

**BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS
Fiscal Year 2019 Annual Report**

Budget Recommendations for FY 2020 (continued)

Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel

#2 Rank in Importance

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff	
April 22-26, 2020	Denver, CO	2	1	
Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:				
FCLB & NBCE Annual Conference Meeting: A meeting with other state boards within the district to know more about the current issues and concerns of the public and chiropractors within the district.				
Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:	\$1,944.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,944.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$450.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$1,350.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,350.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	\$1,197.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,197.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections):		Meals/Per Diem		
Net Total:	\$7,941.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,941.00

Non-Travel Budget Requests

- Not Applicable Resources Examinations
 Membership Training Other

Product or Service	Provider	Cost Per Event
Membership Dues	FCLB	\$1,124.00

Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

This is the required membership fee with the FCLB. Membership with the FCLB helps sustain an open relationship with the other state boards. Cost unknown at this point. Last year's cost was \$1,124.00.

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Other Items with a Fiscal Impact

Cost Per Event: \$0.00

Not Applicable

Number of Events: 0

Product or Service	Provider	Total Cost
		\$0.00

Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

Summary of FY 2020 Fiscal Requests

Board Meetings and Teleconferences:	\$3,891.00
Travel for Exams:	\$3,394.00
Out-of-State and Additional In-State Travel:	\$12,948.50
Dues, Memberships, Resources, Training:	\$1,124.00
Total Potential Third-Party Offsets:	-\$0.00
Other:	\$0.00
Total Requested:	\$21,357.50

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Legislation Recommendations Proposed Legislation for FY 2020

No Recommendations

The Board has no recommendations for proposed legislation at this time.

Recommendations

The Board has the following recommendations for proposed legislation:

- 1) AS 08.01.050 (d): ADD Board of Chiropractic Examiners to current list of healthcare boards eligible to contract resources needed to address abuse of alcohol, drugs, or other substances to licensed professionals.
- 2) The board is pursuing authority under AS 08.20 to create a Clinical Chiropractic Nutritionist and advanced practitioner status for chiropractic physicians.

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Regulation Recommendations Proposed Legislation for FY 2020

No Recommendations

The Board has no recommendations for proposed regulations at this time.

Recommendations

The Board has the following recommendations for proposed regulations:

- 1) The board would like to modify its current definition of prescription drugs as defined in 12 AAC 16.990(b)(1)(B).
- 2) The board would like to modify its current definition of surgery as defined in 12 AAC 16.990(b)(2).
- 3) The board would like to create a new definition for nutrition and/or nutritional substances.
- 4) The board would like to add to 12 AAC 16.042 provision for the board to extend internships after graduation of new doctors, on a case by case basis, the ability to work under the general supervision of the preceptor, while waiting for NBCE Part 4 test scores to become available to be licensed.

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Goals and Objectives

Part I

FY 2019's goals and objectives, and how they were met:

Goal 1: Carry out assigned duties of the board:

The board met three times in FY 2019. The board met once by videoconference, with the board license examiner and Dr. Reinhardt in Juneau, and Drs. Larson, Vito and Morris in Anchorage. The other two meetings were by videoconference from the home locations of the board members, due to travel restrictions. The board administered jurisprudence exams, but did not conduct personal interviews with candidates, and conducted board business. The staff and board were able to review and approve applications in a generally timely manner, but distance between Alaska and chiropractic schools where most applicants are applying from always poses a logistics challenge. There was a significant uptick in investigations this year, which continue to be monitored by the board as investigations progress.

Goal 2: Provide information regarding board activities to the profession and the public:

The board made time available in every meeting for public input and encourages its licensees and the public to attend scheduled meetings and provide comment. All meeting agendas and minutes were posted on the board's website to make available to the public the topics discussed, and actions taken by the board.

Goal 3: Continue affiliation with the Alaska Chiropractic Society (ACS) to work cooperatively in the best interest of the profession and the public:

Regulation wording for SB69 defining practice for Certified Chiropractic Clinical Assistants, Interns and Preceptors was finalized and sent on for legal review and publication.

Goal 4: Assess and evaluate regulations:

The board completed regulation work on SB69. There was an error in converting the final draft from the board into printed regulation, so the entire project was sent back to the subcommittee for complete revision/rewrite. This has been completed and will be forwarded on to the Department of Commerce for formal recognition and printing.

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Goals and Objectives (continued)

Part I (continued)

FY 2019's goals and objectives, and how they were met:

Goal 5: Assess/evaluate the review process available through the Utilization Review Committee:

The formal name of this committee was changed from Peer Review Committee to the above. It is fully staffed and available should the need arise.

Goal 6: Continue affiliation with the Federation of Chiropractic Licensing Boards (FCLB). The National Board of Chiropractic Examiners (NBCE), the Association of Chiropractic Board Administrators (ACBA), and the Council on Chiropractic Education (CCE) as well as the Council on Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation (CLEAR) and the Federation of Association of Regulatory Boards (FARB):

This board had no presence at the FCLB/NBCE Annual meeting or the NBCE Part 4 board examinations due to travel restriction. Dr. Larson did attend the FCLB District 1 meetings in Palm Springs, CA in October, where the focus was on sharing how the boards from different states in the region are dealing with issues such as interdisciplinary practice, opioid addiction, regulation projects and scope of practice, etc. This board has a strong budget. For the sake of training, continuity and efficiency, we need to have a board member and our examiner attending these meetings.

Goal 7: The board will endeavor, through the legislative process, to add the Board of Chiropractic Examiners to relevant centralized and non-centralized statutes that enhance the profession and administrative efficiency:

The completion of the SB69 project has been a huge education for all involved and will hopefully be finalized shortly. A number of statutory and regulatory changes/additions have been recommended by this board, with the objective of successfully completing those projects within the next fiscal year. With the increased knowledge and skill base in writing statute and regulation, this should improve the ability of the board to efficiently draft new statute and regulations to meet the needs of the public for improved and broadened access to primary care, and further the goals of the chiropractic profession to increase access to care, especially as primary care physicians.

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Goals and Objectives

Part II

FY 2020's goals and objectives, and proposed methods to achieve them.

Describe any strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats and required resources:

1) Goal 1: Carry out assigned duties of the board:

Objective 1: Conduct a minimum of three board meetings this year with different regional locations in the State to allow for public attendance and meeting transparency. We will hold four regularly scheduled board meetings, three which will be telephonic, and one in person. Ideally, this "live" meeting will be in Juneau while the legislature is in session so this board may be available to elected leadership, but may be limited to Anchorage to minimize total travel. While public input sessions/times are published in advance for attendance at these telephonic meetings, the very nature of no physical presence severely impairs the transparency of this board and the overall public access to these meetings.

Objective 2: Continue timely processing of applications and licensing of chiropractic physicians.

Objective 3: Continue to monitor investigative reports, monitor disciplinary actions, and provide professional direction to Division Investigative staff regarding disciplinary actions, probation matters, criminal history record information, and chiropractic practice.

Objective 4: Utilize the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners (NBCE) Special Purposes Examination for Chiropractic (SPEC) and Ethics & Boundaries examination (E&B) in memorandum of agreements.

Objective 5: Continue to review and process continuing education credit approval in a timely manner.

Objective 6: Continue to administer the jurisprudence examination as part of licensure. Especially with the loss of the direct board interview with applicants, consider utilizing NBCE services to administer the jurisprudence examination at certified testing centers in Alaska and across the lower 48, saving time and expense for applicants, and relieving the Department of Commerce of the responsibility of hosting those tests at a state office four time per year.

2) Goal 2: Provide information regarding board activities to the profession and the public:

Objective 1: Inform licensees of any pending regulation changes in the customary manner.

Objective 2: Provide a public comment period during each meeting. This is scheduled per public meeting law for each board meeting, but difficult without face-to-face interaction required under telephonic meeting requirements.

Objective 3: Address concerns presented by licensees and the public at each meeting.

Objective 4: Provide copies of agendas and/or minutes of the meetings to all who request them.

Objective 5: Continue to work with other licensing boards, at both the district and national level. Without the ability to travel for national and district meetings, this becomes a non-reality. This board, which operates well within its budget must have the opportunity for the volunteers who serve on the board to interact with district and national level boards to best serve the needs of the board in keeping current, obtaining training, and being alert and attentive to the commission to protect the public.

Objective 6: Continue to address the reporting requirements for domestic violence and sexual assault. This would be a great seminar sponsored by the State at the next ACS convention???

Objective 7: Seek and support efforts to educate the governor, state legislators, and the public regarding the benefit of chiropractic care as a health care option, and the particular opportunities to efficiently recover from work injuries (Workers Comp), and deal with pain without opiate prescriptions.

Objective 8: Raise awareness regarding public health, emergency training, hazardous material, and OSHA requirements.

Objective 9: Ensure current information is available on the board website through regular updates by staff and regular monitoring by board members.

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Goals and Objectives (continued)

Part II (continued)

FY 2020's goals and objectives, and proposed methods to achieve them.

Describe any strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats and required resources:

- 3) **Goal 3: Continue affiliation with the Alaska Chiropractic Society (ACS) to work cooperatively in the best interest of the public and the profession:**
 - Objective 1:** Encourage regular Alaska Chiropractic Society participation at board meetings.
 - Objective 2:** Support the Alaska Chiropractic Society in its efforts to provide information to the profession and the public.
 - Objective 3:** Support the Alaska Chiropractic Society in pursuit statutory changes or additions that expand the scope of chiropractic practice to provide better portal-of-entry service for the public, for those who wish to utilize their chiropractic physician efficiently their primary care physician.

- 4) **Goal 4: Assess and evaluate regulations:**
 - Objective 1:** Continue to assess and evaluate continuing education requirements for quality, relevance, and application of scientific chiropractic research and practice.
 - Objective 2:** Continue to assess and evaluate radiological safety, professional ethics and boundaries, public health, and emergency training.
 - Objective 3:** Proactively make recommendations through regulation and recommend changes to statute to anticipate changes in the health industry.

- 5) **Goal 5: Assess and evaluate the review process available through the Utilization Review Committee:**
 - Objective 1:** Direct appropriate inquiries to the committee for review and recommendations.
 - Objective 2:** Keep the committee roster fully staffed with three chiropractic physicians and one public member at all times. This committee is fully staffed and ready to serve as may be required.
 - Objective 3:** Maintain a list of alternate committee members to fill vacancies or recusals as needed.

- 6) **Goal 6: Continue affiliation and improve interaction with the Federation of Chiropractic Licensing board (FCLB), The National Board of Chiropractic Examiners (NBCE), the Association of Chiropractic Board Administrators (ACBA), and the Council on Chiropractic Education (CCE) as well as the Council on Licensure, Enforcement, and Regulation (CLEAR) and the Federation of Association of Regulatory Boards (FARB:)**
 - Objective 1:** Provide attendance of a board member and the examiner to the district and annual meetings of the FCLB and NBCE, to provide input and obtain information at both national and state levels regarding the practice of chiropractic in Alaska. This was not accomplished due to the travel ban this year.
 - Objective 2:** Continue working with the FCLB on maintaining a listing of Alaskan chiropractic physicians on the National Database (CIN-BAD).

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6) **CONTINUED... Objective 3:** Promote attendance of board members to the semi-annual NBCE Part IV Examinations and Part IV Examination Review Committee meetings of the NBCE to provide input and obtain information on the Exams required for chiropractic licensure in Alaska and other states. The prior governor banned the receipt of the professional honorarium offered by the NBCE to cover the personal travel and time these doctors invest without compensation from the State to participate in this testing process. We formally request the ban on personal gifts or gratuities, specifically in relation to professional honorariums for travel and time spent by volunteer professional members of boards be lifted. This represents no cost for the State of Alaska, increases the interaction of Alaska professional board members with the NBCE board and license testing process. All other states allow their professionals to receive this financial remuneration for time and expenses directly related to the board and national testing process. **Objective 4:** Promote the attendance of the licensing examiner at the annual meetings of the ACBA and the FCLB to provide input and obtain information at both national and state levels, regarding matters impacting regulation and licensure of Alaskan chiropractic physicians.

7) **Goal 7: The board will endeavor, through the legislative process, to add the Board of Chiropractic Examiners to relevant centralized and non-centralized statutes that enhance the profession and its administrative efficiency:**

Objective 1: The board will pursue inclusion in AS 08.01.050(d) for the purpose of providing licensed chiropractic physicians the resources needed to address abuse of alcohol, drugs or other substances. This request has been placed on the Recommendations for Proposed Legislation list, 2020.

Objective 2: The board will pursue authority under AS 08.20 to create an Advanced Practitioner status for chiropractic physicians who pursue advanced training and certifications to utilize non-narcotic drugs, ancillary therapies and procedures beyond chiropractic core methodology and commonly used by other Alaskan health care professionals and specialists. This request has been placed on the Recommendations for Proposed Legislation list 2020.

Objective 3: The board is pursuing authority under AS 08.20 to create a Clinical Chiropractic Nutritionist practitioner status for chiropractic physicians to specifically resolve the question of injectable nutrients as part of chiropractic practice. Additionally, and Advanced Practitioner status for chiropractic physicians who pursue post-graduate specialist status in specific areas of chiropractic. Three requests have been placed on the Recommendations for Proposed Legislation list 2020.

Objective 4: The board is requesting regulation changes to clarify definitions of chiropractic practice under 12 AAC 16.990 to modify the definitions of surgery, prescription drugs, and add a definition of nutrition or nutritional substance.

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Sunset Audit Recommendations

**Date of Last Legislative Audit: July 24, 2013
Board Sunset Date: June 30, 2022**

Audit Recommendation:	The Office of the Governor should make Board appointments in compliance with statutory requirements.
Action Taken:	As this recommendation was for the Office of the Governor, neither the Board nor Division have the authority to take any action. However, currently, every seat on the Board is filled through March 1, 2020.
Next Steps:	None
Date Completed:	March 1, 2016

Audit Recommendation:	The Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing’s Director should continue efforts to improve the investigative case management system’s integrity and confidentiality.
Action Taken:	Negotiated the GLS contract in 2016 and will continue to use the system through 2020, under the current contract, with process improvements. The Division supervisors, staff and the investigations unit participate in annual training. Additionally, the Director updated the policy and procedures for handling affirmative responses to professional fitness questions in 2011, and with the assistance of the Chief Investigator, further clarified the business process in 2016.
Next Steps:	We are working with GLS to refine data fields to more accurately capture the information required.
Date Completed:	2016