



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Department of Commerce, Community,  
and Economic Development

DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND  
PROFESSIONAL LICENSING

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December 30, 2015

Dear licensees and interested parties:

Alaska's professional licensing statute (AS 08.01.065) require the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing (CBPL) to "annually review each fee level to determine whether the regulatory costs of each occupation are approximately equal to fee collections related to that occupation." Alaska's licensing fee statutes go on to say, "If the review indicates that an occupation's fee collections and regulatory costs are not approximately equal, the department shall calculate fee adjustments and adopt regulations...to implement the adjustments."

The division has completed this review and therefore proposes increasing licensing fee amounts in order to comply with the statute listed above, as well as to continue to deliver its current level of service for the naturopath licensing program. At the end of the last fiscal year (June 30, 2015), the program had an operating deficit of \$124,212. The proposed fees will cover the operating expenses for the program's forthcoming licensing period, as well as make headway into recovery of its deficit.

The last fee adjustment for the naturopath licensing program was in March, 2008, when license fees decreased from \$570 to \$470. Since that time, the program has moved into a deficit fiscal position due to increasing investigative and legal fees. The proposed increase is thus from \$470 to \$1200. Per AS 08.01.065, the program must be self-sustaining, so these costs must be recovered through an increase in license fees.

This fee proposal will enter a public comment period this week. The division encourages all licensees and interested parties to comment on this proposal in writing through the division's regulations staff, whose contact information is enclosed on the public notice. After the comment period closes and Division Director Janey Hovenden reviews all comments received, she may adopt the regulation as drafted, may amend a proposed fee, or may withdraw the regulations in part or in its whole.

A breakdown of the proposed fees is enclosed and located on the Naturopathy home page, which you may navigate to from [professionallicense.alaska.gov](http://professionallicense.alaska.gov). A list of questions and answers will be posted on the Naturopathy home page, as well, so please check back to see if your concern or question has been addressed.

All comments received will be reviewed and taken into consideration prior to adopting the final regulations. The final decision will result in the fee implementation in time for license renewal in March.

Please feel welcome to contact me at [sara.chambers@alaska.gov](mailto:sara.chambers@alaska.gov) or (907) 465-2144 with any questions. Please note that all comments on the proposed fees must be submitted in writing to [marilyn.zimmerman@alaska.gov](mailto:marilyn.zimmerman@alaska.gov) as indicated on the attached notice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sara Chambers".

Sara Chambers  
Division Operations Manager

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING FEES FOR  
NATUROPATHS IN THE REGULATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE,  
COMMUNITY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION:** The Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development proposes to change occupational license fees charged to naturopaths.

The Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development (Department) proposes to adopt regulation changes in Title 12, Chapter 02 of the Alaska Administrative Code, dealing with occupational licensing fees for naturopaths, including the following:

**12 AAC 02.270, Naturopaths**, is proposed to be changed to alter the application, temporary license, license, and renewal fees for naturopaths.

Under AS 08.01.065, the Department must establish fee levels so that the total amount of fees collected for an occupation approximately equals the actual regulatory costs for the occupation. The Department has reviewed the income and expenses for the occupational licensing program for naturopaths and proposes fee changes that reflect, to the extent possible, the actual costs of the activities related to the program.

You may comment on the proposed regulation changes, including the potential costs to private persons of complying with the proposed changes, by submitting written comments to Marilyn Zimmerman, Paralegal, Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing, P.O. Box 110806, Juneau, AK 99811-0806. Additionally, the Department will accept comments by facsimile at (907) 465-2974 and by electronic mail at [marilyn.zimmerman@alaska.gov](mailto:marilyn.zimmerman@alaska.gov). Comments may also be submitted through the Alaska Online Public Notice System by accessing this notice on the system at <http://notice.alaska.gov/179625>, and using the comment link. **The comments must be received not later than 4:30 p.m. on February 1, 2016.**

You may submit written questions relevant to the proposed action to Marilyn Zimmerman, Paralegal, Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing, P.O. Box 110806, Juneau, AK 99811-0806 or by e-mail at [marilyn.zimmerman@alaska.gov](mailto:marilyn.zimmerman@alaska.gov). **The questions must be received at least 10 days before the end of the public comment period.** The Department will aggregate its response to substantially similar questions and make the questions and responses available on the Department's website at <https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/cbpl/ProfessionalLicensing/Naturopathy.aspx> or on the Alaska Online Public Notice System. The Department may, but is not required to, answer written questions received after the 10-day cut-off date and before the end of the comment period.

If you are a person with a disability who needs a special accommodation in order to participate in this process, please contact Marilyn Zimmerman at (907) 465-2532 or [marilyn.zimmerman@alaska.gov](mailto:marilyn.zimmerman@alaska.gov) not later than January 25, 2016 to ensure that any necessary accommodations can be provided.

For a copy of the proposed regulation changes, contact Marilyn Zimmerman at the address or phone number above, or go to <https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/portals/5/pub/NAT-Fees-2016.pdf>.

After the public comment period ends, the Department will either adopt the proposed regulation changes or other provisions dealing with the same subject, without further notice, or decide to take no action. The language of the final regulation may be different from that of the proposed regulation. **You should comment during the time allowed if your interests could be affected.** Written comments and questions received are public records and are subject to public inspection.

**Statutory Authority:** AS 08.01.065; AS 08.45.020; AS 08.45.030; AS 08.45.035; AS 08.45.100

**Statutes Being Implemented, Interpreted, or Made Specific:** AS 08.01.065; AS 08.45.020; AS 08.45.030; AS 08.45.035; AS 08.45.100



**Chapter 02. General Occupational Licensing Functions.**

(Words in **boldface and underlined** indicate language being added; words [CAPITALIZED AND BRACKETED] indicate language being deleted.)

12 AAC 02.270 is amended to read:

**12 AAC 02.270. Naturopaths.** The following fees are established for naturopaths:

- (1) nonrefundable application fee for initial license, **\$500** [\$50];
- (2) license fee for all or part of the initial biennial license period, **\$1,200** [\$470];
- (3) biennial license renewal fee, **\$1,200** [\$470];
- (4) temporary license fee, **\$500** [\$50];
- (5) repealed 10/28/2000. (Eff. 9/27/86, Register 99; am 10/1/88, Register 107;

am 5/28/93, Register 126; am 7/28/94, Register 131; am 3/23/96, Register 137; am 3/12/98, Register 145; am 10/28/2000, Register 156; am 3/24/2006, Register 177; am 3/9/2008, Register 185; am \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_, Register \_\_\_)

**Authority:** AS 08.01.065                      AS 08.45.030                      AS 08.45.100  
AS 08.45.020                      AS 08.45.035