



South Carolina
Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation



Board of Chiropractic Examiners

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Henry D. McMaster
Governor

Emily H. Farr
Director

PUBLIC HEALTH STATE OF EMERGENCY ORDER 2020-BCE-PH-02

**REDUCTION OF INITIAL APPLICATION FEES DUE TO HARDSHIPS
OCCASIONED UPON INITIAL LICENSURE APPLICANTS BY THE PUBLIC
HEALTH STATE OF EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Governor Henry McMaster issued Executive Order No. 2020-08 declaring a public health emergency due to the evolving nature and scope of the public health threat or other risks posed by COVID-19 and the actual and anticipated impacts associated with the same;

WHEREAS, Governor McMaster has issued subsequent Executive Orders in which he has taken additional action to protect the citizens of South Carolina, including Executive Order No. 2020-10, which “authorize[d] and direct[ed] any agency within the undersigned’s Cabinet or any other department within the Executive Branch, as defined by section 1-30-10 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended, through its respective director or secretary, to waive or ‘suspend provisions of existing regulations prescribing procedures for conduct of state business if strict compliance with the provisions thereof would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency’ [. . .];”

WHEREAS, section 25-1 of the South Carolina Code of Regulations provides that the Board of Chiropractic Examiners (the “Board”) was created to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public (*see also* sections 40-1-10 and 40-1-40 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended);

WHEREAS, the Board protects the public by regulating professionals who practice chiropractic through the administration and enforcement of Chapter 9 of Title 40 of the South Carolina Code of Laws and through any regulations promulgated under the chapter;

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused the need for social distancing and therefore suspension of examinations and other services that would normally facilitate applicants to obtain new licensure;

WHEREAS, the interruption of normal services has visited and continues to visit a financial hardship upon new licensure applicants, who may enjoy some measure of relief with the reduction of initial licensure fees;

WHEREAS, the Board finds and concludes that pursuant to section 40-9-50 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended, together with section 40-1-50(D) of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended, a temporary reduction of initial application fees would be a financially viable option for the Board, who would be well able to sustain the fiscal impact of it;

WHEREAS, financial relief in the form of reduced initial application fees may aid new licensees to enter the essential practice of chiropractic in South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the Board concludes that it is in the best interests of the citizens of South Carolina to do all that it reasonably can to encourage able new applicants to achieve licensure in South Carolina;

NOW, THEREFORE, for the reasons set forth above, effective immediately and continuing through December 31, 2020, the Board hereby reduces initial licensure application fees from three hundred dollars (\$300.00) to one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

**STATE BOARD OF
CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dr. Michael L. Coon". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

**Michael Coon, D.C.
Board Vice Chair**

May 19, 2020