



# LAWS OF ALASKA

2016

**Source**  
CSSB 69(FIN)

**Chapter No.**  
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## AN ACT

Relating to the Board of Chiropractic Examiners and the practice of chiropractic.

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**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1



**AN ACT**

1 Relating to the Board of Chiropractic Examiners and the practice of chiropractic.

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3 \* **Section 1.** AS 08.20.055 is amended to read:

4           **Sec. 08.20.055. Board regulations.** The board shall adopt [SUBSTANTIVE]  
5 regulations necessary to effect the provisions of this chapter, including regulations  
6 establishing standards for

7                           (1) continuing education; [AND]

8                           (2) the application, performance, and evaluation of chiropractic core  
9 methodology;

10                           **(3) the training, qualifications, scope of practice, and employment**  
11 **of chiropractic interns and chiropractic preceptors;**

12                           **(4) the designation of one or more nationally recognized**  
13 **certification programs for chiropractic clinical assistants; and**

1                                   **(5) the performance of patient examinations authorized under**  
2                                   **AS 08.20.100(b).**

3 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 08.20.100(b) is amended to read:

4                                   (b) A person licensed under this chapter may

5   (1) analyze, diagnose, or treat the chiropractic condition of a patient by  
6                                   chiropractic core methodology or by ancillary methodology;

7   (2) accept referrals for [CHIROPRACTIC] treatment **by chiropractic**  
8                                   **core methodology or by ancillary methodology;**

9   (3) consult on chiropractic matters;

10    (4) refer patients to other health care professionals;

11    (5) **perform,** [SIGN (A)] within the scope of chiropractic practice,  
12                                   [CERTIFICATES OF] physical examinations **of** [FOR] children **for school physical**  
13                                   **examinations and preparticipation physical examinations for sports and school**  
14                                   **activities** [BEFORE THEY ENTER SCHOOL];

15    **(6) sign**

16   **(A)** [(B)] reports for excuses from employment and from  
17                                   attendance at school or participation in sports activities; and

18   **(B)** [(C)] authorizations for sick leave;

19    **(7)** [(6)] perform preemployment and workplace health examinations;

20    **(8)** [(7)] provide disability and physical impairment ratings;

21    **(9)** [AND (8)] provide retirement health and disability authorizations  
22                                   and recommendations;

23    **(10) employ nationally certified chiropractic clinical assistants;**

24                                   **and**

25    **(11) employ chiropractic interns and chiropractic preceptors.**

26 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 08.20.100 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

27    (d) This section does not apply to a chiropractic intern who is acting within the  
28                                   scope of practice authorized by the board and is under the personal supervision of a  
29                                   licensed chiropractor.

30 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 08.20.160 is amended to read:

31                                   **Sec. 08.20.160. Temporary permits.** Temporary permits may be issued to

1 [PERSONS APPARENTLY] qualified **applicants** until the next regular meeting of  
2 the board.

3 \* **Sec. 5.** AS 08.20 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 **Sec. 08.20.168. Chiropractic clinical assistant.** (a) Enrollment in or  
5 completion of a nationally recognized certification program under AS 08.20.055(4) is  
6 required to practice as a chiropractic clinical assistant in this state.

7 (b) A person who meets the requirement under (a) of this section may, under  
8 the general supervision of a person licensed under this chapter,

9 (1) perform diagnostic imaging studies;

10 (2) use ancillary methodologies; and

11 (3) perform procedures.

12 \* **Sec. 6.** AS 08.20.185 is amended to read:

13 **Sec. 08.20.185. Utilization [PEER] review committee; confidentiality.** (a)  
14 **The** [IN ADDITION TO PEER REVIEW AUTHORIZED UNDER AS 08.01.075,  
15 THE] board may establish a **utilization** [PEER] review committee to review  
16 complaints concerning the reasonableness or appropriateness of care provided, fees  
17 charged, or costs for services rendered by a licensee to a patient. A review conducted  
18 by a **utilization** [PEER] review committee under this section may be **used**  
19 [UTILIZED] by the board in considering disciplinary action against a licensee, but the  
20 results or recommendations of a **utilization** [PEER] review committee are not binding  
21 **on** [UPON] the board. A member of a **utilization** [PEER] review committee  
22 established under this section who in good faith submits a report under this section or  
23 participates in an investigation or judicial proceeding related to a report submitted  
24 under this section is immune from civil liability for the submission or participation.

25 (b) The board shall charge a complainant a fee, established under  
26 AS 08.01.065, for **utilization** [PEER] review under this section.

27 (c) Patient records presented to a **utilization** [PEER] review committee for  
28 review under this section that were confidential before their presentation to the  
29 committee are confidential to the committee members and to the board members and  
30 are not subject to inspection or copying under AS 40.25.110 - 40.25.125. A committee  
31 member or board member to whom confidential records are presented under this

1 subsection shall maintain the confidentiality of the records. A person who violates this  
2 subsection is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

3 \* **Sec. 7.** AS 08.20 is amended by adding a new section to article 2 to read:

4 **Sec. 08.20.195. Limitation of practice.** A person licensed under this chapter  
5 or a person who is practicing as a chiropractic intern, chiropractic clinical assistant, or  
6 chiropractic preceptor under this chapter may act only within the scope of practice  
7 authorized by the board.

8 \* **Sec. 8.** AS 08.20.200 is amended to read:

9 **Sec. 08.20.200. Unlicensed practice [A MISDEMEANOR].** A person who  
10 practices chiropractic in the state without a license in violation of AS 08.20.100 is  
11 guilty of a **class A** misdemeanor **and may be punished as provided in AS 12.55** [,  
12 AND UPON CONVICTION IS PUNISHABLE BY A FINE OF NOT MORE THAN  
13 \$1,000, OR BY IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT MORE THAN A YEAR, OR BY  
14 BOTH].

15 \* **Sec. 9.** AS 08.20.210 is amended to read:

16 **Sec. 08.20.210. Fraudulent licenses and certificates.** A person who obtains  
17 or attempts to obtain a chiropractic **license or provides the board with evidence that**  
18 **the person is nationally certified to practice as a chiropractic clinical assistant**  
19 [CERTIFICATE] by dishonest or fraudulent means [,] or who forges, counterfeits, or  
20 fraudulently alters a chiropractic **license or chiropractic clinical assistant** certificate  
21 **issued by a nationally recognized certification program** is **guilty of a class A**  
22 **misdemeanor and is** punishable **as provided in AS 12.55** [BY A FINE OF NOT  
23 MORE THAN \$500, OR BY IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT MORE THAN SIX  
24 MONTHS, OR BY BOTH].

25 \* **Sec. 10.** AS 08.20.900(7) is amended to read:

26 (7) "chiropractic examination" means an examination of a patient  
27 conducted by [OR UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF] a person licensed under this  
28 chapter, **or by a chiropractic clinical assistant or chiropractic intern under the**  
29 **supervision of a person licensed under this chapter,** for the express purpose of  
30 ascertaining whether symptoms of subluxation complex exist and consisting of an  
31 analysis of the patient's health history, current health status, results of diagnostic

1 procedures, including x-ray and other diagnostic imaging devices, and postural,  
2 thermal, physical, neuro-physical, and spinal examinations that focuses on the  
3 discovery of

4 (A) the existence and etiology of disrelationships of skeletal  
5 joint structures; and

6 (B) interference with normal nerve transmission and  
7 expression;

8 **\* Sec. 11.** AS 08.20.900 is amended by adding new paragraphs to read:

9 (11) "chiropractic clinical assistant" means a person who works under  
10 the general supervision of a person licensed under this chapter and who is

11 (A) enrolled in a nationally recognized certification program  
12 that certifies chiropractic clinical assistants; or

13 (B) certified by a national organization that certifies  
14 chiropractic clinical assistants;

15 (12) "chiropractic intern" means a person who is engaged in the  
16 practice of chiropractic while under the personal supervision of a person licensed  
17 under this chapter for the purpose of obtaining practical experience for licensure as a  
18 chiropractor;

19 (13) "chiropractic preceptor" means a person who is licensed under  
20 this chapter and who participates in the instruction and training of chiropractic interns.