

## CHAPTER 154.

## PODIATRY.

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**154.01 Practice.** (1) The practice of podiatry is the diagnosis or mechanical, medical or surgical treatment, or treatment by the use of drugs, of the feet, but does not include major surgery or the use of a general anesthetic. Diagnosis or treatment shall include no portion of the body above the feet except that the diagnosis and mechanical treatment shall include the tendons and muscles of the lower leg insofar as they shall be involved in the conditions of the feet.

(2) No person shall practice podiatry, for compensation, directly or indirectly, or in the expectation thereof, or attempt to do so, or designate himself as a licensed podiatrist, or use the title "D.S.C.", "Dr.", or "Doctor of Surgical Chiropody", or "Doctor of Podiatry", or "Doctor", or "foot doctor", or "foot specialist" or other title or letter indicating that he is a podiatrist, or otherwise directly or indirectly represent or hold himself out as such, unless registered by the state board of medical examiners. This does not prohibit a physician and surgeon licensed under ch. 147 from treating the feet, nor a lawfully qualified nonresident podiatrist meeting licensed podiatrists in this state in consultation. This chapter shall not apply to the construction of and commerce in footwear or sundry products related thereto, including arch supports and similar mechanical appliances.

(3) The terms "podiatry" and "chiropody" are synonymous; the terms "podiatrist" and "chiropodist" are synonymous; the terms "podiatric" and "chiropodal" are synonymous, wherever used in this chapter.

**History:** 1961 c. 546, 622.

**154.02 Application.** The applicant shall file written application on forms provided by the board, and satisfactory proof that he is more than 21 years of age, of good moral and professional character, has preliminary education equivalent to graduation from an accredited high school and in addition one year in an accredited college of liberal arts or science, and has completed in an accredited school of podiatry a course in anatomy and physiology of the feet, and diagnosis of foot ailments and deformities, materia medica, chiropodal orthopedics, bacteriology, pathology, histology, therapeutic chemistry, and minor surgery and bandaging pertaining to ailments of the feet, and the mechanical treatment of congenital or acquired deformities of the feet, pay \$25, and present himself for examination at the first meeting thereafter at which examinations are to be held. No degree which entitles one to practice podiatry in this state shall be accepted from any recognized university or college of chiropody except that of "Doctor of Surgical Chiropody" or its equivalent as a requisite before the board of medical examiners. Any school conferring the "D.S.C." degree or its equivalent must require a prerequisite of at least one year in a college of liberal arts accredited to the University of Wisconsin, plus a professional curriculum of 4 years, with at least 32 weeks and at least 30 class hours each week, with adequate clinical or hospital facilities. The fee shall not be refunded unless from sickness, or other good cause to the satisfaction of the board, the applicant was prevented from completing the examination; subsequent examinations under the application may be given in the discretion of the board without payment of additional fee.

**History:** 1961 c. 546.

**154.03 Examination.** Examination shall be both scientific and practical, and written in English, in anatomy and physiology of the feet, and diagnosis of the foot ailments and deformities which the podiatrist is authorized to treat, materia medica, chiropodal orthopedics, bacteriology, pathology, histology, therapeutic chemistry, and minor surgery, roentgenology, physical therapy, dermatology and bandaging pertaining to ailments of the feet, not including any amputation, and the mechanical treatment of congenital or acquired deformities of the feet, and may be supplemented by oral and clinical examination. The board shall select 3 licensed podiatrists to conduct the examination under its

supervision and shall appoint one as president and another as secretary of the podiatry examiners, all 3 to receive the same compensation as members of the board.

**History:** 1961 c. 546.

**154.04 Certificate.** If the board finds the applicant qualified, it shall issue a certificate of registration which shall expire on February 1 of each year. Each registrant shall pay for such registration a fee to be fixed by the Wisconsin state board of medical examiners for each given year; which fee shall not exceed \$5 in any year; provided that those who register after January 31 of a given year shall likewise pay whatever fee has been fixed for that year. If the applicant for reregistration has been guilty of conduct that would afford a ground for revocation under s. 154.05, the board may so find and refuse to reregister such applicant.

**History:** 1961 c. 546.

**154.05 Revocation.** The certificate may be revoked as provided in s. 147.20, and for any of the causes enumerated in that section, or for failure to renew a certificate of registration before July 1 of any year, or for unprofessional conduct which term shall include employing solicitors to obtain business, obtaining fees by fraud or deceit, willfully betraying professional secrets, employing, directly or indirectly, students or unlicensed podiatrists to diagnose or treat human feet, advertising or holding out to successfully treat or cure all ailments of the feet or any ailment manifestly incurable, advertising of podiatry business or treatment by appliances in which untruthful statements are made, advertising statements of a character tending to mislead the public, advertising professional superiority or the performance of podiatry services in a superior manner, advertising definite fixed fees when the nature of the professional service rendered must be variable, or chronic and persistent inebriety, or presenting to the board any diploma, license or certificate illegally obtained, or signed or issued unlawfully or under fraudulent representations.

**History:** 1961 c. 546.

**154.06 Penalties.** (1) Any person practicing or holding himself out as practicing podiatry, not being registered, shall be fined, for a first offense, not less than \$50 nor more than \$100, and for a subsequent offense not less than \$100 nor more than \$250, or imprisoned not less than 6 months, or both.

(2) Any person doing any of the following, shall be fined not less than \$50 nor more than \$200 or imprisoned not less than 30 days nor more than 6 months, or both:

(a) Sell or barter or offer to sell or barter a diploma or document conferring or purporting to confer a podiatry degree, or a certificate or transcript, made or purporting to be made, pursuant to the laws regulating the registration of podiatrists.

(b) Purchase or procure by barter such a diploma, certificate or transcript, with intent that the same shall be used as evidence of the holder's qualification to practice podiatry, or in fraud of the laws regulating such practice.

(c) With fraudulent intent, materially alter such a diploma, certificate or transcript.

(d) Use or attempt to use such a diploma, certificate or transcript which has been purchased, fraudulently issued, counterfeited or materially altered, either as a license or color of license to practice podiatry, or in order to procure registration as a podiatrist.

(e) Practice podiatry under a false or assumed name.

(f) Assume any title or append any letters to his name with intent to represent falsely that he has received a podiatry degree or certificate of registration.

**History:** 1961 c. 546, 622.