

CHIRO NEWS

Newsletter of the Maryland Board of Chiropractic
& Massage Therapy Examiners

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SPRING 2009



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SCHEDULE OF REMAINING 2009 BOARD MEETINGS *

June 11
July 9
August 13
September 10
October 8
November 12
December 10

* All dates subject to change due to weather or discipline hearings.

MEMORABLE QUOTE

"One man with courage is a majority." President Andrew Jackson (1820)

RENEWAL & CEU INFORMATION

All chiropractors must renew their practice licenses by SEPTEMBER 1, 2009. So why are we discussing this now, with Spring just upon us? We are bringing it to your attention because it is important that all licensees fully know, understand and follow the renewal requirements. As you know, this biennial renewal, ALL renewal applicants will be required to present copies of CEU completion certificates as well as a copy of their CPR (Provider Level Certification). Please read the following information and take the necessary steps to fully comply with all requirements.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS: All active and inactive licensees must renew licenses not later than **September 1, 2009. This will be the first renewal that ONLINE as well as PAPER applications will be offered. Online applicants must pay via credit card (Visa or MasterCard only) Paper applicants must pay by check or money order. In July, all licensees will be mailed complete instructions on how to process their renewal application in either electronic or paper format.**

DEADLINES/LATE FEE PENALTY: The Board will mail out renewal applications and instructions in July, 2009. The application forms will contain all deadlines. **All applications MUST be postmarked or entered online not later than August 31, 2009 to avoid an automatic, \$500.00 late fee.**

PRACTICE WITHOUT A RENEWED LICENSE PROHIBITED

Under state law, if a licensee postmarks his/her renewal application at least 2 weeks prior to the renewal deadline of September 1, 2009, (e.g. by August 15, 2009) the licensee may continue to practice if the Board fails to deliver the renewed license by the September 1st deadline. **Licensees who postmark or enter online his/her renewal application AFTER August 15, 2009 may NOT practice without a renewed license.**

RENEWAL FEES:

ACTIVE LICENSEES: \$700.00 renewal fee and \$26.00 health access fee (TOTAL \$726.00)

INACTIVE LICENSEES: \$350.00

NON-RENEWED LICENSEES: No fee but licensees must return renewal form requesting non-renewed status.

CEU REQUIREMENTS:

POST 9/1/2008 LICENSEES: Licensees who received their initial license **after September 1, 2008** are exempt from CEU requirements for the 2009 renewal but must still submit proof of their CPR certification.

OTHER THAN INITIAL LICENSEES: All non-initial licensees must submit evidence of forty eight (48) total CEUs that are satisfactorily completed between 9/1/2007 and 9/1/2009. **AIDS/COMMUNICABLE DISEASE—3 CEUs; RISK MGT—5 CEUs; JURISPRUDENCE—1 CEU.** The balance of CEUs may be in any subject/mode, approved by the Board. CPR—current CPR certification at the Provider Level from American Red Cross or American Heart Assn. or their licensed affiliates.

CEU COURSE MODE: Online, Take-home and/or live courses may be taken without limit.

ONLY BOARD PRE-APPROVED COURSES WILL RECEIVE CEU CREDIT—NO RETROACTIVE APPROVAL/AUTHORIZATION FOR NON-APPROVED COURSES IS ALLOWED. NOW IS THE TIME TO ASSESS YOUR CEU FILE - TAKE STEPS TO GET YOUR REQUIRED CEUs COMPLETED IN TIME FOR RENEWAL TO AVOID A LAPSE IN PRACTICE.

CEU information may be accessed from the website at www.mdchiro.org. Questions regarding renewal procedures or CEUs should be addressed solely to the Executive Director, Mr. Vallone, at 410-764-5985 or vallonej@dnhm.state.md.us.

FAQS re RENEWALS



QUESTION: *What type of CPR Certification do I need?*

ANSWER: All active chiropractic licensees are required to always maintain a current CPR certification at the PROVIDER LEVEL. Only certification by the American Heart Association and/or American Red Cross or their authorized affiliates/agents are authorized (NO EXCEPTIONS).

QUESTION: *Can I get CEU credit for online courses ? Also, how many on-line or Take-home courses can I take for credit during the biennial period?*

ANSWER: Yes, provided that the courses were pre-approved by the Board. Pursuant to COMAR 10.43.11, ONLY courses pre-approved by the Board at least 90 days prior to the commencement of the course will count towards the mandatory 48 CEU biennial requirement. There are NO EXCEPTIONS to this, **so please do not call the Board and ask for retroactive approval of unapproved courses.** Licensees are urged to plan their CEU calendars to insure that courses desired are pre-approved to meet the 90-day deadline.

Regarding online and/or take-home CEU courses, there is no limit. Licensees may take their entire 48 CEUs through live, online or take-home courses, as long as the courses are pre-approved by the Board.

QUESTION: *When I get my renewal application form, if I choose to go inactive or non-renewed, what should I do?*

ANSWER: If you choose to go into an inactive or non-renewed status, you must still complete the appropriate sections of the application form. There is a \$350.00 fee for inactive status and no fee for non-renewed status. Inactive status allows a licensee to later transit to active status with payment of a reactivation fee. A non-renewed licensee must pay a substantial licensing fee, rein statement fee and penalties depending on the time out of active practice.

FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



RENEWAL TIME

It is important that all licensees plan ahead for the upcoming Fall 2009 renewal. All licensees should endeavor to complete their CEU requirements instead of waiting until the last minute. Licensees should be aware that except for documented, dire emergencies, the Board does not grant waivers or exceptions for the failure to renew licenses on time. Also remember that ONLY Board pre-approved courses are eligible for CEU credit.

CA RENEWALS COMPLETED

The Board completed renewals for CAs in April. **ALL ACTIVE CAs MUST HAVE THEIR CURRENT CA REGISTRATION POSTED WITH A 03/31/2011 expiration date. Supervising Chiropractors are strongly advised to check their CA registration certificates to insure renewal status was properly completed.** Supervising Chiropractors may NOT use a CA who holds an expired registration.

CEU CREDIT AUTHORIZED FOR EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Up to 12 CEUs may be achieved for licensees who serve as instructors in healthcare courses or programs. The courses must have been taught between 9/1/2007 and 9/1/2009 and must relate to chiropractic, chiropractic assistant or massage therapy scopes of practice. Letters from the organization, school or provider must be submitted to achieve credit. The letter must specifically detail the course syllabus, dates of the course, location. The following are some examples of courses for which credit may be achieved:

- Board approved instructors for CA courses.
- Instructors for CEU courses sponsored by a chiropractic college or CEU provider
- Instructors of college level courses in a 2-year or 4-year college.
- Instructors in chiropractic colleges or massage schools
- Board members and consultants who attend professional functions, meetings and conventions on orders of the Board or the State such as vetting and/or proctoring NBCE examinations or representing the State at FCLB and/or NBCE functions.

Credit may be achieved for both paid and unpaid services listed above. For clarifications and information, please call Executive Director, Mr. Vallone.

NEW BOARD INVESTIGATOR, MR. MARC WARE, HIRED

The Board is please to inform licensees that Mr. Marc Ware has been hired to replace outgoing investigator, Ms. Teresa Thornton who departed last August. Mr. Ware is retired from the PG County police department and worked for Howard County School District. Mr. Ware has many years experience in investigations, report writing, surveillance, witness interviewing, and has worked on a myriad of criminal and administrative cases. While Mr. Ware will predominantly cover the massage cases, he will also work on chiropractic disciplinary cases. We wish Marc the best of luck and welcome him to our Board Staff.



APPROVED TRADE NAMES SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER

Cardinal Chiropractic
(Joseph Mufareh, D.C.)

Got Your Back Chiropractic
(Justin Klein, D.C.)

Functional Medicing Health Services, Wayne L. Sodano, D.C., D.A.B.C.I. (Wayne Sodano, D.C.)

Stutman Chiropractic, PC
(Mark L. Stutman, D.C.)

Wyman Chiropractic Care & Rehab, LLC (Kevin J. Wyman, D.C.)

TRANSITIONING TO ELECTRONIC MODE

As stated in the President's message, the Board will be offering license online renewals as an option for the Fall Chiropractic Renewal.

Additionally, please note that licensees will be required to provide an email address for renewal. This information will be captured on the Board database. We anticipate that future bulletins, information and newsletters may be disseminated electronically to save costs and expedite transmission of information.

As stated in the Winter Newsletter, Email addresses will also be added to the Chiropractor Roster for dissemination to requestors unless the licensee requests the email address be restricted.

The benefit of listing the email address on the roster is that licensees will be able to obtain more information from CEU providers. Licensees who choose not to list their email will not have the same up-to-date access to information from commercial providers.

Please use the form on page 4 if you wish to have your email address restricted from the roster.

WORKING WITH CAs & LMTs

There are some basic regulations and guidelines that will assist licensees in working with their CAs, CA trainees and LMTs. These tips are summarized below:

- No individual may be employed as a CA or CA trainee unless/until the supervising chiropractor has submitted a Board Notice of Employment Form. The Board will return a receipt by mail...at that point, the CA or CA trainee may commence work/training.
- Only a Supervising Chiropractor may work with a CA. Supervising Chiropractor status is a special certification issued by the Board upon application, interview and examination.
- Only a Licensed Massage Therapist (LMT) may work in a chiropractic office. Registered Massage Practitioners (RMPs) may not work in a chiropractic or any other healthcare setting. To verify LMT status, ask to view the license, check the verification venue on the Board website or call the Board office.
- No receptionist, clerk or admin staff may substitute at any time as a fill-in CA, CA trainee or LMT. Such conduct violates Health Occupation Article 3-313 and will subject the licensee to possible license suspension, revocation and fines.
- CAs may NOT engage in any x-ray work, including setting up the patient on the table in preparation of an x-ray. CAs may however, develop x-ray film. CAs may NOT engage in any massage therapy, including using a G-5 device unless also concurrently holding an LMT License. CAs may NOT engage in any low-level laser therapy modality.
- If an LMT is employed by a chiropractor, the LMT must clearly identify himself/herself to the patient, including his/her license status and have his/her LMT license prominently displayed.
- A Supervising Chiropractor may employ a maximum of 2 chiropractic applicant/trainees and 3 registered CAs at any one time.
- A Supervising Chiropractor is solely and exclusively responsible for the safe, professional and thorough clinical training of CA applicant/trainees. This includes the maintenance of a detailed, legible clinical training log for the period in which the individual is being trained.
- Visiting or substitute licensees must be certified as a Supervising Chiropractor in order to work with CAs.

NEW LICENSEES & SUPERVISING CHIROPRACTORS

The Board extends its sincere congratulations to the following new chiropractors and supervising chiropractors who recently received their respective licenses and certificates:

CHIROPRACTORS:

Ramezam Alireza
Carin Castro, D.C.
William Cox, D.C.
Pedro DeAlmeida D.C.
Meghan Dorsey, D.C.
Jay Lipofft, D.C.
Adam McCrea, D.C.
Towanda McMasters, D.C.
Cassandra McFarland, D.C.
Katherine Poe, D.C.
Ryu Kyun Sang, D.C.
Robert Smith, D.C.

SUPERVISING CHIROPRACTORS:

Kevin Brown, D.C.
Carmel Dekel, D.C.
Randy Hallman, D.C.
Edward Hoffman, D.C.
Jill Moore, D.C.
Alan Scheider, D.C.
Ryan Shakley, D.C.
Zachary Vahldick, D.C.
Paul Zell, D.C.



SNIPETS

- Forty One (41) successful CA applicants passed their subject matter and jurisprudence tests on April 21st. The Board welcomes these men and women into the Chiropractic Profession.
- The passing rates for both CA and Massage Applicants for the Board tests is approximately 97%. The passing rate for chiropractic applicants for the Board test is approximately 98%.
- The Governor has selected Dr. Daniel Kraus and Dr. Jonathan Nou to serve on the Board commencing July 1, 2009. Dr. Kraus will fill the new slot established when the Board was expanded by 2008 legislation. Dr. Nou will replace Dr. Marc Gamerman, who steps down after serving 8 years on the Board as member, vice-president and president.
- The 3 new members that will fill the massage board member slots established by the Board expansion have not yet been appointed at the time of this writing. The Governor will make those appointments from a slate of candidates submitted by Massage Professional Organizations.

UNIT 83
MD BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC
& MASSAGE THERAPY EXAMINERS
Suite 301 4201 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215-2299

REMEMBER TO CHECK THE BOARD WEBSITE FOR ALL CEU PROCEDURES AND REQUIREMENTS.
www.mdchiro.org



ADDRESS LABEL HERE

REQUEST FOR RESTRICTION OF EMAIL ADDRESS FROM DATABASE ROSTER

I, _____, License No. _____, request that my email address not be included on the Board releasable database roster. By this request, I acknowledge and agree that this restriction may result in me not having access to updated electronic information, advertisements and CEU programs that may be distributed, offered, advertised and disseminated by providers and contractors.

Signature

date

Mail to: Executive Director, MD Board of Chiropractic & Massage Therapy Examiners, Suite 301,
4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21215-2299.

ADDRESS CHANGE FORM

All licensees must notify the Board in writing upon changing their mailing address. Failure to do so will result in the assessment of a \$200.00 fine pursuant to COMAR 10.43.06.S.

I, _____, submit that I have changed my official mailing address to:

_____, effective on:

_____, 20___. I understand that upon receipt of this form, my official mailing address will be changed in my

Chiropractic Board file and in the licensee database.

Signature

date

printed name

Mail to: Board of Chiropractic & Massage Therapy Examiners
Suite 301
4201 Patterson Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21215-2299
Attn: Ms. Berger