

**Georgia State Board of Chiropractors
Public Hearing for Proposed Rule Amendments
December 20, 2024**

A meeting of the Georgia State Board of Chiropractors met on **Friday, December 20, 2024** via Webex.

<p><u>Board Members Present:</u> Dr. Robert Alpert, D.C., Chairman Dr. Andrew Krantz, D.C., Vice Chairman Dr. Mary Watkins, D.C Dr. Norman Eng, D.C Doug Hollandsworth</p> <p><u>Absent Members:</u> Dr. David Wren, D.C</p> <p><u>Attorney General Representative present:</u> Elizabeth Simpson, Assistant Attorney General</p>	<p><u>Board Staff Present:</u> Laurie Elander, Executive Director Iris Waller, Licensure Supervisor Thishilyn Stubbs, Board Support Specialist Tamika Pennington, Licensure Analyst</p> <p><u>Visitors:</u> Kaleb Scroggin Matthew McCoy</p>
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Open Session:

At 9:04a.m., Chairman Dr. Robert Alpert established that there was a quorum present and called the meeting to order.

Executive Director, Laurie Elander noted no written comments were received prior to the meeting.

Kaleb Scroggin was in attendance to offer comment about their concerns regarding the proposed amendment, citing naming the CCE in the rules makes it impossible for other accrediting agencies to even form because the board rules would need to be updated.

Matthew McCoy was in attendance to offer comment about their concerns regarding the proposed amendment, Mr. McCoy emphasized the need for fair accreditation practices in Georgia. He would like to see monopolistic language removed from the rules and applauds the attempt to add the possibility of other accreditation agencies but just adding the word “equivalent” to the rules does not help the state of Georgia. Changing the language could open opportunities for other agencies in the future.

Chairman, Dr. Robert Alpert noted he did not see the need to remove CCE from the rules as this is the only accrediting agency at this time.

Vice Chairman, Dr. Andrew Krantz acknowledge he sees the point of Kalbe Scroggin of naming the CCE in the board rules and would not be opposed to changing the language. Dr. Andrew Krantz noted there have been other accrediting agencies in the past and now it is CCE.

After discussion, Dr. Mary Watkins suggested the board to go thru the rules one by one to adopt the rules that does not include language of CCE in the proposed rule amendments and to table the proposed

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rule amendments that include language of CCE. Dr. Mary Watkins noted she was not aware there were other accrediting agencies and suggested getting the language updated to be inclusive for the future.

Assistant Attorney General, Elizabeth Simpson confirmed with the Board for the record, does the board acknowledge the fact that they have considered the economic impacts the proposed rule amendments may have on licensees and the general public or impacts the proposed rules amendments may have on small? The Board members present acknowledged they have considered the impacts. Has the board considered expenses the proposed rule amendment may result in, and if there a less expensive option. The Board members present acknowledged this is the less expensive option. None opposed.

Dr. Robert Alpert moved to adopt the following rule amendments: 100-2-.02, 100-2-.03, 100-2-.07, 100-2-.08, 100-5-.03, 100-5-.04, Board Policy #5 and Board Policy #17, the other members agreed, none opposed, the motion carried.

Rule 100-2-.02 License Renewal:

- 100-2-.02 (1) Every person who holds a valid license as a chiropractor shall immediately upon issuance thereof be deemed licensed by the Board. Said license shall expire on December 31 of the even numbered years and shall be renewable biennially in accordance with the Official Code of Georgia Annotated (Section [43-9-11](#)). Any licensee whose business address [and email](#) changes must notify the Board in writing within ~~fifteen~~ [thirty](#) days of that change of address.
- 100-2-.02 (2) Applications for renewal received in the Board office ~~within ninety (90) days~~ after the renewal deadline, [as referenced in the Joint Secretary of State rules \(rule 295-5-.10 \(b\)\)](#), shall be considered "late renewals" and shall be renewed upon the applicant's payment of the current renewal fee, and if audited, his/her submission of the required continuing education hours, and the payment of the applicable penalty fee as determined by the board.

Rule 100-2-.03 Change of Address

- Each licensed chiropractor shall file his/her business address with the Board and notify the same of any changes of address [or email](#) within ~~fifteen~~ [thirty](#) days of such change.

Rule 100-2-.07 Endorsement:

- 100-2-.07 (1) An applicant will not be considered for licensure by endorsement in the State of Georgia if he or she has ever failed the Georgia ~~Practical~~ [Laws & Rules](#) Examination.

Rule 100-2-.08 Inactive License:

- 100-2-.08 (4)(b) Submit evidence of attendance ~~at~~ [of](#) forty (40) hours of Board approved continuing education within the last two (2) years [to the third-party vendor of the official, Board-approved compliance system.](#)

Rule 100-5-.03 Reporting and Auditing of Hours:

- 100-5-.03 (1) At the time of license renewal, each licensee shall certify to the Georgia Board of Chiropractic Examiners that he/she has completed the continuing education required for license

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renewal [by submitting proof to the third-party vendor of the official, Board-approved compliance system.](#)

Rule 100-5-.04 Application for Approval and Responsibilities of Providers:

- 100-5-.04 (4) All other continuing education providers must apply [to the third-party vendor of the official, Board-approved compliance system](#) for approval by the Georgia Board and must provide the following information to the board for consideration:
- 100-5-.04 (5) All continuing education providers seeking approval of the continuing education program by the Georgia Board of Chiropractic Examiners shall submit a Program Approval ~~Form~~ applications [to the third-party vendor of the official, Board-approved compliance system](#) for each program presented. ~~These forms~~ [Program Approval applications](#) should be submitted 60 days in advance of the program to be considered for approval.
- 100-5-.04 (6)(g) ~~Board-issued~~ [Third-party vendor](#) program approval number.

Board Policy number 5: Guidelines for Reinstatement of Revoked/Expired License

Once the completed reinstatement application and the supporting documents have been submitted the board staff will review and issue the reinstatement for all individuals with a “clean” application. Complete “clean” applications will be reinstated administratively. A list of the reinstated licensees will be presented to the board for ratification at the next board meeting. For purposes of this policy, a consent order is a legal binding document that becomes a permanent part of your licensure information.

The supporting documents required with the reinstatement application include:

- CE hours- twenty (20) hours per year totaling forty (40) hours within the last two (2) years. [CE hours must be provided to the third-party vendor of the official, Board-approved compliance system for applications to be considered for reinstatement](#)
- The CE hours used for reinstatement cannot be used to meet the CE requirements for the biennium for which the license is reinstated; and
- Verification of licensure from all states in which the applicants holds or has ever held a license.

All reinstatement application citing problems, (not having CE during last biennial renewal period, unlicensed practice, convictions, disciplinary action in other states, etc.) will have to be reviewed by the board at the next available board meeting.

For licensees that state that they have not been practicing without a license since the date that the license lapsed are reinstated without a consent order.

For licensees that state that they have been practicing without a license since the date that the license lapsed are reinstated and the matter is referred to Legal Services for the following:

- public consent order citing the dates of the unlicensed practice,
- \$1,000 fine to be paid in full before the license will be reinstated,
- # of years probation to be determined by the Board,
- and the completion of the Ethics and Boundaries Examination administered by the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners within one year of the effective date of

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the order.

If reinstatement is granted, the license will be required to be renewed by the last day of December in EVEN numbered years, regardless of when the license is reinstated.

The implications of a licensee practicing without a license are far-reaching. Employers, employees, and/or associates working with any unlicensed person who is practicing chiropractic could be subject to disciplinary action for aiding & abetting unlicensed practice; Medicaid & Medicare charges and insurance billed during any unlicensed period may be subject to denial or reimbursement; if applicable, malpractice providers may not cover the individual during the unlicensed period.

Board Policy number 17: Guidelines for Approval of Continuing Education Programs

- Continuing education programs granted Board approval must submit a new application for approval each year. Applications are to be submitted at least sixty (60) days prior to the anniversary of the approval date from the previous year. The Board reserves the right to deny the acceptance of hours submitted [to the third-party vendor of the official, Board-approved compliance system](#) from participants of any program which fails to timely submit a new application for approval. Blanket approval will be granted to state chiropractic organizations and accredited chiropractic colleges and universities upon receipt and review of a complete continuing education program application provided that the course(s) taught fall within the scope of practice of Georgia Chiropractic. A list of approved Continuing Education Programs for the current biennium will be posted on the Board website.

Dr. Robert Alpert moved to table the following rule amendments: 100-3-.02, 100-5-.02, 100-9-.01, 100-12-.01 to discuss the language in reference to CCE. The other members in attendance agreed, none opposed, the motion carried.

Rule 100-3-.02 Accompanying Documents:

- 100-3-.02 (a) A photograph taken within one (1) year prior to submission of the application. ~~Unfinished proofs are not acceptable.~~
- 100-3-.02 (b)1 All applicants for licensure who obtain general college training from foreign schools or colleges not approved by the Southern Association of Accredited Colleges shall submit proof that general college training is equivalent to that offered ~~by the Council of Chiropractic Education (CCE)-approved college~~ [from a Doctor of Chiropractic Program accredited by the Council on Chiropractic Education \(CCE\) or an equivalent as determined by the Board](#) as evidenced by its use for admission purposes. The Certification of Foreign General College Training form should be mailed to the college(s) attended by the applicant to be completed by the college.
- 100-3-.02 (c) All applicants for licensure shall submit proof of graduation ~~from a chiropractic school or college accredited by the Council of Chiropractic Education (CCE) or a Board-approved successor or a chiropractic school or college which is actively seeking accreditation from the Council on Chiropractic Education (CCE) or a Board-approved successor~~ [from a Doctor of Chiropractic Program accredited by the Council on Chiropractic Education \(CCE\) or an equivalent](#)

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~~as determined by the Board, which requires a four-year standard college course and is approved by the Board.~~

- 100-3-.02 (d) 2 Any graduate between January 1, 1988 and January 1, 1998, are required to have passed Parts I, II, and III.
- 100-3-.02 (d) 3 Applicants who graduated prior to January 1, 1988, are required to have passed Parts I and II. Please contact the National Board Administrative Offices and have them certify your scores to Georgia.

Rule 100-5-.02 Approval of Educational Programs:

- 100-5-.02 (1)(g) Up to ~~eight~~ fifteen (15) hours of continuing education in clinical sciences may be obtained per year by teaching clinical or chiropractic sciences courses at any Doctor of Chiropractic Program accredited by the Council on Chiropractic Education (CCE) or an equivalent as determined by the Board. ~~college or school.~~

Rule 100-9-.01 Electrical and Therapeutic Modalities:

- 100-9-.01 (4) ~~Courses~~ Programs taught by institutions accredited by the Council on Chiropractic Education (CCE) or an equivalent as determined by the Board are approved for purposes of this regulation.
- 100-9-.01 (5) ~~Courses~~ Programs taught by entities other than not accredited by the Council on Chiropractic Education (CCE) ~~accredited institutions~~ must be approved by the Board prior to the course being offered and must provide instruction in the proper utilization of those procedures in accordance with the standards utilized by chiropractic schools.

Rule 100-12-.01 Approved Chiropractic Schools or Colleges:

- 100-12-.01 (1) The Board shall accept graduates of ~~chiropractic schools and colleges accredited a~~ Doctor of Chiropractic Program accredited by the Council on Chiropractic Education (CCE) or an equivalent as determined by the Board.
- 100-12-.01 (2) As required from a Doctor of Chiropractic Program accredited by the Council on Chiropractic Education (CCE) or an equivalent as determined by the Board, all faculty of Board approved chiropractic schools and colleges must possess a Doctor of Chiropractic degree or a related first professional degree that has been earned from a college or university accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the U. S. Secretary of Education or its foreign equivalent.
- 100-12-.01 (4) The failure of any of these schools or colleges to maintain accreditation from a Doctor of Chiropractic Program accredited by the Council on Chiropractic Education (CCE) or an equivalent as determined by the Board or a Board approved successor, if any, or to comply with the rules and regulations established by the Board shall be grounds for removal from the Board's approved list.

Petition for Rule Waiver/Variance:

Dr. Robert Alpert motioned, and the Board members in attendance voted to grant the petition for rule waiver CHIR000976 Allen Arnold. None were opposed

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

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The next meeting of the Board will be on January 17, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

Minutes recorded by:

Thishilyn Stubbs, Board Support Specialist

Minutes reviewed and edited by:

Laurie Elander, Executive Director

Dr. Robert Alpert

Dr. Robert Alpert, Chairman

Signed by Laurie Elander with expressed
permission of Dr. Robert Alpert

Laurie Elander

Laurie Elander, Executive Director

These minutes were approved on: Friday, January 17, 2025

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF BIBB

AFFIDAVIT SUPPORTING CLOSING OF PUBLIC MEETING

The Georgia Open Meetings Act, O.C.G.A 50-14-1 et seq., requires that all meetings of an entity covered by the statute must be open to the public unless there is some specific statutory exception which permits the closing of the meeting. If such a meeting is to be closed, the law requires that the presiding person execute a sworn affidavit stating that the subject matter of the meeting or the closed portion thereof was devoted to matters within the statutory exceptions and identifying those specified exemptions relied upon. O.C.G. A. 50-14-4(b). A copy of this affidavit must be filed with the minutes of the meetings in question.

Comes Dr. Robert Alpert the Board Chair identified below and, before an official duly authorized to administer oaths, makes this affidavit in satisfaction of the statutory requirements outlined above.

1. I am the presiding officer of the Georgia Board of Chiropractic Examiners.
2. I am over the age of 18 and in other aspects competent to make this sworn statement. I acknowledge that I am giving this statement under oath and subject to penalty of perjury and that I have read the contents of this affidavit prior to signing it.
3. On January 17, 2025, this entity, which is subject to the Open Meetings Act, met. A majority of the quorum of members present voted to close the meeting or a portion hereof of the following indicated reason(s). I hereby certify that during the closed portion of the meeting, only those subjects indicated below were discussed. I also certify that I have reviewed the exceptions provided under the Open Meetings Act that may permit the closing of a meeting and that, to the best of my knowledge, the reasons I have described in detail below meet the requirements for closing this public meeting.
4. The legal authority for closure of this meeting was: O.C.G.A. 43-1-2(k).
5. The subjects discussed and the underlying facts supporting the closing of this meeting are as follows:

Applications and other personal information submitted by the applicants, information, Favorable or unfavorable, submitted by a reference source concerning an applicant; and Deliberations of the Board with respect to an application, an examination, a complaint, an Investigation, or a disciplinary proceeding.

FURTHER THE AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

Dr. Robert Alpert

PRESIDING OFFICER

Dr. Robert Alpert

Signed by Laurie Elander with expressed permission of Dr. Robert Alpert

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 17th

Day of January, 2025

Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 11/02/2027

Iris Waller
NOTARY PUBLIC
Bibb County, GEORGIA

My Commission Expires 11/02/2027