

# texas board of chiropractic examiners

**Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners** is the regulatory body responsible for overseeing the practice of chiropractic in the state of Texas. Established to ensure that chiropractors adhere to the highest standards of practice, the Board plays a crucial role in maintaining public safety and the integrity of chiropractic care. This article will delve into the history, functions, regulations, and the importance of the Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners in the healthcare landscape of Texas.

## History of the Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners

The Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners (TBCE) was created in 1949 as a response to the growing popularity of chiropractic care and the need for regulation in the field. As chiropractic practices began to proliferate, the need for a governing body became evident to ensure practitioners were qualified and that patients received safe and effective care.

Over the years, the Board has evolved, adapting to the changing landscape of healthcare and the chiropractic profession. The TBCE's creation was a significant milestone in legitimizing chiropractic care as a recognized form of healthcare, emphasizing the importance of professionalism and ethical practice.

## Functions of the Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners

The TBCE carries out several critical functions to uphold the standards of chiropractic practice in Texas. These functions include:

### 1. Licensing Chiropractors

One of the primary responsibilities of the TBCE is to license chiropractors in Texas. This process ensures that only qualified individuals can practice chiropractic care. The licensing process involves:

- **Educational Requirements:** Chiropractors must graduate from an accredited chiropractic college.
- **Examinations:** Candidates must pass national board examinations and the Texas jurisprudence exam.
- **Background Checks:** The Board conducts thorough background checks to ensure the integrity of applicants.

## **2. Regulating Practice Standards**

The TBCE sets and enforces standards for chiropractic practice to ensure that practitioners provide safe and effective care. This includes:

- Continuing Education: Chiropractors are required to complete continuing education courses to maintain their licensure.
- Practice Guidelines: The Board develops guidelines that outline acceptable chiropractic practices and procedures.

## **3. Disciplinary Actions**

The TBCE has the authority to investigate complaints against chiropractors and take disciplinary actions when necessary. This process involves:

- Complaint Investigation: The Board investigates allegations of unethical or unprofessional behavior.
- Disciplinary Hearings: If a violation is found, the Board may hold a hearing to determine the appropriate disciplinary action, which can range from fines to license suspension or revocation.

## **4. Public Awareness and Education**

The TBCE engages in public outreach to educate the community about chiropractic care and the importance of seeing licensed practitioners. This includes:

- Information Dissemination: Providing resources to the public about chiropractic services.
- Collaborations: Partnering with healthcare organizations to promote awareness of chiropractic care.

# **Regulatory Framework of Chiropractic Practice in Texas**

The Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners operates under a regulatory framework established by state law. Key components of this framework include:

## **1. Texas Occupations Code**

Chiropractic practice in Texas is primarily governed by the Texas Occupations Code, specifically under Chapter 201, which outlines the Board's authority and responsibilities.

## **2. Administrative Rules**

The TBCE has established administrative rules that provide detailed guidelines on various aspects of chiropractic practice, including:

- Licensing procedures
- Continuing education requirements
- Standards of conduct for practitioners

## **3. Legislative Oversight**

The TBCE is subject to oversight by the Texas Legislature, which reviews the Board's activities and regulations periodically. This legislative oversight ensures accountability and responsiveness to the needs of the public and the chiropractic profession.

# **Importance of the Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners**

The Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners plays a vital role in the healthcare system of Texas for several reasons:

## **1. Ensuring Patient Safety**

By regulating the practice of chiropractic care, the TBCE helps ensure that patients receive safe and effective treatment. Licensing requirements and ongoing education help maintain high standards of care, reducing the risk of harm.

## **2. Upholding Professional Standards**

The TBCE promotes professionalism within the chiropractic community. By enforcing ethical standards and taking disciplinary action against violators, the Board helps maintain the integrity of the profession, fostering public trust.

## **3. Educating the Public**

Public awareness is essential for informed healthcare decisions. The TBCE's efforts to educate the public about chiropractic care and the importance of seeking licensed practitioners help individuals make better choices regarding their health.

## **4. Supporting the Chiropractic Profession**

The TBCE plays a supportive role for chiropractors in Texas by providing resources and guidance on best practices. This support helps practitioners navigate the complexities of regulations while delivering quality care to their patients.

## **Challenges Facing the Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners**

Despite its important role, the TBCE faces several challenges that impact its effectiveness. These challenges include:

### **1. Evolving Healthcare Landscape**

The healthcare landscape is continually changing, with new treatments and technologies emerging. The TBCE must adapt to these changes to ensure that regulations remain relevant and effective.

### **2. Public Perception of Chiropractic Care**

Despite its growth, chiropractic care still faces skepticism from some segments of the public and the medical community. The TBCE must work diligently to combat misconceptions and promote the benefits of chiropractic treatment.

### **3. Resource Limitations**

Like many regulatory bodies, the TBCE may face limitations in terms of funding and resources. This can impact its ability to conduct thorough investigations, provide public outreach, and maintain robust regulatory practices.

## **Conclusion**

The Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners is a cornerstone of chiropractic regulation in Texas, ensuring that practitioners meet high standards of care and that patients receive safe and effective treatments. By overseeing licensing, setting practice standards, and educating the public, the TBCE plays a vital role in the healthcare system. As the chiropractic profession continues to evolve, the Board's commitment to maintaining excellence in practice will remain essential for the well-being of Texas residents. The challenges it faces will require ongoing vigilance and adaptation, but its mission to protect

public health and promote ethical chiropractic care will continue to guide its efforts.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What is the primary role of the Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners?**

The primary role of the Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners is to regulate the practice of chiropractic in Texas, ensuring that practitioners meet the necessary standards for licensure and practice.

### **How can I apply for a chiropractic license in Texas?**

To apply for a chiropractic license in Texas, you must complete an application through the Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners' website, provide proof of education from an accredited chiropractic college, and pass the required examinations.

### **What are the continuing education requirements for licensed chiropractors in Texas?**

Licensed chiropractors in Texas are required to complete 16 hours of continuing education every year, including 2 hours dedicated to ethics and 1 hour on Texas law.

### **What are the most common reasons for disciplinary actions by the Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners?**

Common reasons for disciplinary actions include practicing without a valid license, unethical conduct, fraud, and failing to adhere to continuing education requirements.

### **How can I file a complaint against a chiropractor in Texas?**

To file a complaint against a chiropractor in Texas, you can submit a complaint form available on the Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners' website, detailing your concerns and providing any supporting evidence.

### **What is the process for renewing a chiropractic license in Texas?**

To renew a chiropractic license in Texas, you must complete the required continuing education hours, submit a renewal application, and pay the renewal fee before the expiration date.

## Are there any specific practice acts that chiropractors in Texas must follow?

Yes, chiropractors in Texas must follow the Texas Chiropractic Act and the rules and regulations set forth by the Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners, which outline the scope of practice and professional conduct.

## What is the difference between a chiropractor and a physical therapist in Texas?

Chiropractors focus primarily on diagnosing and treating musculoskeletal disorders, primarily through manual adjustments, while physical therapists work on rehabilitating patients through exercises and physical modalities.

## Can a chiropractor in Texas prescribe medication?

No, chiropractors in Texas are not licensed to prescribe medication. Their practice is limited to non-invasive treatments and they primarily focus on spinal manipulation and physical therapy techniques.

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McNamara, 2018-11-27 From its very beginning, chiropractic medicine has faced challenges about the scientific validity of the treatment and the credibility of its practitioners. Since those early years, many of these criticisms have remained, but legislation, licensure, and litigation have created an environment where chiropractic care is allowed in all 50 states, and licenses are required of all chiropractors who wish to practice medicine. The implementation of the Affordable Care Act has changed the way insurance companies provide reimbursement for services by medical providers. With a greater emphasis on administratively documenting how and in what ways a particular form of treatment actually improves a patient's health, coupled with a greater level of restriction on the types of services medical providers can offer without justification and authorization, many medical providers, including chiropractors, have had to re-examine the services they provide and how they operate. This study attempts to explore the life of chiropractors in light of all the historical and current changes taking place within the medical profession. It also seeks to understand the external and internal threats posed to chiropractors, with an eye towards understanding how and in what ways the future of medicine will impact the chiropractic profession. Despite the projected growth of job opportunities for chiropractors between 2014 and 2024, which, according to the U.S. Department of Labor is occurring at a much faster than average trajectory than other professions (U.S. Department of Labor Statistics, 2015), given the costs involved in completing chiropractic training (which can exceed \$200,000) coupled with the low salary (recent data from the U.S. Department of Labor Statistics shows that the median salary for a chiropractor is \$64,440 per year), along with the challenges of sustaining an individual practice (most chiropractors are self-employed in solo practice), these obstacles are formidable ones. This is particularly true in light of the recent development of large chiropractic chains such as the Joint, that offer spinal and neck adjustments at a fraction of the cost of a traditional provider. This ethnographic study consisted of systematic observation and interviews of 40 chiropractors in South Carolina from Fall 2016 to Fall 2017. Additionally, interviews were conducted with staff members, patients, and other medical providers, such as physicians, physical therapists, massage therapists, and representatives from the insurance industry about their understanding and experiences with chiropractic medicine. Phone interviews were also conducted with seven deans and provosts at chiropractic colleges around the country. In total, over 100 interviews and informal conversations occurred during the course of the project. All identifiers of participants and chiropractic colleges in the study were removed to ensure anonymity. Instead, pseudonyms were created that were known only by the author of the study. Additionally, data from the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation was obtained to document changes in the number of chiropractors who are no longer in practice in the state between 2016 and 2017.

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book traces acupuncture's expanding role in the healthcare system, reflects on its historical significance, and considers its future in global health. Insightful commentary provides acupuncture practitioners, skeptics, and aficionados with a useful overview of acupuncture's past, its current achievements and its promise for the future.

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