



TEXAS CHIROPRACTIC BOARD NEWS

TEXAS BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS

3rd Quarter -2005

VISIT US AT WWW.TBCE.STATE.TX.US

****Update from the Executive Director****

***New Board Member Appointments**

The Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners is pleased to announce the appointment of three new Board members. They are Dr. Kathleen Summers, D.C., Dr. Kenneth Perkins, D.C., and Ms. Kenya Woodruff. We welcome them and look forward to many productive years with them on the Board.

***Increase of Facility Registrations and D.C. License Renewal Fees**

The 79th Legislative session has come to an end. The agency has gone through Sunset Review and is to be continued for another 12 years. As part of our appropriation process, the board is required to raise fees. Effective January 1, 2006, there will be an increase in the amount of the facility registration fee by \$20 and an increase in the D.C. license renewal fee by \$10. Our fee schedule is posted on our website under Rule 79.5.

New Scope of Practice Rule

The Board is currently working on a new scope of practice rule. As part of the Board's Sunset legislation, H.B. 972, the Legislature directed that the Board adopt rules clarifying what activities are included within the scope of practice of chiropractic and what activities are outside of the scope. The rules must also clearly specify the procedures that chiropractors may perform, specify any equipment and the use of that equipment that is prohibited, and may require a license holder to obtain additional training or certification to perform certain procedures or use certain equipment.

The legislation also requires that the Board establish methods under which the Board, to the extent appropriate, will seek input early in the rule development process from the public and from persons who will most be affected by the proposed rule. The methods must include identifying persons who will be most affected and soliciting, at a minimum, the advice and opinions of those persons.

Continued....

This summer, following the legislative session, the Board and Rules Committee began meeting to discuss the scope of practice rule. The Rules Committee identified the following groups as key persons and entities who will be most affected, for this rulemaking: Texas Chiropractic Association, the chiropractic colleges, the insurance industry, Consumers Union, Citizens Against Lawsuit Abuse, the Texas Trial Lawyers Association, and defense lawyers.

The Board has prepared a draft scope of practice rule which is available for public review and comment on the Board's web site. The Board and Rules Committee will continue to meet this fall to work on the scope of practice rule in cooperation with the key persons and entities. The Board expects to adopt the scope of practice rule early next year, following publication of the proposed rule in the *Texas Register* and a formal opportunity for public review and comment.

Questions regarding the draft scope of practice rule may be submitted to info@tbce.state.tx.us. The Board's web site will include additional up-to-date information on upcoming meetings of the Board and Rules Committee and the status of the scope of practice rule.

ENFORCEMENT NEWS

*****Enforcement Department Update*****

The Enforcement Committee met September 15, 2005 to discuss 24 cases and met October 6, 2005 to discuss 23 cases. T.B.C.E. is making organizational headway and we appreciate your patience as we deal with the issues that are most pressing.

We are excited to have a new Enforcement Assistant, Mrs. Barbara Bostick, joining the T.B.C.E. staff October 10, 2005. With her experience, the Enforcement Department will see advancement.

RELEASE OF RECORDS

Per our Chiropractic Statute, Section 201.405..."A chiropractor shall furnish copies of chiropractic records or a summary or narrative of the records requested under a written consent for release of the information." To avoid disciplinary action by the board, familiarize yourself with this statute and also Rule 80.3.

****CONTINUING EDUCATION NEWS****

CONTINUING EDUCATION REMINDER

If you need to know whether a class has been officially approved by the Board for continuing education credit, please visit our website at www.tbce.state.tx.us. Click on the Continuing Education link and then go to Approved Continuing Education. All of the courses are listed chronologically by month. If a course is not listed, it has not been approved by the Board. There is no need to call the Board for verification, as the website is updated on a regular basis for your convenience. You are only permitted to take six hours online.

HURRICANE KATRINA: Temporary Licensing Provisions

The Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners (Board) held an emergency Board meeting on September 8, 2005, to adopt an emergency rule §79.2, to implement procedures to issue temporary licenses to chiropractors currently licensed in Alabama, Louisiana, and/or Mississippi who have been displaced by Hurricane Katrina. The temporary licenses will expire on January 31, 2006.

The rule, requirements for licensure, and application can be found on our website at www.tbce.state.tx.us. If you have additional questions, please contact Pam Harris, Director of Licensure at (512) 305-6709.

REQUESTS FOR CERTIFICATION LETTERS/LETTERS OF GOOD STANDING

There is a \$25 charge for each Request for Verification of Licensure or Letter of Good Standing to be sent to another state licensing board.

Please send your written request or form, along with your \$25 payment, to the attention of Pam Harris, Director of Licensure. If payment does not accompany your request, it will be returned to you unprocessed.

INACTIVE STATUS UPDATE:

The Board allows doctors of chiropractic to place his or her license on Inactive status. This cannot be done online, but through printing the form from the website, www.tbce.state.tx.us and mailing it back to the Board office. You must remain on Inactive status for one year before renewing as Inactive or before returning to Active status. Contact the Board office for questions regarding the Inactive license.

Have you changed your address lately?

Please remember that you are required to notify the Board office in writing of any change in business or mailing address within 30 days of the change. Failure to do so is a violation of Board Rule §73.1, which can result in an administrative penalty. If you submit an address change on the website, it does not change our records at the office. Please remember you still have to mail in or fax the changes to the TBCE office. The fax number is 512-305-6705. See www.tbce.state.tx.us under Forms and Downloads for an address change form.

**Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners
William P. Hobby Building
333 Guadalupe, Suite 3-825
Austin, TX 78701**

Presorted
Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit#
Austin, TX



BOARD MEETING CALENDAR

The dates for the upcoming Board/Committee meetings of the TBCE in 2005 and 2006 are shown below. The meetings are held in Ste. 225, Tower II of the William P. Hobby Building and are scheduled to begin at 12:30 P.M.

November 3, 2005
February 23, 2006
May 4, 2006
August 24, 2006
November 16, 2006

All TBCE Board Meetings are open to the public. Chiropractors are encouraged to attend at least one Board Meeting where he/she can meet the Board Members and staff of the Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners and earn continuing education credit. **The individuals that are on the agenda are strongly advised to attend both the Committee meetings and the Board meeting.** Committee meetings are scheduled to begin between 8:00 and 10:00 AM in the Board office, Suite 825 in Tower III in the William P. Hobby Building on the date of the Board Meeting.

TEXAS BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS OFFICE STAFF

Sandra Smith, Executive Director
(512) 305-6706 - Sandra.Smith@tbce.state.tx.us

Vera Gonzales, License Renewal & CE
(512) 305-6702 - Vera.Gonzales@tbce.state.tx.us

Pam Harris, Director of Licensure and Education
(512) 305-6709 - Pam.Harris@tbce.state.tx.us

Karen Sands, Verifications and Open Records
(512) 305-6707 - Karen.Sands@tbce.state.tx.us

Doug Ferris, Director of Enforcement & Investigations
(512) 305-6708 - Doug.Ferris@tbce.state.tx.us

James Moss, Chief Financial Officer
(512) 305-6703 - James.Moss@tbce.state.tx.us