



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Department of Commerce, Community,
and Economic Development

DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND
PROFESSIONAL LICENSING

P.O. Box 110806
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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. 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 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 as indicated on the attached notice.

Sincerely,

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

Sara Chambers
Division Operations Manager

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