, rule or regulation intended to guide the conduct of Chiropractic Assistants or other health care providers; or

(k) Violating the rights of privacy or confidentiality of the patient unless required by law to disclose such information;

(l) Perpetrating fraud upon patients or third party payors, relating to the practice of chiropractic;

(m) Using any controlled or illegal substance or intoxicating liquor to the extent that such use

impacts the ability to safely conduct the practice of a Chiropractic Assistant;

(n) Practicing as a Chiropractic Assistant without a current Oregon certificate;

(o) Allowing another person to use one's Chiropractic Assistant certification for any purpose;

(p) Resorting to fraud, misrepresentation, or deceit in applying for or taking the certificate examination or obtaining a certificate or renewal thereof;

(q) Impersonating any applicant or acting as a proxy for the applicant in any Chiropractic Assistant certificate examination;

(r) Disclosing the contents of the certificate examination or soliciting, accepting, or compiling information regarding the contents of the examination before, during, or after its administration;

(s) Failing to provide the Board with any documents requested by the Board;

(t) Failing to fully cooperate with the Board during the course of an investigation, including but not limited to, waiver of confidentiality privileges, except attorney-client privilege;

(u) Claiming any academic degree not actually conferred or awarded;

(v) Disobeying a final order of the Board; and

(w) Splitting fees or giving or receiving a commission in the referral of patients for services.

(x) Receiving a suspension or revocation of a certificate for a Chiropractic Assistant, or other license or certificate by another state based upon acts by the Chiropractic Assistant or applicant that describes acts similar to this section. A certified copy of the record of suspension or revocation of the state making that is conclusive evidence thereof.

(17) The service of the Chiropractic Assistant is the direct responsibility of the licensed Chiropractic Physician. Violations may be grounds for disciplinary action against the Chiropractic Physician under ORS 684.100(9).

The two statutes regulating CAs especially in light of “licensing” or “renewal”

684.054 Issuing license; chiropractic assistant; fees; rules; notification of address change required. (1)

... (3) After meeting the standards of the board for a chiropractic assistant under ORS 684.155, a person shall be certified as a chiropractic assistant upon payment of an application fee, examination fee and initial certificate fee established by the board by rule. The certificate may be renewed annually upon payment of a fee established by the board by rule.

684.155 Additional powers of board; rules. In addition to any other powers granted by this chapter, the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners may:

(1) Adopt necessary and proper rules:

... (c) To establish standards and procedures for certifying chiropractic assistants as qualified to provide physiotherapy, electrotherapy or hydrotherapy under the direction of a chiropractic physician, and to establish continuing education requirements as a condition of maintaining such certification.

* **NOTE:** 684.155 (c) is the ONLY mention in ORS 684 or OAR 811 about CA continuing education, AND there is presently NO mention of number of hours! Any reference to 684.092 in this CA rule 811-010-0110 is misstated as that statute makes no references to CAs, assistants, ancillary personnel, etc.