



ND News

Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine

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Director's Message:

The Board appreciates all of the effort Naturopathic Doctors have put forth to care for our community during this public health emergency. From my perspective, time seems to be both moving very slowly, yet everything around me seems to be changing incredibly quickly. Please know we understand during this challenging time both licensees and members of the public have many, evolving questions. In response, this issue includes information and resources to help guide the profession through the COVID-19 pandemic. I encourage you to visit our new website regularly for timely updates related to COVID-19, Board business and opportunities for involvement. We welcome your inquiries and your feedback.

Chair's Message:



On behalf of the Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine it is an honor to be part of a community that has stepped up and acted with tenacity, professionalism and grace during this unprecedented time.

I know that we have all been affected by the Covid pandemic with financial impact and our normal clinic operations completely changed. We have good leadership from the State of Oregon, the Oregon Association of Naturopathic Physicians and the American Association of Naturopathic Physicians to help guide our clinical practices, and for that I am grateful.

The Board will continue to work under the guidance of the Governor to support our licensees until operations return to normal. We wish you all continued good health and safety.

Stay Home—Save Lives

Per Governor Kate Brown's Executive Order 20-12, the Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine is closed to the public. Board staff will primarily work remotely for the duration of the order, therefore, email is the most efficient mode of communication at this time. We appreciate your patience.

Upcoming Board Meetings—2020-2021

All Board meetings are open to the public. In order to limit exposure to the COVID-19 virus and to comply with the Governor's Executive Orders regarding physical distancing measures, the Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine (Board) are not conducting bi-monthly meetings in-person, and conducting meetings via teleconference. All public members may attend the public session portion of the meeting by telephone conference call. Customarily Board meetings occur the second Monday of every even month. Please check our website prior to the below scheduled meeting dates for instructions on how to join the public session. We encourage you to attend and "meet" the members of the Board.

2020: Friday, September 11 October 12
December 14

2021: February 8 April 12 June 14 August 9

THE OREGON BOARD OF NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE HAS MOVED TO A NEW LICENSING DATABASE! AS LICENSEES YOU WILL HAVE ACCESS TO MANY RESOURCES IN THE SELF-SERVICE PORTAL WHERE YOU CAN:

- UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION
- UPDATE YOUR WORK LOCATION
- MAKE A NAME CHANGE
- VIEW AND PAY ANY INVOICES OR RECEIPTS
- PRINT A COPY OF YOUR LICENSE
- REQUEST LICENSE VERIFICATION
- ORDER A MAILING LIST
- RENEW YOUR LICENSE

CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS

- DR. JENNIFER GIBBONS—CHAIR—DECEMBER 2015
- DR. TRACY ERFLING—VICE CHAIR—SEPTEMBER 2016
- JENNIFER ANDERSON, RN, BSN—JUNE 2019
- JOANA FREEDMAN, PT—OCTOBER 2017
- DR. KEIVAN JINNAH—DECEMBER 2015
- DR. ROBERT SKARPERUD— JUNE 2016
- DR. TIMOTHY WALTER, - JUNE 2019

The mission of the Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine is to protect the public through licensing and regulation of naturopathic physicians. The Board will promote physician excellence and foster communication within the profession and with the public.

Oregon Revised Statutes, Administrative Rules

The Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine (Board) ensures the safety of Oregonians and persons in the State of Oregon at the time of treatment by licensing and regulating naturopathic physicians. Licensees must follow the Board's regulations set forth in the Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) and Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR).

ORS Chapter 685 contains laws (statutes) passed by the legislature to govern the occupation and profession of Naturopathic Medicine in the State of Oregon. The Board makes and enforces laws called administrative rules. Administrative rules are developed and enacted through a rule-making process, which includes public input. OAR Chapter 850 regulate the profession of Naturopathic Medicine. A licensee may be disciplined for violation of both statutes and administrative rules.

Proposed Changes to Administrative Rules

The Board has submitted two proposed administrative rule changes to the Office of the Secretary of State. Please provide public comment to the Board on or before July 31, 2020.

OAR 850-060-0212 – Education Therapy Injection / IV Therapy:

Based on prior decisions of the Oregon Court of Appeals, the Board formed a subcommittee in the spring of 2019 to review and make recommendations for rule changes for Ozone Therapy. The subcommittee made recommendations for additional education requirements for Ozone therapy, and the Board also proposed an increase in education requirements for injection and IV therapy. Based on the volume of public comment on the proposed rule changes, the Board convened a second subcommittee in the spring of 2020, to review and recommend changes to proposed rule. The Injection and IV Therapy subcommittee met several times from February through May, 2020. Based on recommendations from both subcommittees, the Board has filed a notice of proposed rule change with the Secretary of State. [Click here](#)

850-030-0035 – Fees for Licensure, Examination and Natural Child-Birth Certification:

Based on several meetings and recommendations from the Department of Administrative Services financial and budget analysts; the Board is proposing a \$50.00 increase in licensure and annual licensure renewal fees beginning this renewal cycle, December 2020. [Click here](#)

The reason for the increase in fees is due to having an ending balance for approximately three months of operation; aka – a three month cushion. Because we are on an annual renewal cycle the State requires us to have an approximately five to six month operating balance.

The reason for the insufficient ending balance is not due to over spending our current budget, rather it's the result of increased costs from last budget cycle; including higher expenditures for the financial services contract, state mandated pension increases, and necessary technology upgrades.

To cover the deficit, the Board needed to both cut costs and raise revenue. With significant cuts made to the general service fund, in conjunction with the increased revenue from the raise in licensure fees, the Board will achieve the required six month operating balance.

How To Guide on CE Submission: by Vice Chair—Dr. Tracy Erling:

As a board member and fellow tech challenged ND I thought I would lend a bit of advise (and empathy) for submitting CE in a new way. As I'm sure you understand the old fashioned paper submission of CE was a hugely cumbersome project for the OBNM staff. This new system allows easier tracking and CE submission if you simply learn to think of it in a new way.

Instead of compiling a folder in my file cabinet which I pulled out at the end of each year to copy and submit for my annual audit (because as a board member I am annually audited). I now keep a folder on my computer desktop and put PDF files of certificates, conference info, copy of my latest CPR card, etc. there to submit on a semi-regular basis. This system also allows me to easily refer to my progress without having to paw through my file cabinet.

What if you get a paper copy of something and don't have a way to scan? No problem. If you want to scan digitally but don't have a scanner, Google Drive has a scanning feature you can do with your smart phone. If you don't want to learn to scan then you could simply snap a photo of your certificate and submit that digitally. I want to add that the board has been working to reduce the overall use of paper in many ways, this is yet another positive side-effect of this new CE system.

Negotiating the License Portal could also cause some confusion. I admit on my first entry this year I had to email OBNM to ask why I couldn't add something into a required field. The tip given here was to click on 'other activities' as opposed to the 'OBNM approved activities'. If the 'course provider' of your CE is not listed then again just select 'Other' and enter the name of the provider in the next field. Lastly you can only select one type of CE for each submission; for example I did a 2 hour online lecture and 1 hour was general and 1 hour was pharmacy. In order to record both types of CE I had to enter the same CE twice, once for each type of CE. From there uploading the materials the board would need to verify your attendance should be simple (if you remember where you have stored those materials on your computer that is). And don't forget OBNM staff are a call or email away in order to assist you with questions! Good luck, be patient and like many new things we are asked to negotiate these days...we know you can do it!

COVID-19 Resources and Information:

On March 8, 2020, Governor Brown declared a state of emergency pursuant to ORS 401.165 in response to the COVID-19 global pandemic. Subsequently, Governor Brown has issued several EO to stem the spread and impact of the COVID-19.

OHA has issued several guidance documents with requirements and recommendations that apply to medical providers in the state, that further implement executive orders issued by the Governor, including; Statewide Mask, Face Shield, Face Covering Guidance and Provisional Guidance: Clinical Care and Healthcare Infection Prevention and Control for COVID-19.

Board Website Joins the 21st Century

Thank you Robin Crumpler, Administrative Specialist, for all of your hard work to develop our updated, streamlined website. Please browse the new site to learn about resources for applicants and licensees, topics of interest, and Board business and Board staff.

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