

Assembly Bill No. 124—Assemblywoman Hardy

CHAPTER.....

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:

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

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

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

Section 1. NRS 633.471 is hereby amended to read as follows:
633.471 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 14 and NRS 633.491, every holder of a license, except a physician assistant, issued under this chapter, except a temporary or a special license, may renew the license on or before January 1 of each calendar year after its issuance by:

- (a) Applying for renewal on forms provided by the Board;
- (b) Paying the annual license renewal fee specified in this chapter;
- (c) Submitting a list of all actions filed or claims submitted to arbitration or mediation for malpractice or negligence against the holder during the previous year;
- (d) Subject to subsection 13, submitting evidence to the Board that in the year preceding the application for renewal the holder has attended courses or programs of continuing education approved by the Board in accordance with regulations adopted by the Board totaling a number of hours established by the Board which must not be less than 35 hours nor more than that set in the requirements for



continuing medical education of the American Osteopathic Association; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

(a) Recognizing the symptoms of pediatric cancer; and

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

7. The Board shall require, as part of the continuing education requirements approved by the Board, the biennial completion by a holder of a license to practice osteopathic medicine of at least 2 hours of continuing education credits in ethics, pain management,



care of persons with addictive disorders or the screening, brief intervention and referral to treatment approach to substance use disorder.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

12. The Board shall require each psychiatrist or a physician assistant practicing under the supervision of a psychiatrist to biennially complete one or more courses of instruction that provide at least 2 hours of instruction relating to cultural competency and diversity, equity and inclusion. Such instruction:

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

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

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

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



- (2) Persons from various religious backgrounds;
- (3) Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning persons;
- (4) Children and senior citizens;
- (5) Veterans;
- (6) Persons with a mental illness;
- (7) Persons with an intellectual disability, developmental disability or physical disability; and
- (8) Persons who are part of any other population that a psychiatrist or physician assistant practicing under the supervision of a psychiatrist may need to better understand, as determined by the Board.

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

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

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

