

## CHAPTER 154.

## CHIROPODY.

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**154.01 Practice.** (1) The practice of chiropody is the diagnosis or mechanical or surgical treatment, or treatment by the local application of drugs, of the feet, but does not include amputations or surgical operations upon the feet for congenital or acquired deformities or conditions requiring the use of an anesthetic other than local, nor treatment of any portion or organ of the body above the feet, except that the diagnosis and mechanical treatment shall include the tendons and muscles of the lower leg insofar only as they shall be involved in the conditions of the feet. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to permit major surgical operations upon the foot, nor minor operations upon the foot involving vascular diseases or diabetes except upon the advice of one licensed under s. 147.17, nor the treatment of conditions of the feet involving osteomyelitis, malignancies or syphilis, nor the therapeutic use of X-ray and radium, nor cutting operations directed primarily towards the treatment or correction of afflictions of the bones, ligaments, muscles, nerves or tendons of the feet.

(2) No person shall practice chiropody, for compensation, direct or indirect, or in the expectation thereof, or attempt to do so, or designate himself a registered chiropodist, or use the title "R. C.", "D. S. C." or Doctor of Surgical Chiropody or other title or letter indicating that he is a chiropodist, or otherwise directly or indirectly represent or hold himself out as such, unless registered by the state board of medical examiners and the certificate recorded. This does not prohibit a physician treating the feet, nor a lawfully qualified nonresident chiropodist meeting registered chiropodists in this state in consultation. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to the sale of corrective shoes, arch supports or similar mechanical appliances.

**History:** 1955 c. 138.

**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 the completion of an approved 3-year course in an accredited high school, and after July 1, 1926, equivalent to graduation from an accredited high school and after July 1, 1940, in addition one year in a recognized college of liberal arts or science, and has completed in a reputable school of chiropody a course, at least equivalent to 3 years of 37 weeks of 30 class hours each, in anatomy and physiology of the feet, and diagnosis of the foot ailments and deformities which the chiropodist is authorized to treat, materia medica, chiropodial 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. After July 1, 1950, no degree which entitles one to practice chiropody in this state shall be accepted from any recognized university or college of chiropody except that of "Doctor of Surgical Chiropody" as a requisite before the board of medical examiners. Any school conferring the "D.S.C." degree must require a prerequisite of 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:** 1955 c. 602.

**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 chiropodist is authorized to treat, materia medica, chiropodial 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 con-

genital or acquired deformities of the feet, and may be supplemented by oral and clinical examination. The board shall select 3 registered chiropodists to conduct the examination under its supervision and shall appoint one as president and another as secretary of the chiropody examiners, all 3 to receive the same compensation as members of the board.

**154.04 Certificate.** If the board find the applicant qualified, it shall issue a certificate of registration, which the recipient shall record with the county clerk of any county in which he shall practice, as provided in section 147.14. The certificate shall expire on February 1 of each year, and shall be renewed only upon application and the sending of a \$3 annual renewal fee to the secretary of the chiropody examiners on or before January 31. Upon receipt of such application, the chiropody examiners shall send the said application and fee to the medical board for renewal. A renewal fee of \$7 shall be levied against any chiropodist who fails to renew his application on or before January 31 of any year. If the applicant for re-registration has been guilty of conduct that would afford a ground for revocation under section 154.05, the board may so find, and refuse to re-register such applicant.

**154.05 Revocation.** The certificate may be revoked as provided in section 147.20, and for any of the causes enumerated in that section, or for failure to renew a certificate of registration before July first of any year, or for unprofessional conduct which term shall include employing solicitors to obtain business, obtaining fees by fraud or deceit, wilfully betraying professional secrets, employing, directly or indirectly, students or unlicensed chiropodists 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 chiropody 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 chiropody services in a superior manner, advertising definite fixed prices 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.

**154.06 Penalties.** (1) Any person practicing or holding himself out as practicing chiropody, not being registered, and certificate recorded, shall be punished, for a first offense by fine of not less than fifty nor more than one hundred dollars, and for a subsequent offense by fine of not less than one hundred nor more than two hundred fifty dollars, or imprisonment not less than six months, or both.

(2) Any person shall be fined not less than fifty nor more than two hundred dollars or imprisoned not less than thirty days nor more than six months, or both who shall:

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

(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 chiropody, or in fraud of the laws regulating such practice.

(c) With fraudulent intent, alter in a material regard 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 chiropody, or in order to procure registration as a chiropodist.

(e) Practice chiropody 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 chiropodist degree or certificate of registration.