

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

**TITLE 16. PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL REGULATIONS  
DIVISION 4.**

**BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS**

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED REGULATORY ACTION CONCERNING:  
Continuing Education: Distance Learning**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Board of Chiropractic Examiners (hereafter Board) is proposing to take the action described in the Informative Digest below, after considering all comments, objections, and recommendations regarding the proposed action.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

The Board has not scheduled a public hearing on this proposed action. However, the Board will hold a hearing if it receives a written request for a public hearing from any interested person, or their authorized representative, no later than 15 days prior to the close of the written comment period. A hearing may be requested by making such request in writing addressed to the individuals listed under “Contact Person” in this notice.

**WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD**

Written comments relevant to the action proposed, including those sent by mail, facsimile, or email to the addresses listed under “Contact Person” in this Notice, must be **received by the Board at its office no later than by Monday, November 3, 2025**, or must be received by the Board at the hearing, should one be scheduled.

**AUTHORITY AND REFERENCE**

Pursuant to the authority vested by sections 4(b) and 4(e) of the Chiropractic Initiative Act of California (Act), Stats. 1923, p. lxxxviii, and to implement, interpret, or make specific sections 4(b) and 10(a) of the Act, the Board is considering amending section 363.1 of Title 16, Division 4, Article 6 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR).

**INFORMATIVE DIGEST / POLICY STATEMENT OVERVIEW**

Existing law, CCR sections 360 through 366, establishes the Board’s annual continuing education requirements for actively licensed doctors of chiropractic. In 2011, the Board amended these requirements by increasing the number of required hours from 12 to 24; adding mandatory subject areas in ethics and law, history taking and physical examination procedures, and proper and ethical billing and coding; and allowing licensees to complete up to 12 hours annually through distance learning, which was considered any learning completed outside of a traditional, in-person classroom setting.

Since that time, synchronous online learning platforms have significantly expanded to include live webinars and virtual classrooms that are comparable in quality and delivery

to in-person learning environments. However, the Board's continuing education regulations do not currently account for these technological advancements and make no distinction between synchronous and asynchronous learning, so licensees must still annually complete a minimum of 12 hours of in-person continuing education.

This regulatory proposal will amend CCR section 363.1 to narrow the definition of distance learning to asynchronous coursework, thereby allowing courses delivered through synchronous online learning platforms to be eligible for the same credit as traditional, in-person classroom environments. This proposal will also require licensees to pass an interactive test or self-assessment as a condition for successful completion of a distance learning course, a current industry best practice; add programs and applications on a data-enabled device to the examples of acceptable distance learning course formats; delete a redundant requirement for providers of distance learning courses to review their instructional materials annually; and make additional, minor changes to the regulation to incorporate gender-neutral language and to clarify that continuing education providers are strictly prohibited from endorsing manufacturers, distributors, or other sellers of chiropractic products or services in their course material.

### **Anticipated Benefits of Proposal**

The Board has determined that this regulatory proposal will benefit the health and welfare of California residents by ensuring that actively licensed doctors of chiropractic, as health care practitioners, have access to a broad range of continuing education courses on topics such as advancements in the field of chiropractic practice, clinical competence, patient care, evaluation and diagnostic skills, and legal and ethical obligations, regardless of their geographic location. This proposal further benefits California residents by confirming licensees can demonstrate their understanding and command of asynchronous distance learning courses through an interactive or graded test of the material.

This proposal also benefits actively licensed doctors of chiropractic, particularly those located in rural areas or outside of the state or with permanent or temporary medical conditions or disabilities, by providing them with increased access to a variety of live continuing education courses with other licensees from diverse backgrounds and experiences.

This proposal benefits the environment by reducing carbon emissions and pollutants through eliminating the requirement for licensees to annually commute or travel to attend in-person continuing education courses.

This regulatory proposal does not affect worker safety.

### **Evaluation of Consistency and Compatibility with Existing State Regulations**

During the process of developing this regulatory proposal, the Board has conducted a search of any similar regulations on these topics and has concluded that this proposal is neither inconsistent nor incompatible with existing state regulations.

## **DISCLOSURES REGARDING THIS PROPOSED ACTION**

### **FISCAL IMPACT ESTIMATES**

**Fiscal Impact on Public Agencies Including Costs or Savings to State Agencies or Costs/Savings in Federal Funding to the State:** None. The regulation does not result in a fiscal impact to the state.

This proposal makes minor updates to the acceptable formats for classroom and distance learning chiropractic continuing education courses. The Board does not anticipate additional workload or costs resulting from the proposed regulation.

The regulation does not result in costs or savings in federal funding to the state.

**Nondiscretionary Costs/Savings to Local Agencies:** None.

**Cost to any Local Agency or School District for which Government Code Sections 17500 - 17630 Require Reimbursement:** None.

**Mandate Imposed on Local Agencies or School Districts:** None.

**Significant Effect on Housing Costs:** None.

### **BUSINESS IMPACT ESTIMATES**

The Board has made the initial determination that the proposed regulatory action would have no significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states.

The rulemaking file includes the facts, documents, testimony, and/or other evidence that supports this determination.

#### **Cost Impact on Representative Private Person or Business**

The Board is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily occur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action because continuing education providers and courses are typically currently in compliance with the proposed regulations. However, to the extent a continuing education provider is required to add a testing or self-assessment process to an existing course, any workload and costs are anticipated to be completed within normal business operations.

## **RESULTS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT / ANALYSIS**

### **Impact on Jobs/Businesses**

The Board has determined that this regulatory proposal will not have any impact on the following:

- 1) the creation or elimination of jobs within the state,

- 2) the creation of new businesses or the elimination of existing businesses within the state, or
- 3) the expansion of businesses currently doing business within the state.

### **Benefits of Regulation**

The Board has determined that this regulatory proposal will benefit the health and welfare of California residents by ensuring that actively licensed doctors of chiropractic, as health care practitioners, have access to a broad range of continuing education courses on topics such as advancements in the field of chiropractic practice, clinical competence, patient care, evaluation and diagnostic skills, and legal and ethical obligations, regardless of their geographic location. This proposal further benefits California residents by confirming licensees can demonstrate their understanding and command of asynchronous distance learning courses through an interactive or graded test of the material.

This proposal also benefits actively licensed doctors of chiropractic, particularly those located in rural areas or outside of the state or with permanent or temporary medical conditions or disabilities, by providing them with increased access to a variety of live continuing education courses with other licensees from diverse backgrounds and experiences.

This proposal benefits the environment by reducing carbon emissions and pollutants through eliminating the requirement for licensees to annually commute or travel to attend in-person continuing education courses.

This regulatory proposal does not affect worker safety.

### **Business Reporting Requirements**

The regulatory action does not require businesses to file a report with the Board.

### **Effect on Small Business**

The Board has determined that the proposed regulations may affect small businesses because many continuing education providers are small businesses, and most licensees own or are employed by small businesses.

All continuing education providers, including those who are small businesses, will have to ensure any distance learning courses they offer contain a test of the subject matter, a current industry best practice, to receive Board approval. Any potential costs of compliance with this requirement would be negligible and fall within their normal business operations. Additionally, those costs, if any, could be offset by the potential savings in expenses associated with delivering synchronous courses through an online learning platform rather than a traditional, in-person classroom environment.

This proposal is anticipated to decrease costs to licensees, including those who own or are employed by small businesses, by eliminating the requirement for them to annually commute or travel to attend in-person continuing education courses.

## **CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES**

In accordance with Government Code section 11346.5, subdivision (a)(13), the Board has determined that no reasonable alternative it considered to the regulation or that has otherwise been identified and brought to its attention would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed; would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposal described in this Notice; or would be more cost-effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provision of law.

Any interested person may submit written comments relevant to the above determinations to the Board's office at 1625 N. Market Blvd., Suite N-327, Sacramento, CA 95834 during the written comment period, or at the hearing if one is scheduled or requested.

## **AVAILABILITY OF STATEMENT OF REASONS AND RULEMAKING FILE**

The Board has compiled a record for this regulatory action, which includes the Initial Statement of Reasons, proposed regulatory text, and all the information on which this proposal is based. This material is contained in the rulemaking file and is available for public inspection upon request to the contact persons named in this notice.

## **TEXT OF PROPOSAL**

Copies of the exact language of the proposed regulations, and any document incorporated by reference, and of the initial statement of reasons, and all of the information upon which the proposal is based, may be obtained upon request from the Board at 1625 N. Market Blvd., Suite N-327, Sacramento, CA 95834.

## **AVAILABILITY OF CHANGED OR MODIFIED TEXT**

After considering all timely and relevant comments, the Board, upon its own motion or at the request of any interested party, may thereafter adopt the proposals substantially as described below or may modify such proposals if such modifications are sufficiently related to the original text. With the exception of technical or grammatical changes, the full text of any modified proposal, with the modifications clearly indicated, will be available for review and written comment for 15 days prior to its adoption from the person designated in this Notice as the Contact Person and will be mailed to those persons who submit written comments or oral testimony related to this proposal or who have requested notification of any changes to the proposal.

## **AVAILABILITY AND LOCATION OF THE FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS AND RULEMAKING FILE**

All the information upon which the proposed regulations are based is contained in the rulemaking file which is available for public inspection by contacting the person named below.

You may obtain a copy of the Final Statement of Reasons once it has been prepared by making a written request to the Contact Person named below or by accessing the website listed below.

## CONTACT PERSONS

Inquiries or comments concerning the proposed rulemaking action may be addressed to:

Name: Amanda Ah Po  
Address: Board of Chiropractic Examiners  
1625 N. Market Blvd., Suite N-327  
Sacramento, CA 95834  
Telephone No.: (916) 574-8984  
Fax No.: (916) 327-0039  
Email Address: [amanda.ahpo@dca.ca.gov](mailto:amanda.ahpo@dca.ca.gov)

The backup contact person is:

Name: Kristin Walker  
Address: Board of Chiropractic Examiners  
1625 N. Market Blvd., Suite N-327  
Sacramento, CA 95834  
Telephone No.: (916) 574-7784  
Fax No.: (916) 327-0039  
Email Address: [kristin.walker@dca.ca.gov](mailto:kristin.walker@dca.ca.gov)

## AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS ON THE INTERNET

Copies of the Notice of Proposed Action, the Initial Statement of Reasons, and the text of the regulations with modifications noted, as well as the Final Statement of Reasons when completed, and modified text, if any, can be accessed through the Board's website at [https://www.chiro.ca.gov/laws\\_regs/prop\\_regs.shtml](https://www.chiro.ca.gov/laws_regs/prop_regs.shtml).