

Chiropractic Extern Program

The Chiropractic Extern Program has been established to allow recent chiropractic graduates to practice in a field practitioner's office in order to gain practical experience until state licensure. This program offers the graduate (extern) a broad perspective of office experience by working under the supervision of a licensed doctor (preceptor).

Chiropractic extern means a graduate of an approved chiropractic college, but an unlicensed member of the chiropractic team who may assist a chiropractic physician in the performance of those duties that are lawful and ethical including but not limited to the following:

- X-Ray Examinations
- Physical Examinations
- Patient Consultation
- Specific Chiropractic Adjustment Procedure
- Physical Therapeutic

An extern may neither diagnose a condition nor prescribe a health care regimen, nor is he/she to sign insurance or any other forms which require a licensed doctor's signature. All approved duties of an extern shall be performed under the direct supervision of a licensed chiropractic physician. A Chiropractic Extern Program may last no longer than two (2) years.

Under no circumstance will an extern be allowed to perform any aspect of chiropractic care unless the preceptor is present on the premises. An extern may not function independently of the assigned preceptor. An extern may not participate in any chiropractic regimen off the premises without prior written approval from the Board.

Eligibility

Any student who graduated from any chiropractic school accredited by the Council of Chiropractic Education (CCE) or like-government approved organization is eligible to be involved in this program for twenty-four (24) months from the date of his/her graduation or upon receipt of his/her state license, whichever occurs first.

Enrollment

Application forms are available by calling the ASBCE office, or online at www.Arkansas.gov/ASBCE

Only one extern per approved licensed chiropractor preceptor will be permitted at a time.

Externs may not, under any circumstance, begin patient treatment under this program until they have completed all forms and have been approved by the ASBCE.

Copies of the Chiropractic Extern Statute are available online at www.Arkansas.gov/ASBCE

Tuition and Fees

A registration fee of \$100 is required of the preceptor in order to process his/her application. A registration fee of \$50 is required of the extern for registration in order to process his/her application. Tuition is \$25 for each month the extern is participating in the program.

If the Chiropractic Extern Program should end before the end of the enrollment period due to receipt of a license, written request may be submitted to receive the prorated amount of tuition, minimum one month tuition withheld. Fees are non-refundable.

Externs resigning or terminating from this program prematurely will not receive a refund of tuition and other fees paid to the ASBCE.

All tuition and fee payments must be paid in advance. All checks should be made payable to the Arkansas State Board of Chiropractic Examiners. Tuition and fees are non-refundable.

Malpractice Insurance

While participating in this program, all externs must be covered under a valid malpractice insurance policy. The extern must be added to the preceptor's policy.

All insurance coverage must be verified by the ASBCE before the extern may begin the program.

Preceptor Qualifications:

1. The preceptor must utilize recognized standard procedures such as taking of a detailed history and the utilization of complete physical examination, including x-ray, when necessary.
2. Participating preceptors shall have been in practice for at least 3 years.
3. Preceptors shall possess a current state chiropractic license, and be in good standing with the state board for the previous 2 years.
4. The preceptor is expected to use specific chiropractic adjustive techniques in his/her health care delivery.
5. The preceptor shall have a current and valid malpractice insurance that includes the use of physical therapy modalities if necessary. Minimum limits

of liability will be 100/300. The extern must be added to the preceptor's insurance policy.

6. Preceptors in the program are to pay a processing fee of \$100 for each extern introduced into the program. They must also complete a separate application as preceptor for each extern.
7. The preceptors must agree to remain on the premises at all times while the extern is performing any chiropractic procedures in their office.

Payment

Externs shall expect a fair payment for services rendered on behalf of the preceptor. The amount of payment is to be agreed upon between the extern and the preceptor in a manner understood by each party to the agreement.

Reporting Responsibilities

All preceptors will be asked to submit a quarterly progress report on the extern's proficiencies and deficiencies in the following areas:

- A. Physical diagnosis
- B. Physical Therapeutic Approaches as Appropriate
- C. Chiropractic adjustment
- D. X-Ray
- E. Patient Management
- F. Attendance, Initiative and Efficiency

Participating preceptors are to submit these reports on forms provided by the Board, which are included in the Preceptor application.

The preceptor and the extern will complete a summary evaluation of the program when the program has been completed. If the program is terminated earlier than anticipated, reasons for the termination shall be provided to the Board.

Each participating preceptor shall agree to converse with the Board at any time deemed necessary. Any changes concerning the preceptor or extern affecting their status with this program must be immediately reported to the Board.

It is the Board's view that being a member of the Chiropractic Extern program is a privilege and not a right. The Board's decision regarding the final selection of program members shall be final.