

21 NCAC 10 .0213 CERTIFICATION OF CLINICAL ASSISTANTS

(a) Classification of Applicants. Applicants for clinical assistant competency certification shall be classified as follows. Different certification requirements shall apply to each category.

- (1) Reciprocity applicants. A "reciprocity applicant" means an applicant who is currently certified or registered as a clinical assistant in another state whose requirements for certification or registration are substantially similar to or more stringent than the requirements for certification in North Carolina.

- (2) New applicants. A "new applicant" means any applicant who is not a reciprocity applicant.

(b) Requirements for Certification. Every applicant, regardless of classification, shall complete an application form available on the Board's website (www.ncchiroboard.com) and requiring the applicant to confirm and submit documentary evidence satisfactory to the Board that the applicant is at least 18 years of age, a high school graduate or the equivalent, and possessed of good moral character. A photocopy of the applicant's birth certificate, driver's license, or government-issued identification card shall constitute prima facie evidence of the applicant's age. A photocopy of the applicant's high school diploma, transcript, or general equivalency diploma (G.E.D.) shall constitute prima facie evidence of the applicant's graduation from high school. An affidavit attesting to good moral character and signed by a chiropractic physician or other responsible party who knows the applicant and is not related to the applicant shall constitute prima facie evidence of the applicant's good moral character. Every applicant, regardless of classification, shall pay to the Board an initial certification fee in the amount of twenty dollars (\$20.00). The initial certification fee shall not be paid in cash and may be paid by credit card through the Board's website, www.ncchiroboard.com, or by a check made payable to the North Carolina Board of Chiropractic Examiners. In addition to the general certification requirements, an applicant shall satisfy the requirements for the appropriate category of certification, as follows:

- (1) Reciprocity Applicants. A reciprocity applicant shall submit a copy of the applicant's current certification or registration as a clinical assistant in a state with which North Carolina reciprocates and shall also submit written confirmation from the state's certifying authority or registrar that the applicant is in good standing in that state.

- (2) New Applicants. A new applicant shall submit evidence that the applicant has completed an approved clinical assistant education program as described in Paragraph (c) of this Rule. A certificate of completion filed with the Board by the program sponsor shall constitute prima facie evidence that the applicant has obtained the required education. A new applicant shall also take and pass the standard proficiency examination administered by or under the authority of the Board, as described in Paragraph (d) of this Rule.

(c) Education Programs. In order to be approved by the Board, a clinical assistant education program for new applicants shall be at least 24 hours in length, of which at least six hours shall be in-person didactic training with an instructor or instructors who, based on education and experience, are competent to teach the portion of the curriculum they have been assigned. Credit for online coursework shall not exceed 18 hours, and all online coursework shall precede didactic training. The education program shall provide sufficient instruction in the five subjects set forth in G.S. 90-143.4(c) to enable its graduates to satisfy all applicable standards of care. To obtain approval of an education program, the program sponsor shall submit to the Board, at least 60 days prior to the proposed starting date, all instructional materials to be used in the program, including a syllabus of the didactic training, and a curriculum vitae for each instructor.

(d) Examinations. The proficiency examination for new applicants shall assess both academic knowledge and practical skills acquired through education programs and shall be administered in person at least four times per year on dates and at locations to be announced by the Board at least 90 days in advance and published on the Board's website, www.ncchiroboard.com. In its discretion, the Board may authorize additional testing sessions based on the number of applications received. The minimum passing score on the examination is 75 percent.

(e) Certificate Expiration and Renewal. Unless renewed, a certificate of competency shall expire on June 30th of the third year following the year in which it was issued. A certificate holder seeking to renew shall submit evidence that the applicant has completed six hours of Board-approved continuing education. A certificate of attendance or completion issued by the course sponsor and filed with the Board shall constitute prima facie evidence that the applicant has completed the number of hours recited in the certificate. The applicant shall pay to the Board a renewal fee in the amount of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00). The renewal fee shall not be paid in cash and may be paid by credit card through the Board's website, www.ncchiroboard.com, or by a check made payable to the North Carolina Board of Chiropractic Examiners.

(f) Lapsed Certificates. If a certificate of competency has lapsed due to non-renewal and the lapse does not exceed 60 days, the certificate holder may obtain reinstatement by making up the accrued deficiency in continuing education. If the lapse is greater than 60 days, no make-up continuing education shall be required, but the certificate holder shall

re-take and pass the proficiency examination for new applicants. Regardless of the length of lapse, a certificate holder seeking reinstatement shall pay the renewal fee set forth in Paragraph (e) of this Rule.

(g) Exemptions. Graduates of accredited chiropractic colleges and students enrolled in accredited chiropractic colleges who are serving college-sponsored preceptorships in North Carolina are deemed by the Board to have satisfied all requirements imposed by this Rule and shall be deemed competent to perform the duties of a clinical assistant. Any person who qualifies for exemption and who works as a clinical assistant in this state for more than 180 days shall submit the application form described in Paragraph (b) of this Rule and note the claim of exempt status. Exempt persons shall not be required to pay a certification fee.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 90-142; 90-143.4;
Eff. July 1, 2014;
Amended Eff. April 1, 2018.*