

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINING BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF RULEMAKING:	PROPOSED ORDER OF THE
PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE	: CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINING
CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINING	: BOARD
BOARD	: ADOPTING RULES
	: (CLEARINGHOUSE RULE )

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PROPOSED ORDER

An order of the Chiropractic Examining Board to **repeal** Chir 5.02 (3); to **amend** Chir 5.01 (1) (a), (1g) (a), (1r) (a), (2) (b), and (3), 5.02 (1) (intro.), (a), (b), (bm), (c), (f), and (h), (2) (a), and (4) (a) 4., 5., and 6., and 5.03 (intro.); and to **create** Chir 5.01 (1) (g), (1g) (c), (1r) (c), (4), and (5), 5.02 (1) (i), and 5.03 (6), relating to continuing education.

Analysis prepared by the Department of Safety and Professional Services.

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ANALYSIS

**Statutes interpreted:**

Sections 446.025 (3) (b), 446.026 (3) (b), and 446.028, Stats.

**Statutory authority:**

Sections 15.08 (5) (b) and 227.11 (2) (a), Stats.

**Explanation of agency authority:**

Section 15.08 (5) (b), Stats., provides that an examining board, such as the Chiropractic Examining Board, “[s]hall promulgate rules for its own guidance and for the guidance of the trade or profession to which it pertains . . .”

Section 227.11 (2) (a), Stats., sets forth the parameters of an agency’s rule-making authority, stating an agency “may promulgate rules interpreting the provisions of any statute enforced or administered by the agency. . .but a rule is not valid if the rule exceeds the bounds of correct interpretation.”

**Related statute or rule:**

None.

**Plain language analysis:**

The Board conducted an evaluation and update of ch. Chir 5 to ensure consistency with current practices and applicable Wisconsin statutes. As a result, the following updates have been made:

- The date referenced in s. Chir 5.01 (1) (a), (1g) (a), (1r) (a), and (2) (b) is revised from December 14 to December 15 to align with the renewal date under s. 440.08 (2) (a) 24., Stats.
- Section Chir 5.01 (1) (g), (1g) (c), and (1r) (c) are created to allow a chiropractor, chiropractic radiological technician, or chiropractic technician to acquire a portion of their required continuing education credit hours by participating in online continuing education programs approved by the Board. This provision first applies to the renewal period ending on December 15, 2022.
- Section Chir 5.01 (3) is revised and s. Chir 5.01 (5) is created to comply with s. 440.03 (4m), Stats., as created by 2017 Wisconsin Act 59. Under this provision, the Board may require a credential holder to submit proof of completing continuing education programs or courses only if a complaint is made against the credential holder.
- Section Chir 5.02 (1) (a) is revised to remove the American Chiropractic Association (ACA) as an approved program sponsor, as the ACA is not included in the definition of “program sponsor” under s. 446.028, Stats.
- The requirement under s. Chir 5.02 (1) (b) and (2) (a) that program subject matter relates to improving the clinical skills of a chiropractor and is generally taught at the undergraduate or postgraduate level of a chiropractic college meeting the requirements of s. Chir 2.02 (6) (b) is revised. The revised requirement is that program subject matter contributes to the advancement, extension, and enhancement of the clinical skills of a chiropractor and fosters the enhancement of general or specialized practice and values.
- Section Chir 5.02 (1) (i) is created to require an online continuing education program to include a written assessment instrument that is designed to ensure active participation in the program and that a measurable benefit was derived from participation, and also include means to furnish each participant with evidence of having attended the program.
- Section Chir 5.03 is revised to require the Board to deny approval of a continuing education program for any of the enumerated reasons. Current rules allow the Board to exercise discretionary authority in issuing a denial.
- Other provisions throughout ch. Chir 5 have been revised to provide clarity and conform to current drafting standards.

**Summary of, and comparison with, existing or proposed federal regulation:**

None.

**Comparison with rules in adjacent states:**

**Illinois:** Rules of the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation address continuing medical education (CME) for persons licensed to practice chiropractic in Illinois (68 Ill. Adm. Code 1285.110). A CME program must be sponsored by one of the following:

- The Accreditation Council on Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) and organizations accredited by ACCME as sponsors of CME.
- The Illinois State Medical Society or its affiliates.
- The Illinois Chiropractic Society or its affiliates.
- The Illinois Prairie State Chiropractic Association or its affiliates.

- The International Chiropractic Association or its affiliates.
- The American Chiropractic Association or its affiliates.
- Any other accredited school, college or university, state agency, or any other person, firm, or - association that has been approved and authorized by the Department.

A CME program must meet all of the following requirements:

- Contributes to the advancement, extension and enhancement of the professional skills and scientific knowledge of the licensee.
- Fosters the enhancement of general or specialized practice and values.
- Is developed and presented by persons with education, experience, or both in the subject matter of the program.
- Specifies the course objectives, course content and teaching methods to be used.
- Specifies the number of CME hours that may be applied to fulfilling the Illinois CME requirements for license renewal.
- Provides a mechanism for evaluation of the program and instructor by the participants.
- Provides each participant in the program with a certificate of attendance or participation.

As the rules do not expressly allow or prohibit online CME programs, an online CME program meeting the above requirements may be used to satisfy the CME requirement.

**Iowa:** Rules of the Iowa Board of Chiropractic address continuing education for chiropractic physicians (645 IAC 44.1 to 44.11). A continuing education program must meet all of the following requirements:

- Constitutes an organized program of learning which contributes directly to the professional competency of the licensee.
- Pertains to subject matters which integrally relate to the practice of the profession.
- Is conducted by individuals who have specialized education, training and experience by reason of which said individuals should be considered qualified concerning the subject matter of the program.
- Fulfills stated program goals, objectives, or both.
- Provides proof of attendance to licensees in attendance.

Of the 60 hours of continuing education during a renewal period, 20 hours relating to clinical case management of chiropractic patients must be earned by completing a program in which an instructor conducts the class employing a traditional in-person, classroom-type presentation and the licensee is in attendance in the same room as the instructor.

**Michigan:** Rules of the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs address continuing education for persons licensed to practice chiropractic in Michigan (Mich Admin Code, R 338.12006 to R 338.12008a). A continuing education program must be accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the Council on Chiropractic Education or approved by another state's board of chiropractic.

Fifteen of the 30 required hours of continuing education may be from online programs, excluding the required 2 hours of continuing education on physical measures, the 2 required hours of continuing education on the performance and ordering of tests, and any continuing education program in which a participant performs a chiropractic manipulation or adjustment on another individual.

**Minnesota:** Rules of the Minnesota Board of Chiropractic Examiners address continuing education for persons licensed to practice chiropractic in Minnesota (Minnesota Rules, parts 2500.1100 to 2500.2000). The Board registers and approves continuing education sponsors. A program sponsor must use the following criteria to determine if a continuing education program is approved and the number of continuing education units for which approval is granted:

- Whether the material to be presented is likely to enhance the practitioner's knowledge and skill in the practice of chiropractic.
- Whether the instructors or speakers presenting the program, and those persons preparing the program, are sufficiently qualified in the field of their instruction, either by practical or academic experience or both.
- Whether the classes will be held in a suitable setting, or under suitable conditions, that are considered by the Board to be conducive to the learning process.
- Whether the program may improve the practitioner's ability to keep records necessary to substantiate the need for chiropractic care.

A chiropractor may obtain the annual continuing education requirement through alternatives to traditional classroom presentations. The programs must be approved by the Board or a Board-approved sponsor. An online program approved for continuing education credit must include a written assessment instrument, designed to ensure that the chiropractor actively participated in the presentation of material and derived a measurable benefit from participation.

**Summary of factual data and analytical methodologies:**

The rules were developed by reviewing the provisions of ch. Chir 5 to ensure the rules are consistent with current practices and applicable Wisconsin statutes. No additional factual data or analytical methodologies were used to develop the proposed rules.

**Analysis and supporting documents used to determine effect on small business or in preparation of economic impact analysis:**

The proposed rules were posted for a period of 14 days to solicit public comment on economic impact, including how the proposed rules may affect businesses, local government units, and individuals. No comments were received.

**Fiscal Estimate and Economic Impact Analysis:**

The Fiscal Estimate and Economic Impact Analysis document is attached.

**Effect on small business:**

These proposed rules do not have an economic impact on small businesses, as defined in s. 227.114 (1), Stats. The Department's Regulatory Review Coordinator may be contacted by email at Daniel.Hereth@wisconsin.gov, or by calling (608) 267-2435.

**Agency contact person:**

Dale Kleven, Administrative Rules Coordinator, Department of Safety and Professional Services, Division of Policy Development, P.O. Box 8366, Madison, Wisconsin 53708-8366; telephone 608-261-4472; email at DSPSAdminRules@wisconsin.gov.

**Place where comments are to be submitted and deadline for submission:**

Comments may be submitted to Dale Kleven, Administrative Rules Coordinator, Department of Safety and Professional Services, Division of Policy Development, P.O. Box 8366, Madison, WI 53708-8366, or by email to DSPSAdminRules@wisconsin.gov. Comments must be received at or before the public hearing to be held at 8:30 a.m. on November 21, 2019, to be included in the record of rule-making proceedings.

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TEXT OF RULE

SECTION 1. Chir 5.01 (1) (a) is amended to read:

**Chir 5.01 (1) (a)** Every chiropractor shall complete at least 40 continuing education credit hours in approved continuing education programs during each 2-year license registration period ending on December ~~44~~ 15 of each even-numbered year, except as specified in s. Chir 3.02 (1) (c).

SECTION 2. Chir 5.01 (1) (g) is created to read:

**Chir 5.01 (1) (g)** Beginning with the license registration period ending on December 15, 2022, up to 8 of the continuing education credit hours required under par. (a) may be acquired through participation in online continuing education programs approved under s. Chir 5.02.

SECTION 3. Chir 5.01 (1g) (a) is amended to read:

**Chir 5.01 (1g) (a)** Every chiropractic radiological technician shall complete at least 12 continuing education credit hours in approved continuing education programs during each 2-year certificate registration period ending on December ~~44~~ 15 of each even-numbered year. A chiropractic radiological technician who receives an initial certificate during a licensing biennium is not required to satisfy the continuing education requirement from the date of that certificate to the end of that licensing biennium.

SECTION 4. Chir 5.01 (1g) (c) is created to read:

**Chir 5.01 (1g) (c)** Beginning with the certificate registration period ending on December 15, 2022, up to 4 of the continuing education credit hours required under par. (a) may be acquired through participation in online continuing education programs approved under s. Chir 5.02.

SECTION 5. Chir 5.01 (1r) (a) is amended to read:

**Chir 5.01 (1r) (a)** Every chiropractic technician shall complete at least 6 continuing education credit hours in approved continuing education programs during each 2-year certificate registration period ending on December ~~44~~ 15 of each even-numbered year. A chiropractic technician who receives an initial certificate during a licensing biennium is not required to satisfy the continuing education requirement from the date of that certificate to the end of that licensing biennium.

SECTION 6. Chir 5.01 (1r) (c) is created to read:

**Chir 5.01 (1r) (c)** Beginning with the certificate registration period ending on December 15, 2022, up to 2 of the continuing education credit hours required under par. (a) may be acquired through participation in online continuing education programs approved under s. Chir 5.02.

SECTION 7. Chir 5.01 (2) (b) and (3) are amended to read:

**Chir 5.01 (2) (b)** If the chiropractor, chiropractic radiological technician, or chiropractic technician has failed to meet the credential renewal requirement during the period, continuing education hours acquired on or after December 14 15 of any even-numbered year will apply to the preceding period only if the chiropractor, chiropractic radiological technician, or chiropractic technician has failed to meet the credential renewal requirement during that period, and will not apply to any other period or purpose.

**(3)** To obtain credit for completion of continuing education programs, a chiropractor, chiropractic radiological technician, or chiropractic technician shall certify on ~~his or her~~ the application for credential renewal that ~~he or she has completed~~ all continuing education credits ~~have been completed~~ as required ~~in under~~ this section ~~for the previous 2 year credential registration period. A chiropractor, chiropractic radiological technician, or chiropractic technician shall retain for a minimum period of 4 years, and shall make available to the board or its agent upon request, certificates of attendance issued by the program sponsor for all continuing education programs for which he or she claims credit for purposes of renewal of his or her credential. Chiropractors, chiropractic radiological technicians, or chiropractic technicians attending a program for credit shall be present in the room where a program is being presented in order to claim credit. A chiropractor, chiropractic radiological technician, or chiropractic technician may claim credit hours for continuing education for which he or she was in actual attendance in the room, except for authorized break periods or to attend to personal hygiene needs.~~

SECTION 8. Chir 5.01 (4) to (6) are created to read:

**Chir 5.01 (4)** A chiropractor, chiropractic radiological technician, or chiropractic technician shall retain a certificate or other evidence of attendance issued by the program sponsor for a minimum of 4 years from the date of completion of a continuing education program.

**(5)** The board shall require any chiropractor, chiropractic radiological technician, or chiropractic technician who is under investigation by the board for alleged misconduct to submit evidence of compliance with the continuing education requirements under this section.

**(6)** Except as provided under subs. (1) (g), (1g) (c), and (1r) (c), credit may only be claimed for completing a program in which an instructor employs an in person, classroom-type presentation and the chiropractor, chiropractic radiological technician, or chiropractic technician is in attendance in the same room as the instructor. A home study or other distance learning program may be approved for credit only in cases of extreme hardship, as determined by the board.

SECTION 9. Chir 5.02 (1) (intro.), (a), (b), (bm), (c), (f), and (h) are amended to read:

**Chir 5.02 (1) (intro.)** The board may approve a continuing education program ~~which~~ that meets all of the following ~~minimum~~ requirements:

**(a)** The program is sponsored by the Wisconsin ~~chiropractic association~~ Chiropractic Association, ~~the American chiropractic association~~, ~~the international chiropractors association~~ International Chiropractors Association, a college of chiropractic approved by the board, or a

college of medicine or osteopathy accredited by an agency recognized by the United States department of education.

~~(b) *Chiropractors.* The~~ For a continuing education program required under s. Chir 5.01 (1) (a), the program subject matter relates contributes to improving the clinical skills of a chiropractor and is generally taught at the undergraduate or postgraduate level of a chiropractic college meeting the requirements of s. Chir 2.02 (6) (b) the advancement, extension, and enhancement of the clinical skills of a chiropractor and fosters the enhancement of general or specialized practice and values. The board will not approve credit for continuing education regarding a technique or practice which the board has determined to be unsafe or ineffective.

~~(bm) *Chiropractic radiological technician and chiropractic technician.* The~~ For a continuing education program required under s. Chir 5.01 (1g) (a) or (1r) (a), the program subject matter relates to improving the clinical skills of a chiropractic radiological technician or chiropractic technician, as applicable.

(c) The program sponsor agrees to provide a responsible person to monitor and verify the attendance of each registered chiropractor, chiropractic radiologic radiological technician, or chiropractic technician, as applicable, at participating in the program, and the program sponsor agrees to keep the records of attendance for 3 years from the date of the program and to furnish each participant with evidence of having attended the program. This paragraph does not apply to an online continuing education program.

~~(f) *When*~~ If a course instructor of the program is on the undergraduate or postgraduate faculty of a chiropractic college, the program sponsor has provided written verification that the course instructor has been appointed in accordance with the accreditation standards of the Council Council on Chiropractic Education Chiropractic Education, and that the chiropractic college exercises sufficient supervision over a faculty member's course content.

~~(h) *The*~~ A course instructor is qualified to present of the program has qualifications appropriate for presenting the course.

SECTION 10. Chir 5.02 (1) (i) is created to read:

**Chir 5.02 (1) (i)** For an online continuing education program, the program includes a written assessment instrument that is designed to ensure the chiropractor, chiropractic radiological technician, or chiropractic technician, as applicable, actively participated in the presentation of material and derived a measurable benefit from participation, and also includes means to furnish each participant with evidence of having attended the program.

SECTION 11. Chir 5.02 (2) (a) is amended to read:

**Chir 5.02 (2) (a)** ~~Continuing education programs may include subject material other than that which relates to improving the clinical skills of a chiropractor and is generally taught at the undergraduate or postgraduate level of a chiropractic college, meeting the requirements of s. Chir 2.02 (6) (b) that does not meet the requirements under sub. (1) (b). However, only the parts of the program which relate to improving the clinical skills of a chiropractor and are generally taught at the undergraduate or postgraduate level of a chiropractic college~~ that include subject material that meets the requirements under sub. (1) (b) are eligible for credit.

SECTION 12. Chir 5.02 (3) is repealed.

SECTION 13. Chir 5.02 (4) (a) 4., 5., and 6. are amended to read:

**Chir 5.02 (4) (a) 4.** Be complete as prescribed in this subsection and filed with the board no later than 75 days prior to the program date or, for an online continuing education program,

the date on which the program will first be eligible for continuing education credit. An application is not considered complete until such time as all information required to be submitted with the application, and any supplementary information requested by the board, is received by the board.

5. Include evidence of the program sponsor's verification showing to the satisfaction of the board that the subject matter is ~~generally taught at the undergraduate or postgraduate level of a chiropractic college meeting the requirements of s. Chir 2.02 (6) (b) and relates to improving the clinical skills of a chiropractor~~ meets the requirements under sub. (1) (b). A detailed course outline or syllabus describing the subject matter of the program, and the amount of time devoted to each section of the outline or syllabus shall be attached to the application.

6. Describe the names and qualifications of all instructors, and if applicable, whether an instructor of the program who is an undergraduate or postgraduate faculty member of a sponsoring college was appointed in accordance with accreditation standards of the Council on Chiropractic Education ~~(CCE)~~ or by an agency approved by the United States ~~Office of Education or its successor~~ department of education.

SECTION 14. Chir 5.03 (intro.) is amended to read:

**Chir 5.03 (intro.) Application denials.** The board ~~may~~ shall deny approval of an application for any of the following reasons:

SECTION 15. Chir 5.03 (6) is created to read:

**Chir 5.03 (6)** The program subject matter relates to practice that is prohibited under s. Chir 4.05.

SECTION 16. EFFECTIVE DATE. The rules adopted in this order shall take effect on the first day of the month following publication in the Wisconsin Administrative Register, pursuant to s. 227.22 (2) (intro.), Stats.

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(END OF TEXT OF RULE)  
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