BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
Board of Chiropractic Examiners
(Amendment)

201 KAR 21:015. Code of ethical conduct and standards of practice.

RELATES TO: KRS 312.019(9)(a)
STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 312.019(9)
CERTIFICATION STATEMENT:
NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 312.019(9)(a) authorizes the board to promulgate and amend administrative regulations for the practice of chiropractic, including adopting a code of ethical conduct. This administrative regulation establishes the minimum standards of professional and ethical conduct and practice that a licensee shall maintain.

Section 1. Each licensee shall comply with the minimum standards of professional and ethical conduct established in subsections (1) through (11)[~~(10)~~] of this section.

(1) A licensee shall not advertise the licensee's services except as provided by 201 KAR 21:065.

(2) A licensee shall not commit an act of sexual misconduct, sexual harassment, or any act punishable as a sexual offense.

(3) A licensee shall refrain from chemical or substance abuse. The chemical or substance abuse shall not have to take place in a chiropractic office for the board to take action against a licensee.

(4)

(a) Division of a professional fee shall not be made, except upon the basis of actual services rendered.

(b) Unless prohibited by law, each licensed chiropractor of a business entity shall be allowed to pool or apportion fees received in accordance with a business agreement.

(5) A Licensee may practice chiropractic in an office designated as a non-chiropractic healthcare facility, provided the proper signage is utilized and prominently displayed to the public, to distinguish chiropractic services from non-chiropractic services.

(6) [~~(5)~~]

(a) A licensee shall not pay or receive compensation for the referral or unlawful solicitation of patients.

(b) A licensee, employee of a licensee, agent of a licensee, contractor of a licensee, or anyone acting in concert with the licensee shall not provide monetary compensation or other consideration of value to an individual in order to induce or entice the individual to commence a chiropractor-patient relationship or continue as a patient of the licensee.

(7) [~~(6)~~]

(a) Telemarketing shall be permitted only if the telemarketing is nontargeted, taken from a general list of phone numbers, and if not violating the state's no-call provisions.

(b) The licensee shall be held responsible for the content of any contact made by a telemarketer, agent, employee, or contractor representing the chiropractor.

(8) [~~(7)~~] A licensee shall report to the board any reasonably suspected violation of KRS Chapter 312 or 201 KAR Chapter 21 by another licensee or applicant within thirty (30) days.

(9) [~~(8)~~] A licensee shall report to the board any guilty plea, criminal conviction other than minor traffic violations, civil judgment, settlement, or civil claim made against the licensee within thirty (30) days.

(10) [~~(9)~~] A licensee shall report to the board any discipline from another state licensing board within thirty (30) days of receiving notice of final disciplinary action.

(11) ~~[(10)]~~ A licensee shall report to the board any malpractice settlement over $10,000 within thirty (30) days of the settlement of the claim.

Section 2. Each licensee shall comply with the minimum standards of practice established in subsections (1) through (6) of this section.

(1) A licensee shall keep in confidence whatever the licensee may learn about a patient in the discharge of professional duties. Information shall be divulged by the licensee only if required by law or authorized by the patient.

(2) A licensee shall render care to each patient that is consistent with treatment and care that would be rendered by a reasonably prudent chiropractor licensed in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and shall give a candid account of a patient's condition to the patient, or to those responsible for the patient's care.

(3) A licensee shall inform the patient of the licensee's clinical diagnosis, treatment plan, and expected outcome of treatment prior to the onset of care.

(4) A licensee shall give timely notice to the licensee's patient or to those responsible for a patient's care if the licensee withdraws from a case so that the patient may obtain another chiropractor.

(5) A licensee shall not abandon a patient.

(6) A licensee shall practice the licensee's profession in accordance with the provisions of KRS Chapter 312 and 201 KAR Chapter 21.

Section 3.

(1) Each licensee shall cooperate with the board by:

(a) Submitting germane documents requested by the board;

(b) Submitting in writing a complete explanation covering the matter contained in the complaint filed with the board;

(c) Appearing before the board at the time and place designated;

(d) Properly responding to a subpoena issued by the board; and

(e) The board shall in each renewal cycle, audit a minimum of fifteen (15) percent of renewals to assure compliance with continuing education requirements. Licensees, if selected for audit, shall cooperate and provide requested information so the audit may be conducted.

(2) A licensee shall comply with an order issued by the board.

COMPILER'S NOTE: 2025 RS HB 6, enacted by the General Assembly on March 27, 2025, altered the information to be provided at the time an administrative regulation is filed. Aside from formatting changes necessary to upload the regulation into the LRC's publication application, this regulation has been published as submitted by the agency.

201 KAR 21:015
DR. SHANNON JOHNSON, Chair

APPROVED BY AGENCY: November 6, 2026

FILED WITH LRC: November 12, 2026 at 1:15 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENT PERIOD: A public hearing on this administrative regulation shall be held on January 26, 2027, at 2:00 P.M. Eastern Time, in PPC Conference Room 127CW, at the Mayo-Underwood Building, 500 Mero Street, Frankfort, Kentucky. Individuals interested in being heard at this hearing shall notify this agency in writing by five workdays prior to the hearing, of their intent to attend. If no notification of intent to attend the hearing was received by that date, the hearing may be cancelled. A transcript of the public hearing will not be made unless a written request for a transcript is made. If you do not wish to be heard at the public hearing, you may submit written comments on the proposed administrative regulation. Written comments shall be accepted through January 31, 2027. Send written notification of intent to be heard at the

public hearing or written comments on the proposed administrative regulation to the contact person or the public comment portal.

CONTACT PERSON: Name: Matthew Ellison, Title: Staff Attorney III, Agency: Department of Professional Licensing, Office of Legal Services, Address: 500 Mero Street, 2 NC WK#2, Phone Number: 502-782-0706 (office), Fax: (502) 564-4818, Email: Matthew.Ellison@ky.gov, Link to PPC public comment portal: https://ppc.ky.gov/reg_comment.aspx

REGULATORY IMPACT ANALYSIS AND TIERING STATEMENT

Contact Person:Matthew Ellison, Phone: 502-782-0706, Email: Matthew.Ellison@ky.gov

Subject Headings:Chiropractic, Boards and Commissions, Ethics

(1) Provide a brief summary of:

(a) What this administrative regulation does:
KRS 312.019(9) authorizes the Kentucky Board of Chiropractic Examiners to promulgate administrative regulations consistent with KRS Chapter 312, regulating the practice of chiropractic. This administrative regulation establishes a code of ethics for the practice of chiropractic.

(b) The necessity of this administrative regulation:
This administrative regulation is required by KRS 312.019.

(c) How this administrative regulation conforms to the content of the authorizing statutes:
KRS 312.019(9) authorizes the Kentucky Board of Chiropractic Examiners to promulgate administrative regulations consistent with KRS Chapter 312, regulating the practice of chiropractic. This administrative regulation establishes a code of ethics relating to the practice of chiropractic.

(d) How this administrative regulation currently assists or will assist in the effective administration of the statutes:
This regulation assists in the effective administration of KRS Chapter 312 by carrying out the legislative mandate for the board to establish regulations for the practice of chiropractic.

(2) If this is an amendment to an existing administrative regulation, provide a brief summary of:

(a) How the amendment will change this existing administrative regulation:
The amendment adds or amends definitions for terms in the regulation chapter.

(b) The necessity of the amendment to this administrative regulation:
The amendment is necessary to update standards of practice.

(c) How the amendment conforms to the content of the authorizing statutes:
KRS 312.019(9) authorizes the Kentucky Board of Chiropractic Examiners to promulgate administrative regulations consistent with KRS Chapter 312, regulating the practice of chiropractic. This administrative regulation establishes definitions of terms for those regulations.

(d) How the amendment will assist in the effective administration of the statutes:
This regulation assists in the effective administration of KRS Chapter 312 by carrying out the legislative mandate for the board to establish regulations for the practice of chiropractic.

(3) Does this administrative regulation or amendment implement legislation from the previous five years?No.

(4) List the type and number of individuals, businesses, organizations, or state and local governments affected by this administrative regulation:
This regulation will affect 977 active licensed chiropractors practicing in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and 102 inactive licensees.

(5) Provide an analysis of how the entities identified in question (4) will be impacted by either the implementation of this administrative regulation, if new, or by the change, if it is an amendment, including:

(a) List the actions that each of the regulated entities identified in question (4) will have to take to comply with this administrative regulation or amendment:

This regulation will provide updated code of ethics.

(b) In complying with this administrative regulation or amendment, how much will it cost each of the entities identified in question (4):

This regulation should add no additional cost to the licensee.

(c) As a result of compliance, what benefits will accrue to the entities identified in question (4):

This regulation will allow chiropractors to have an updated code of ethics.

(6) Provide an estimate of how much it will cost the administrative body to implement this administrative regulation:

(a) Initially:

No new costs will be incurred by the changes.

(b) On a continuing basis:

No new costs will be incurred by the changes.

(7) What is the source of the funding to be used for the implementation and enforcement of this administrative regulation or this amendment:

The Kentucky Board of Chiropractic Examiners is self-funded through the fees paid by licensees. No increases in fees or funding are necessary to implement the amendment to this administrative regulation.

(8) Provide an assessment of whether an increase in fees or funding will be necessary to implement this administrative regulation, if new, or by the change if it is an amendment:

No increases in fees or funding is necessary to implement the amendment to this administrative regulation.

(9) State whether or not this administrative regulation establishes any fees or directly or indirectly increases any fees:

This administrative regulation did not establish the fees. No increases in fees or funding are necessary to implement the amendment to this administrative regulation.

(10) TIERING: Is tiering applied?

Tiering was not applied because these requirements apply equally to all licensees.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(1) Identify each state statute, federal statute, or federal regulation that requires or authorizes the action taken by the administrative regulation:
KRS Chapter 312

(2) State whether this administrative regulation is expressly authorized by an act of the General Assembly, and if so, identify the act:
This administrative regulation is expressly authorized by KRS 312.019(9).

(3)(a) Identify the promulgating agency and any other affected state units, parts, or divisions:
The Kentucky Board of Chiropractic Examiners is housed for administrative purposes within the Department of Professional Licensing in the Public Protection Cabinet

(b) Estimate the following for each affected state unit, part, or division identified in (3)(a):

1. Expenditures:

For the first year:None.

For subsequent years:None.

2. Revenues:

For the first year:None.

For subsequent years:None.

3. Cost Savings:

For the first year:N/A

For subsequent years:N/A

(4)(a) Identify affected local entities (for example: cities, counties, fire departments, school districts):
None

(b) Estimate the following for each affected local entity identified in (4)(a):

1. Expenditures:

For the first year:N/A

For subsequent years:N/A

2. Revenues:

For the first year:N/A

For subsequent years:N/A

3. Cost Savings:

For the first year:N/A

For subsequent years:N/A

(5)(a) Identify any affected regulated entities not listed in (3)(a) or (4)(a):
None

(b) Estimate the following for each regulated entity identified in (5)(a):

1. **Expenditures:**

   For the first year:N/A

   For subsequent years:N/A

2. **Revenues:**

   For the first year:N/A

   For subsequent years:N/A

3. **Cost Savings:**

   For the first year:N/A

   For subsequent years:N/A

(6) Provide a narrative to explain the following for each entity identified in (3)(a), (4)(a), and (5)(a)

(a) Fiscal impact of this administrative regulation:

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to this administrative regulation.

(b) Methodology and resources used to reach this conclusion:

Methodology and resources consisted of a review of the existing budget by the board's fiscal administrator as well as consideration of the amendment and whether staff time and costs will be increased. The determination was that there would be no financial impact due to these regulation changes.

(7) Explain, as it relates to the entities identified in (3)(a), (4)(a), and (5)(a):

(a) Whether this administrative regulation will have a "major economic impact", as defined by KRS 13A.010(14):

This administrative regulation will not have an overall economic impact, negative or otherwise to the entities identified.

(b) The methodology and resources used to reach this conclusion:

Methodology and resources was a review of the existing budget by the board's fiscal administrator as well as consideration of the amendment and whether staff time and costs will be affected.