

# TITLE 21 - OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

## CHAPTER 10 – BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS

*Notice is hereby given in accordance with G.S. 150B-21.2 that the Board of Chiropractic Examiners intends to amend the rules cited as 21 NCAC 10 .0204, .0213, .0304 and repeal the rules cited as 21 NCAC 10 .0201, .0205, and .0206.*

*Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.17, the Codifier has determined it impractical to publish the text of rules proposed for repeal unless the agency requests otherwise. The text of the rule(s) are available on the OAH website at <http://reports.oah.state.nc.us/ncac.asp>.*

**Link to agency website pursuant to G.S. 150B-19.1(c):** [www.ncchiroboard.com](http://www.ncchiroboard.com)

**Proposed Effective Date:** *January 1, 2022*

**Public Hearing:**

**Date:** *July 8, 2021*

**Time:** *10:00 a.m.*

**Location:** *Via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83902423399?pwd=Q1NaNGZBS01EN0U5NGoyaitmS0dnUT09>*

**Reason for Proposed Action:**

*21 NCAC 10 .0201 -Repealed as unnecessary; existing rule restates statutory language and definition of "good character" contained therein is potentially unclear.*

*21 NCAC 10 .0204 -To combine information about initial licensure and renewal within one rule.*

*21 NCAC 10 .0205 -Repealed as substantive content was transferred to amended rule .0204.*

*21 NCAC 10 .0206 -Repealed as substantive content was transferred to amended rule .0213.*

*21 NCAC 10 .0213 -To streamline the existing application and renewal process for clinical assistants and radiologic technologists under one category to be known as "Certified Chiropractic Assistants."*

*21 NCAC 10 .0304 -To streamline the process for recognizing and applying for specialties.*

**Comments may be submitted to:** *Dr. Joe Siragusa, NC Board of Chiropractic Examiners, 9121 Anson Way, Suite 200, Raleigh, NC 27615*

**Comment period ends:** *August 2, 2021*

**Procedure for Subjecting a Proposed Rule to Legislative Review:** If an objection is not resolved prior to the adoption of the rule, a person may also submit written objections to the Rules Review Commission after the adoption of the Rule. If the Rules Review Commission receives written and signed objections after the adoption of the Rule in accordance with G.S. 150B-21.3(b2) from 10 or more persons clearly requesting review by the legislature and the Rules Review Commission approves the rule, the rule will become effective as provided in G.S. 150B-21.3(b1). The Commission will receive written objections until 5:00 p.m. on the day following the day the Commission approves the rule. The Commission will receive those objections by mail, delivery service, hand delivery, or facsimile transmission. If you have any further questions concerning the submission of objections to the Commission, please call a Commission staff attorney at 919-431-3000.

**Fiscal impact. Does any rule or combination of rules in this notice create an economic impact? Check all that apply.**

- State funds affected
- Local funds affected
- Substantial economic impact ( $\geq$  \$1,000,000)
- Approved by OSBM
- No fiscal note required

### SECTION .0200 - PRACTICE OF CHIROPRACTIC

#### 21 NCAC 10 .0201 REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE

*History Note: Authority G.S. 90-142; 90-143; 90-143.1; 150B-9(d);  
Eff. February 1, 1976;  
Readopted Eff. January 27, 1978;  
Amended Eff. January 1, 1983;  
Legislative Objection Lodged Eff. January 31, 1983;  
Curative Amended Eff. February 28, 1983;  
Amended Eff. April 1, 1989; July 1, 1988;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. April 27, ~~2019~~ 2019;  
Repealed Eff. January 1, 2022.*

## 21 NCAC 10 .0204 LICENSURE LICENSURE; RENEWAL OF LICENSE

- (a) Initial Licensure. The initial license awarded to an applicant who passed the examination shall be mailed to the address appearing on the application form.
- (b) Change of Contact Information. The licentiate shall inform the Board of any change in his or her contact information. Updated contact information shall be forwarded to the Board office email at [ncboce@ncchiroboard.com](mailto:ncboce@ncchiroboard.com), by regular mail to the Board office located at 6070 Six Forks Rd., Ste. L, Raleigh, NC 27609, or fax at (704) 793-1385 [ncboce@ncchiroboard.com](mailto:ncboce@ncchiroboard.com) within 30 days after any such change.
- (c) General. The renewal, cancellation, and restoration of a license are governed by G.S. 90-155 and this Rule. A current license that is not renewed shall be cancelled 30 days after the Tuesday immediately following the first Monday in January of the ensuing year. A licentiate desiring license renewal shall submit to the Board, on or before the date of cancellation, a completed license renewal form accompanied by the renewal fee as provided in Paragraph (i) of this Rule. The renewal fee shall not be paid in cash and may be paid by credit card through the Board's website, [www.ncchiroboard.com](http://www.ncchiroboard.com), or by a check made payable to the North Carolina Board of Chiropractic Examiners.
- (d) License Renewal Notification and Form. On or before December 1 of each year, the Board shall email to each licentiate, at the licentiate's current email address on file with the Board, license renewal instructions. The license renewal form with instructions shall also be available at the Board's website, [www.ncchiroboard.com](http://www.ncchiroboard.com), or upon request at the Board's office. A licentiate desiring license renewal shall note on the form changes in name, address, specialty, employment circumstances, and criminal convictions since the last renewal form was submitted to the Board. The licentiate shall also note on the form any professional development continuing education for which the licentiate seeks credit pursuant to Rule .0210(d) of this Chapter.
- (e) Continuing Education. As used in G.S. 90-155, one "day" of continuing education shall mean nine hours. Except as provided in Paragraphs (f), (g) and (h) of this Rule, a licentiate seeking license renewal shall obtain 18 hours (2 days) of Board-approved continuing education each calendar year. At least 10 hours shall be obtained by attending in-person educational sessions. As many as eight hours may be obtained in the manner set forth in Rule .0210 of this Chapter. The Board shall not award credit for any continuing education hours until the sponsor or licentiate submits to the Board the sponsor's certificate of attendance or course completion.
- (f) First-Year Continuing Education Exemptions. A licentiate who was enrolled in chiropractic college at any time during the year of initial licensure or a licentiate initially licensed after September 1st of the current year shall be permitted to renew his or her license for the ensuing year without obtaining continuing education but shall be required to submit a license renewal form and pay the renewal fee. In subsequent years, a licentiate shall not be permitted to renew his or her license until the continuing education requirements set forth in Paragraph (e) of this Rule are satisfied.
- (g) Hardship Waivers. A licentiate seeking a hardship waiver of the continuing education requirement shall make written application to the Board no later than December 15th of the current year explaining the nature and circumstances of the hardship. Upon the applicant's showing that compliance with the continuing education requirement poses an undue hardship, the Board may waive the requirement in whole or part or grant an extension of time within which to comply. "Undue hardship" shall include protracted medical illness, natural disaster, or extended absence from the United States.
- (h) Military Hardship. A licentiate who is serving in the Armed Forces of the United States and to whom G.S. 93B-15(a) grants an extension of time to pay a renewal fee shall also be granted an identical extension of time to complete the continuing education required for license renewal.
- (i) Renewal Fee. A renewal fee in the maximum amount allowed by G.S. 90-155 shall be paid by each licentiate applying for renewal.
- (j) Restoration of Cancelled License; Evidence of Proficiency. In order to provide evidence of proficiency, a former licentiate whose license has been cancelled for 180 or fewer days due to non-compliance with G.S. 90-155 shall be re-examined and shall pay the non-refundable application fee prescribed in Rule .0202(d) of this Chapter and shall demonstrate compliance with continuing education requirements. A former licentiate whose license has been cancelled for more than 180 days shall comply with Rule .0203(f) of this Chapter in addition to this Paragraph. Payment of the application fee shall not constitute payment of the reinstatement fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) mandated by G.S. 90-155.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 90-142; 90-145; 90-155; 90-148; 93B-15; Eff. February 1, 1976; Readopted Eff. January 27, 1978; Amended Eff. January 1, 1983; Legislative Objection Lodged Eff. January 31, 1983; Curative Amended Eff. February 28, 1983; Amended Eff. July 1, 2014; December 1, 1988; Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. April 27, 2019; Amended Eff. January 1, 2020; 2020 Amended Eff. January 1, 2022.*

## 21 NCAC 10 .0205 RENEWAL OF LICENSE

*History Note: Authority G.S. 90-142; 90-155; 93B-15; Eff. February 1, 1976; Readopted Eff. January 27, 1978; Amended Eff. January 1, 1983; October 17, 1980; Legislative Objection Lodged Eff. January 31, 1983; Curative Amended Eff. February 18, 1983; Amended Eff. April 1, 2018; June 1, 2015; July 1, 2011; January 4, 1993; December 1, 1988;*

## **21 NCAC 10 .0206 CERTIFICATION OF RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGISTS**

*History Note: Authority G.S. 90-143.2; 90-154.3;  
Eff. February 1, 1993;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. January 1, 2003;  
Temporary Amendment Expired October 31, 2003;  
Amended Eff. April 1, 2018; July 1, 2010; January 1, 2004;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. April 27, 2019;  
Amended Eff. January 1, 2020; 2020;  
Repealed Eff. January 1, 2022.*

## **21 NCAC 10 .0213 ~~CERTIFICATION OF CLINICAL ASSISTANTS~~ CERTIFIED CHIROPRACTIC ASSISTANTS**

~~(a) Classification of Applicants. Applicants for clinical assistant competency certification shall be classified as follows:~~

- ~~(1) Reciprocity applicants. A "reciprocity applicant" means an applicant who is currently certified or registered as a clinical assistant in another state whose requirements for certification or registration are substantially similar to or more stringent than the requirements for certification in North Carolina.~~
- ~~(2) New applicants. A "new applicant" means any applicant who is not a reciprocity applicant.~~

~~(b) Requirements for Certification. Every applicant, regardless of classification, shall complete an application form available on the Board's website at <https://nechiroboard.com> and requiring the applicant to confirm and submit documentary evidence satisfactory to the Board that the applicant is at least 18 years of age, a high school graduate or the equivalent, and possessed of good moral character. A photocopy of the applicant's birth certificate, driver's license, or government issued identification card shall constitute prima facie evidence of the applicant's age. A photocopy of the applicant's high school diploma, transcript, or general equivalency diploma (G.E.D.) shall constitute prima facie evidence of the applicant's graduation from high school. An affidavit attesting to good moral character and signed by a chiropractic physician or other responsible party who knows the applicant and is not related to the applicant shall constitute prima facie evidence of the applicant's good moral character. Every applicant, regardless of classification, shall pay to the Board an initial certification fee in the amount of twenty dollars (\$20.00). The initial certification fee shall not be paid in cash and may be paid by credit card through the Board's website at <https://nechiroboard.com> or by a check made payable to the North Carolina Board of Chiropractic Examiners. In addition to the general certification requirements, an applicant shall satisfy the requirements for the appropriate category of certification, as follows:~~

- ~~(1) Reciprocity Applicants. A reciprocity applicant shall submit a copy of the applicant's current certification or registration as a clinical assistant in a state with which North Carolina reciprocates and shall also submit written confirmation from the state's certifying authority or registrar that the applicant is in good standing in that state.~~
- ~~(2) New Applicants. A new applicant shall submit evidence that the applicant has completed an approved clinical assistant education program as described in Paragraph (c) of this Rule. A certificate of completion filed with the Board by the program sponsor shall constitute prima facie evidence that the applicant has obtained the required education. A new applicant shall also take and pass the standard proficiency examination administered by or under the authority of the Board, as described in Paragraph (d) of this Rule.~~

~~(c) Education Programs. In order to be approved by the Board, a clinical assistant education program for new applicants shall be at least 24 hours in length, of which at least six hours shall be in person didactic training with an instructor or instructors who, based on education and experience, are competent to teach the portion of the curriculum they have been assigned. Credit for online coursework shall not exceed 18 hours, and all online coursework shall precede didactic training. The education program shall provide sufficient instruction in the five subjects set forth in G.S. 90-143.4(c) to enable its graduates to satisfy all applicable standards of care. To obtain approval of an education program, the program sponsor shall submit to the Board, at least 60 days prior to the proposed starting date, all instructional materials to be used in the program, including a syllabus of the didactic training, and a curriculum vitae for each instructor.~~

~~(d) Examinations. The proficiency examination for new applicants shall assess both academic knowledge and practical skills acquired through education programs and shall be administered in person at least four times per year on dates and at locations to be announced by the Board at least 90 days in advance and published on the Board's website at <https://nechiroboard.com>. In its discretion, the Board may authorize additional testing sessions based on the number of applications received. The minimum passing score on the examination is 75 percent.~~

~~(e) Certificate Expiration and Renewal. Unless renewed, a certificate of competency shall expire on June 30th of the third year following the year in which it was issued. A certificate holder seeking to renew shall submit evidence that the applicant has completed six hours of Board approved continuing education. A certificate of attendance or completion issued by the course sponsor and filed with the Board shall constitute prima facie evidence that the applicant has completed the number of hours recited in the certificate. The applicant shall pay to the Board a renewal fee in the amount of twenty five dollars (\$25.00). The renewal fee shall not be paid in cash and may be paid by credit card through the Board's website at <https://nechiroboard.com> or by a check made payable to the North Carolina Board of Chiropractic Examiners.~~

~~(f) Lapsed Certificates. If a certificate of competency has lapsed due to non-renewal and the lapse does not exceed 60 days, the certificate holder may obtain reinstatement by making up the accrued deficiency in continuing education. If the lapse is greater than 60 days, no make-up continuing education shall be required, but the certificate holder shall re-take and pass the proficiency examination for new applicants. Regardless of the length of lapse, a certificate holder seeking reinstatement shall pay the renewal fee set forth in Paragraph (e) of this Rule.~~

(g) Exemptions. Graduates of accredited chiropractic colleges and students enrolled in accredited chiropractic colleges who are serving college-sponsored preceptorships in North Carolina are deemed by the Board to have satisfied all requirements imposed by this Rule and shall be deemed competent to perform the duties of a clinical assistant. Any person who qualifies for exemption and who works as a clinical assistant in this state for more than 180 days shall submit the application form described in Paragraph (b) of this Rule and note the claim of exempt status. Exempt persons shall not be required to pay a certification fee.

(h) Displaying Certificate. The holder of a certificate issued pursuant to this Rule shall display the certificate in the chiropractic clinic in which the holder is employed in a location where the certificate may be viewed by patients.

(a) Designation. The Board shall classify Certified Chiropractic Assistants as follows:

- (1) Level 1 – Clinical
- (2) Level 2 – X-ray

For purposes of this Rule, a Certified Chiropractic Assistant – Level 1 is the same as a "chiropractic clinical assistant" as defined in G.S. 90-143.4(a). For purposes of this Rule, a Certified Chiropractic Assistant – Level 2 is the same as a "diagnostic imaging technician" as defined in G.S. 90-143.2 and may be referred to as a "radiologic technologist", "X-ray tech", and "X-ray technician."

(b) Application Procedure. Anyone seeking to be certified as a Chiropractic Assistant shall submit an application found on the Board's website at <https://ncchiroboard.com>. All applicants shall:

- (1) Be at least 18 years of age;
- (2) Demonstrate that he or she graduated from high school or the equivalent;
- (3) Possess good moral character as determined by the Board; and
- (4) Submit an application fee of thirty-five dollars (\$35.00).

(c) New Applicants – Level 1.

- (1) Education. In addition to the requirements set forth in Paragraph (b) of this Rule, new applicants shall submit evidence of completion of a clinical assistant education program at least 24 hours in length, of which at least 6 hours shall be in-person didactic training with an instructor or instructors who, based on education and experience, are competent to teach the portion of the curriculum they have been assigned. Credit for online coursework shall not exceed 18 hours, and all online coursework shall precede didactic training. The education program shall provide sufficient instruction in the five subjects set forth in G.S. 90-143.4(c) to enable its graduates to satisfy all applicable standards of care. To obtain approval of an education program, the program sponsor shall submit to the Board, at least 60 days prior to the proposed starting date, all instructional materials to be used in the program, including a syllabus of the didactic training, and a curriculum vitae for each instructor.
- (2) Examination. The proficiency examination for new applicants shall assess both academic knowledge and practical skills acquired through education programs and shall be administered at least four times per year on dates and at locations to be announced by the Board at least 30 days in advance and published on the Board's website at <https://ncchiroboard.com>. In its discretion, the Board may authorize additional testing sessions based on the number of applications received. The minimum passing score on the examination is 75 percent.

(d) New Applicants – Level 2.

- (1) Education. In addition to the requirements set forth in Paragraphs (b) and (c) of this Rule, new applicants shall complete a radiological technologist education program at least 50 hours in length, of which at least 6 hours shall be in-person didactic training with an instructor or instructors who, based on education and experience, are competent to teach the portion of the curriculum they have been assigned, and completion of the practical requirement as set forth in Subparagraph (d)(2) of this Rule. The education program shall provide sufficient instruction in the five subjects set forth in G.S. 90-143.2 to enable its graduates to satisfy all applicable standards of care governing the production of X-rays. To obtain approval of an education program, the program sponsor shall submit to the Board, at least 60 days prior to the proposed starting date, all instructional materials to be used in the program, including a syllabus of the didactic training and a curriculum vitae for each instructor. Any person registered as "active" with the American Chiropractic Registry of Radiologic Technologists shall be deemed to have satisfied the educational requirements of this paragraph.
- (2) Practical Requirement. Upon completion of the training set forth in Subparagraph (d)(1) of this Rule, a person desiring certification as a Certified Chiropractic Assistant – Level 2 shall undergo a Practical whereby the person is evaluated by his or her program sponsor on the following competencies while performing x-ray examinations under the direct supervision of a sponsor for four different patients:
  - (A) Image quality;
  - (B) Marking sides of the body;
  - (C) Technique input to controller;
  - (D) Tube/focal film distance;
  - (E) Bucky/tube alignment;
  - (F) Patient positioning;
  - (G) Gonad shielding;
  - (H) Ability to name additional views in the series; and
  - (I) Collimation.

The person shall submit written documentation of the Practical evaluation on a form prescribed by the Board that is available on the Board's website at <https://ncchiroboard.com/x-ray-technician>.

- (3) Examination. The competency examination shall be administered at least three times per year. The Board shall publish on its website, <https://ncchiroboard.com>, the date, time, and location of the examination at least 30 days in advance. In its discretion, the Board may authorize additional testing sessions based on the number of applications received. The minimum passing score is 75 percent.

(e) Reciprocity Applicants. A "reciprocity applicant" means an applicant who is currently certified or registered as a clinical assistant or X-ray technician in another state whose requirements for certification or registration are substantially similar to or more stringent than the requirements for certification in North Carolina. A reciprocity applicant shall submit a copy of the applicant's current certification or registration as a clinical assistant in a state with which North Carolina reciprocates and shall also submit written confirmation from the state's certifying authority or registrar that the applicant is in good standing in that state.

(f) Certification Expiration and Renewal. Starting with certifications issued or renewed on or after July 1, 2022, a certificate of competency shall expire on June 30<sup>th</sup> of the second year following the year in which it was issued unless otherwise renewed. A certificate holder seeking to renew shall submit evidence that the applicant has completed six hours of Board-approved continuing education. A Level 2 certificate holder shall complete six hours of education applicable to a Level 1 renewal plus six hours in radiologic technology. A certificate of attendance or completion issued by the course sponsor and filed with the Board shall constitute prima facie evidence that the applicant has completed the number of hours recited in the certificate. The applicant shall pay to the Board a renewal fee in the amount of fifty dollars (\$50.00).

(g) Lapsed Certificates. If a certificate of competency has lapsed due to non-renewal and the lapse does not exceed 60 days, the certificate holder may obtain reinstatement by making up the accrued deficiency in continuing education. If the lapse is greater than 60 days, no make-up continuing education shall be required, but the certificate holder shall re-take and pass the proficiency examination for new applicants. Regardless of the length of lapse, a certificate holder seeking reinstatement shall pay the renewal fee set forth in Paragraph (f) of this Rule.

(h) Exemptions. Graduates of accredited chiropractic colleges and students enrolled in accredited chiropractic colleges who are serving college-sponsored preceptorships in North Carolina are deemed by the Board to have satisfied all requirements imposed by this Rule and shall be deemed competent to perform the duties of a clinical assistant. Any person who qualifies for exemption and who works as a clinical assistant in this state for more than 180 days shall submit the applicant pursuant to this Rule and note the claim of exempt status. Exempt persons shall not be required to pay a certification fee.

(i) Displaying Certificate. The holder of a Level 1 certificate issued pursuant to this Rule shall display the certificate in the chiropractic clinic in which the holder is employed in a location where the certificate may be viewed by patients. The holder of a Level 2 certificate issued pursuant to this Rule shall display the certificate in the x-ray room of the chiropractic clinic in which the holder is employed in a location where the certificate may be viewed by patients.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 90-142; 90-143.2; 90-143.4; 90-154.3;  
Eff. July 1, 2014;  
Amended Eff. April 1, 2018;  
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. April 27, 2019;  
Amended Eff. January 1, 2020; 2020;  
Amended Eff. January 1, 2022.*

## SECTION .0300 - RULES OF UNETHICAL CONDUCT

### 21 NCAC 10 .0304 DESIGNATION OF SPECIALTIES

~~(a) Definitions.~~ For purposes of this Rule, the following definitions shall apply:

- ~~(1) Claim of Specialization:~~ any use of the designations listed in this Rule or any representation stating or implying that, by virtue of additional training, a licentiate possesses greater expertise in any aspect of health care than is possessed by chiropractic physicians who have not had additional training. The mere recitation of academic degrees awarded to a licentiate does not constitute a claim of specialization.
- ~~(2) Publication:~~ includes but is not limited to representations made in a licentiate's advertising, whether printed or broadcast; written representations appearing on professional stationery, business cards, curriculum vitae or office signage; and oral representations made in judicial proceedings.

~~(b) Recognized Specialties.~~ The Board of Examiners recognizes only the specialties listed in this Rule. Any published claim of specialization outside the listed subject areas or any published claim of specialization made by or at the behest of a licentiate who has not satisfied all applicable provisions of this Rule constitutes false or misleading advertising.

~~(c) Chiropractic Orthopedics.~~ This specialty is designated by the terms "Diplomate of the American Board of Chiropractic Orthopedics" ("DABCO"), "Diplomate of the Academy of Chiropractic Orthopedics" ("DACO"), "Fellow of the Academy of Chiropractic Orthopedics" ("FACO") or "Chiropractic Orthopedist." In order to claim chiropractic orthopedics as a specialty, a licentiate shall first:

- ~~(1) Complete a post-graduate course of study in orthopedics at least 300 hours in length and offered by a college approved by the Council on Chiropractic Education; and~~
- ~~(2) Pass all parts of the DABCO examination, or all parts of an examination deemed by the Board of Examiners to be the equivalent of the DABCO examination, and cause a copy of the DABCO diploma or its equivalent to be filed with the Board of Examiners.~~

~~(d) Chiropractic Radiology.~~ This specialty is designated by the terms "Diplomate of the American Chiropractic Board of Radiology" ("DACBR") or "Chiropractic Radiologist." In order to claim chiropractic radiology as a specialty, a licentiate shall first:

- ~~(1) Complete a post-graduate course of study in radiology at least 300 hours in length and offered by a college approved by the Council on Chiropractic Education; and~~
- ~~(2) Pass all parts of the DACBR examination, or all parts of an examination deemed by the Board of Examiners to be the equivalent of the DACBR examination, and cause a copy of the DACBR diploma or its equivalent to be filed with the Board of Examiners.~~

~~(e) Chiropractic Neurology. This specialty is designated by the terms "Diplomate of the American Chiropractic Neurology Board" ("DACNB"), "Diplomate of the International Board of Chiropractic Neurology" ("DIBCN") or "Chiropractic Neurologist." In order to claim chiropractic neurology as a specialty, a licentiate shall first:~~

- ~~(1) Complete a post-graduate course of study in neurology at least 300 hours in length and offered by a college approved by the Council on Chiropractic Education; and~~
- ~~(2) Pass all parts of the DACNB or DIBCN examination, or all parts of an examination deemed by the Board of Examiners to be the equivalent of the DACNB or DIBCN examinations, and cause a copy of the DACNB or DIBCN diploma or their equivalent to be filed with the Board of Examiners.~~

~~(f) Chiropractic Internal Disorders. This specialty is designated by the terms "Diplomate of the American Board of Chiropractic Internists" ("DABCI") or "Chiropractic Internist." In order to claim chiropractic internal disorders as a specialty, a licentiate shall first:~~

- ~~(1) Complete a post-graduate course of study in internal disorders at least 300 hours in length and offered by a college approved by the Council on Chiropractic Education; and~~
- ~~(2) Pass all parts of the DACBI examination, or all parts of an examination deemed by the Board of Examiners to be the equivalent of the DACBI examination, and cause a copy of the DACBI diploma or its equivalent to be filed with the Board of Examiners.~~

~~(g) Chiropractic Pediatrics. This specialty is designated by the terms "Diplomate of the International Council on Chiropractic Pediatrics" ("DICCP") or "Chiropractic Pediatrician." In order to claim chiropractic pediatrics as a specialty, a licentiate shall first:~~

- ~~(1) Complete a post-graduate course of study in pediatrics at least 300 hours in length and offered by a college approved by the Council on Chiropractic Education; and~~
- ~~(2) Pass all parts of the DICCP examination, or all parts of an examination deemed by the Board of Examiners to be the equivalent of the DICCP examination, and cause a copy of the DICCP diploma or its equivalent to be filed with the Board of Examiners.~~

~~(h) Chiropractic Sports Injuries. This specialty is designated by the terms "Diplomate of the American Chiropractic Board of Sports Physicians" ("DACBSP") or "Chiropractic Sports Physician." In order to claim chiropractic sports injuries as a specialty, a licentiate shall first:~~

- ~~(1) Complete a post-graduate course of study in sports injuries at least 300 hours in length and offered by a college approved by the Council on Chiropractic Education; and~~
- ~~(2) Pass all parts of the DACBSP examination, or all parts of an examination deemed by the Board of Examiners to be the equivalent of the DACBSP examination, and cause a copy of the DACBSP diploma or its equivalent to be filed with the Board of Examiners.~~

~~(i) Chiropractic Nutrition. This specialty is designated by the terms "Diplomate of the American Chiropractic Board of Nutrition" ("DACBN") or "Chiropractic Nutritionist." In order to claim chiropractic nutrition as a specialty, a licentiate shall first:~~

- ~~(1) Complete a post-graduate course of study in nutrition at least 300 hours in length and offered by a college approved by the Council on Chiropractic Education; and~~
- ~~(2) Pass all parts of the DACBN examination, or all parts of an examination deemed by the Board of Examiners to be the equivalent of the DACBN examination, and cause a copy of the DACBN diploma or its equivalent to be filed with the Board of Examiners.~~

~~(j) Chiropractic Rehabilitation. This specialty is designated by the terms "Diplomate of the American Chiropractic Rehabilitation Board" ("DACRB") or "Chiropractic Rehabilitation Specialist." In order to claim chiropractic rehabilitation as a specialty, a licentiate shall first:~~

- ~~(1) Complete a post-graduate course of study in rehabilitation at least 300 hours in length and offered by a college approved by the Council on Chiropractic Education; and~~
- ~~(2) Pass all parts of the DACRB examination, or all parts of an examination deemed by the Board of Examiners to be the equivalent of the DACRB examination, and cause a copy of the DACRB diploma or its equivalent to be filed with the Board of Examiners.~~

(a) Definitions. For purposes of this Rule, the following definitions shall apply:

- (1) Claim of Specialization: any use of the designations listed in this Rule or any representation stating or implying that, by virtue of additional training, a licentiate possesses greater expertise in any aspect of health care than is possessed by chiropractic physicians who have not had additional training. The mere recitation of academic degrees awarded to a licentiate does not constitute a claim of specialization.
- (2) Publication: representations regarding any claim of specialization made by a licentiate which may include representations made in advertising, whether printed or broadcast; written representations appearing on professional stationery, business cards, curriculum vitae, or office signage; and oral representations made in judicial proceedings.

(b) Recognized Specialties. The Board of Examiners recognizes the specialties in the following fields of practice:

- (1) Chiropractic Orthopedics;
- (2) Chiropractic Radiology;
- (3) Chiropractic Neurology;
- (4) Chiropractic Internal Disorders;
- (5) Chiropractic Pediatrics;
- (6) Chiropractic Sports Injuries;
- (7) Chiropractic Nutrition; and
- (8) Chiropractic Rehabilitation.

(c) Any licentiate wishing to request a specialty designation not listed in Paragraph (b) of this Rule shall first submit a written request to the Board and provide evidence that the designation meets the criteria set forth in Paragraph (d) of this Rule. A licentiate shall not publish the specialty designation until the Board has approved, in writing, the specialty designation requested.

(d) Criteria for approval. In order to publish a claim of specialization as set forth in Paragraph (b) of this Rule or upon request of a specialty pursuant to Paragraph (c) of this Rule, a licentiate shall demonstrate the following:

- (1) Evidence of completion of a post-graduate course of study in the specialty requested at least 300 hours in length and offered by a college approved by the Council on Chiropractic Education; and
- (2) Evidence that the licentiate has passed an examination offered by a 501(c)(3) organization whose testing for specialization is recognized by the House of Delegates of the American Chiropractic Association or an exam deemed by the Board to be an equivalent.

(e) Claim of Specialty. Any published claim of specialization outside the recognized specialties or any published claim of specialization made by or at the behest of a licentiate who has not satisfied all applicable provisions of this Rule constitutes false or misleading advertising.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 90-142; 90-154; 90-154.2(5);  
Eff. November 1, 2007;*

*Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. April 27, ~~2019~~, 2019;  
Amended Eff. January 1, 2022.*