

CHAPTER 446

CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINING BOARD

446.01 Definitions.
 446.02 Chiropractic regulated
 446.03 License revocation or suspension.
 446.04 Unprofessional conduct.

446.05 Procedure for hearings
 446.06 Injunction to enforce chapter 446.
 446.07 Penalty.

446.01 Definitions. In this chapter:

(1) "Examining board" means chiropractic examining board.

(2) "Practice of chiropractic" means:

(a) To examine into the fact, condition, or cause of departure from complete health and proper condition of the human; to treat without the use of drugs as defined in s. 450.06 or surgery; to counsel; to advise for the same for the restoration and preservation of health or to undertake, offer, advertise, announce or hold out in any manner to do any of the aforementioned acts, for compensation, direct or indirect or in expectation thereof; and

(b) To employ or apply chiropractic adjustments and the principles or techniques of chiropractic science in the diagnosis, treatment or prevention of any of the conditions described in s. 448.01 (13m).

History: 1975 c. 383.

446.02 Chiropractic regulated. (1) No person may engage in the practice of chiropractic or attempt to do so or hold himself or herself out as authorized to do so, unless such person:

(a) Is licensed by the examining board; and

(b) Meets the requirements of continuing education for license renewal as the examining board may require.

(2) Application for a license to practice chiropractic shall be made to the examining board, accompanied by sufficient and satisfactory evidence of good moral character, preliminary education consisting of the first 2 years of study in a regularly prescribed course for a bachelor of arts or science degree in a college accredited by the north central association of colleges and secondary schools or in an institution whose credits are accepted by the university of Wisconsin, graduation from a reputable school of chiropractic, approved and recognized by the examining board, having a residence course of not less than 36 months, consisting of not less than 3,600 60-minute class periods, and a fee of \$25.

(3) Examination shall be in the subjects usually taught in such reputable schools of chiropractic, and shall be conducted at least twice a year at such times and places as the examining board determines. The examination shall include a practical examination of the applicant as prescribed by the examining board. In lieu of its own written examination, the examining board may accept, in whole or in part, the certificate of the national board of chiropractic examiners.

(4) All licenses granted by the examining board shall expire on December 31 following the issue thereof, except that any holder of a license may have the same renewed from year to year by the payment of an annual fee determined by the board, not to exceed \$30. The board may permit persons to renew licenses later than December 31 but before the following March 1 upon payment of an additional fee of \$10.

(5) The examining board shall keep a complete record of all applications, examinations, licenses, fees and proceedings.

(6) No person shall practice chiropractic in this state under any other Christian or given name or any other surname than that under which he was originally licensed or registered to practice chiropractic in this or any other state in any instance in which the examining board, after a hearing, finds that practicing under such changed name operates to unfairly compete with another practitioner or to mislead the public as to identity or to otherwise result in detriment to the profession or the public. This subsection does not apply to a change of name resulting from marriage or divorce.

History: 1975 c. 39, 199, 383.

446.03 License revocation or suspension.

The examining board, by order, may deny, suspend or revoke any license or certificate of registration if the licensee or registrant:

(1) Obtained the license or certificate through error or fraud;

(2) Is habitually drunk or addicted to the use of habit-forming drugs;

(3) Is hereafter convicted in a court of competent jurisdiction, either within or without this state, or in federal court, of any violation of any law governing the practice of chiropractic or of any felony, a certified copy of the record of conviction to be conclusive evidence of such conviction;

(4) Has obtained or sought to obtain anything of value by fraudulent representation in the practice of chiropractic;

(5) Is guilty of immoral or unprofessional conduct;

(6) Has continued practice, knowingly having an infectious or contagious disease; or

(7) If the applicant or registrant maintains a professional connection or association with any other person continuing to violate this chapter after 10 days' notice in writing by the department.

(8) The examining board may without further process revoke the license of one who fails to annually register and pay the fee within 60 days after written notice, mailed to his last known address by registered mail. His license may be reinstated, in the discretion of the examining board, by the payment of \$25 within one year from revocation. If application for reinstatement is not made within a period of one year from revocation he may be required to demonstrate that he is still qualified to practice by taking an examination in such chiropractic subjects as are required by the examining board. The fee for such examination and reinstatement of license is \$50.

446.04 Unprofessional conduct. Unprofessional conduct includes, without limitation because of enumeration:

(1) Any conduct of a character likely to deceive or defraud the public;

(2) Loaning of a chiropractic license or certificate to anyone;

(3) Employment of "cappers" or "streeters" to obtain chiropractic business, or any public solicitation of chiropractic patronage;

(4) Splitting or dividing any fee for chiropractic service with any person except an associate licensed chiropractor;

(5) Use of unprofessional advertising which shall include without limitation because of enumeration:

(a) Any advertising statement of a character tending to deceive or mislead the public;

(b) Advertising professional superiority or performance of professional services in a superior manner;

(c) Advertising fixed prices for variable services;

(d) Using advertising solicitors or press agents;

(e) Use of office signs which contain wording other than the names of duly licensed chiropractors practicing therein, office hours and purely educational matter not in conflict with law;

(f) Use of printed advertisements which contain wording of other than names of duly licensed chiropractors, office hours, location, telephone numbers and educational matter not in conflict with law.

(6) Unreasonably refusing permission to a member of the examining board or the examining board's investigator to inspect the premises and equipment of an office at reasonable hours.

446.05 Procedure for hearings. (1) The examining board may make investigations and conduct hearings in regard to the conduct of any licensed chiropractor who, it has reason to believe, is acting or has acted in violation of s. 446.02 or 446.03. The person complained against shall have notice in writing of the charges, specifying a date not less than 10 days after service thereof for a hearing and shall have opportunity to confront witnesses and produce testimony. A stenographic record of the proceedings shall be taken and a transcript made for the department's files. The person complained against may within 60 days after notice in writing to the examining board's action mailed to his last-known address, by registered mail, proceed to review any action of the examining board under ch. 227.

(2) Upon application and satisfactory proof that the cause of such revocation or suspension no longer exists, the examining board may reinstate any license or registration suspended or revoked by it.

446.06 Injunction to enforce chapter 446.

If it appears upon complaint to the examining board by any person or it is known to the examining board that any person is violating any of the provisions of ch. 446, the examining board or the district attorney of the proper county may investigate and may, in addition to any other remedies, bring action in the name of and on behalf of the state against any such person to enjoin such person from such violations.

446.07 Penalty. Anyone violating this chapter may be fined not less than \$100 nor more than \$500, or imprisoned not more than one year or both.