

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 124—ASSEMBLYWOMAN HARDY

FEBRUARY 9, 2023

Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing the renewal of a license as an osteopathic physician or physician assistant. (BDR 54-525)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: No.

~

EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to osteopathic medicine; revising provisions governing the submission of evidence of completion of continuing education to the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Existing law and regulations require the holder of a license to practice
2 osteopathic medicine or a license as a physician assistant issued by the State Board
3 of Osteopathic Medicine to renew his or her license annually. Existing law and
4 regulations require an applicant for the renewal of such a license to submit evidence
5 to the Board that he or she has completed the number of hours of continuing
6 medical education required by regulations adopted by the Board. (NRS 633.471;
7 NAC 633.285) Existing law also requires the Board to annually request the
8 submission of verified evidence of completion of the continuing medical education
9 requirements from at least one-third of the applicants for the renewal of such a
10 license. (NRS 633.471) This bill: (1) removes the requirement that the Board
11 annually request the submission of such evidence from at least one-third of such
12 applicants for renewal; and (2) instead requires the Board to determine the
13 percentage of such applicants from whom it will request such evidence.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** NRS 633.471 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 633.471 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 14
3 and NRS 633.491, every holder of a license, except a physician



1 assistant, issued under this chapter, except a temporary or a special
2 license, may renew the license on or before January 1 of each
3 calendar year after its issuance by:

4 (a) Applying for renewal on forms provided by the Board;

5 (b) Paying the annual license renewal fee specified in this
6 chapter;

7 (c) Submitting a list of all actions filed or claims submitted to
8 arbitration or mediation for malpractice or negligence against the
9 holder during the previous year;

10 (d) Subject to subsection 13, submitting evidence to the Board
11 that in the year preceding the application for renewal the holder has
12 attended courses or programs of continuing education approved by
13 the Board in accordance with regulations adopted by the Board
14 totaling a number of hours established by the Board which must not
15 be less than 35 hours nor more than that set in the requirements for
16 continuing medical education of the American Osteopathic
17 Association; and

18 (e) Submitting all information required to complete the renewal.

19 2. The Secretary of the Board shall notify each licensee of the
20 requirements for renewal not less than 30 days before the date of
21 renewal.

22 3. The Board shall request submission of verified evidence of
23 completion of the required number of hours of continuing medical
24 education annually from ~~[no fewer than one-third]~~ *a percentage* of
25 the applicants for renewal of a license to practice osteopathic
26 medicine or a license to practice as a physician assistant ~~[]~~
27 *determined by the Board*. Subject to subsection 13, upon a request
28 from the Board, an applicant for renewal of a license to practice
29 osteopathic medicine or a license to practice as a physician assistant
30 shall submit verified evidence satisfactory to the Board that in the
31 year preceding the application for renewal the applicant attended
32 courses or programs of continuing medical education approved by
33 the Board totaling the number of hours established by the Board.

34 4. The Board shall require each holder of a license to practice
35 osteopathic medicine to complete a course of instruction within 2
36 years after initial licensure that provides at least 2 hours of
37 instruction on evidence-based suicide prevention and awareness as
38 described in subsection 9.

39 5. The Board shall encourage each holder of a license to
40 practice osteopathic medicine to receive, as a portion of his or her
41 continuing education, training concerning methods for educating
42 patients about how to effectively manage medications, including,
43 without limitation, the ability of the patient to request to have the
44 symptom or purpose for which a drug is prescribed included on the
45 label attached to the container of the drug.



1 6. The Board shall encourage each holder of a license to
2 practice osteopathic medicine or as a physician assistant to receive,
3 as a portion of his or her continuing education, training and
4 education in the diagnosis of rare diseases, including, without
5 limitation:

6 (a) Recognizing the symptoms of pediatric cancer; and

7 (b) Interpreting family history to determine whether such
8 symptoms indicate a normal childhood illness or a condition that
9 requires additional examination.

10 7. The Board shall require, as part of the continuing education
11 requirements approved by the Board, the biennial completion by a
12 holder of a license to practice osteopathic medicine of at least 2
13 hours of continuing education credits in ethics, pain management,
14 care of persons with addictive disorders or the screening, brief
15 intervention and referral to treatment approach to substance use
16 disorder.

17 8. The continuing education requirements approved by the
18 Board must allow the holder of a license as an osteopathic physician
19 or physician assistant to receive credit toward the total amount of
20 continuing education required by the Board for the completion of a
21 course of instruction relating to genetic counseling and genetic
22 testing.

23 9. The Board shall require each holder of a license to practice
24 osteopathic medicine to receive as a portion of his or her continuing
25 education at least 2 hours of instruction every 4 years on evidence-
26 based suicide prevention and awareness which may include, without
27 limitation, instruction concerning:

28 (a) The skills and knowledge that the licensee needs to detect
29 behaviors that may lead to suicide, including, without limitation,
30 post-traumatic stress disorder;

31 (b) Approaches to engaging other professionals in suicide
32 intervention; and

33 (c) The detection of suicidal thoughts and ideations and the
34 prevention of suicide.

35 10. A holder of a license to practice osteopathic medicine may
36 not substitute the continuing education credits relating to suicide
37 prevention and awareness required by this section for the purposes
38 of satisfying an equivalent requirement for continuing education in
39 ethics.

40 11. The Board shall require each holder of a license to practice
41 osteopathic medicine to complete at least 2 hours of training in the
42 screening, brief intervention and referral to treatment approach to
43 substance use disorder within 2 years after initial licensure.

44 12. The Board shall require each psychiatrist or a physician
45 assistant practicing under the supervision of a psychiatrist to



1 biennially complete one or more courses of instruction that provide
2 at least 2 hours of instruction relating to cultural competency and
3 diversity, equity and inclusion. Such instruction:

4 (a) May include the training provided pursuant to NRS 449.103,
5 where applicable.

6 (b) Must be based upon a range of research from diverse
7 sources.

8 (c) Must address persons of different cultural backgrounds,
9 including, without limitation:

10 (1) Persons from various gender, racial and ethnic
11 backgrounds;

12 (2) Persons from various religious backgrounds;

13 (3) Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning
14 persons;

15 (4) Children and senior citizens;

16 (5) Veterans;

17 (6) Persons with a mental illness;

18 (7) Persons with an intellectual disability, developmental
19 disability or physical disability; and

20 (8) Persons who are part of any other population that a
21 psychiatrist or physician assistant practicing under the supervision
22 of a psychiatrist may need to better understand, as determined by the
23 Board.

24 13. The Board shall not require a physician assistant to receive
25 or maintain certification by the National Commission on
26 Certification of Physician Assistants, or its successor organization,
27 or by any other nationally recognized organization for the
28 accreditation of physician assistants to satisfy any continuing
29 education requirement pursuant to paragraph (d) of subsection 1 and
30 subsection 3.

31 14. Members of the Armed Forces of the United States and the
32 United States Public Health Service are exempt from payment of the
33 annual license renewal fee during their active duty status.

34 **Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

