

Ohio State Chiropractic Board



NEWSLETTER

January 2020

Members of the Board

Mickey E. Frame, D.C., President
Rebecca J. Ault, D.C.
Johnathan R. Haggerty, D.C.
Jessica Voltolini, Esq.

77 South High Street, 16th Floor, Columbus, OH 43215

website: www.chirobd.ohio.gov ♦ e-mail: OSCB.ChiroBD@chr.state.oh.us

ONLINE RENEWAL WINDOW OPENS JANUARY 31, 2020!

On January 31, 2020, an email Notification will be sent to your email address on file announcing the start of 2020 License Renewal. To verify/change your email address to ensure you receive this important message, log into your eLicense.ohio.gov profile. You will need your username and password.

Remember - you can do the following in your eLicense account:

- Contact changes
- Name changes
- Request a replacement wall certificate
- Request a license verification
- Inactivate your license
- Apply for an acupuncture certificate

STILL NEED TO EARN CE?

Good sources of acceptable CE are programs approved by [PACE](#), chiropractic colleges, and chiropractic associations.

2 hours of FREE Board-mandated CE is linked on the homepage of the Board's website.

If you were licensed on or after April 1, 2018, you are exempt from earning CE to renew your license for 2020.

Click [here](#) to review your CE responsibilities, exceptions, prohibitions, etc.

Click [here](#) to review the Board's standards and requirements for CE programs.

Click on the Continuing Education tab on the Board's [website](#) for comprehensive information about CE.

KEEP YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION CURRENT

You are required to maintain current contact information with the Board (email address, residence address and telephone number, and address and telephone number for all locations where activities related to the practice of chiropractic and/or acupuncture are conducted.) Contact information may be updated anytime by logging into your eLicense.ohio.gov profile using your email address and password. Click "Change Address" on the Options Button.

Your Health and Well Being

If you are affected by mental, emotional or behavioral illness, or substance-related and addictive disorders, or other illnesses, there is a confidential statewide resource dedicated to healthcare professionals.

The [Ohio Physicians Health Program](#) (OPHP) provides a compassionate, supportive, and safe environment for you to receive confidential services to improve your health and well-being. OPHP specializes in providing confidential monitoring and advocacy services for qualifying healthcare professionals.

OPHP accepts referrals from any source and protects the confidentiality of program participants and anonymity of referral sources to the fullest extent allowed by law.

Please contact the [Ohio Physicians Health Program](#) if you need assistance for identification, intervention, and/or referral for assessment or treatment.

Ohio Physicians Health Program
130 E. Chestnut St, Ste 400; Columbus, OH 43215
614.841.9690
<https://www.ophp.org/services>

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Doctors Held to Higher Standards

Some doctors have questioned why they are held to higher standards than some other nonhealthcare professionals. One reason is the “fiduciary” nature of the doctor/patient relationship—doctors are required and have a duty to make decisions in the best interest of their patients, not themselves.

Those who aid others typically are held at the highest end of social standing. With this elevated status comes added fiduciary responsibilities: Lawmakers and the public expect healthcare providers to conform to the highest moral and ethical standards.

Doctors also are more accountable due to the intimate nature of the doctor/patient relationship. Patients need to be able to trust their healthcare providers. Without this trust, many patients would not share certain facts about themselves that would enable proper care and treatment. The fact that a patient is frequently at the mercy of a doctor’s decision causes an inequity in the distribution of power in the doctor/patient relationship.

Boundary Violations Can be Unintentional

Many doctors are surprised to learn that the patient—not the doctor—sets the boundaries, and a doctor’s statements or actions can be perceived differently than how the doctor intended them. It does not matter what you intended. If your patient felt offended, there was a boundary violation.

In addition, chiropractors may be at greater risk due to the unique nature of the chiropractic profession. It’s more hands-on than many other healthcare specialties and, because chiropractors often treat the same patients over many years, the doctor/patient relationship tends to become more familiar. As a result, D.C.s tend to develop excellent rapport with their patients, and while this is a testament to the profession, doctors need to be careful not to compromise the professional aspect of their relationships with patients.

Finally, another important issue is how judges and juries might view a doctor’s behavior. Keep in mind that these individuals may look at a D.C.’s actions several years later, with 20/20 hindsight and preconceived notions about what actually transpired.

Your Duty to Report Suspected Board Violations

If you believe any violation of the Board’s laws and rules has occurred, you are required to report to the Board the information upon which your belief is based. Failure to bring possible violations of the Board’s laws and rules to the Board’s attention may subject you to Board discipline for failure to report.

It is also a violation to engage in an ongoing professional relationship with a person or entity that violates any Board law or rule, unless you make a good faith effort to have the person or entity become compliant.

Complaints may be filed at www.eLicense.ohio.gov, click on “File a Complaint” in the upper right hand corner. All complaints are confidential.

Documentation and Record Keeping

Most complaints require the Board to subpoena patient records. Frequently, poor documentation is discovered when reviewing a patient’s records. The original complaint may not involve a documentation issue, or the Board may find no evidence to support the allegation made. However, poor documentation may result in Board intervention or disciplinary action against you.

Keep your documentation skills up to date and avoid Board scrutiny. Remember, **Clinical Documentation is an approved CE topic.** If you still need to earn CE to renew your license for 2020, now is the perfect time to improve your record keeping and documentation!

www.chirobd.ohio.gov