

Justification for the Amendment to Nevada Administrative Code 634A Regulating the Practice of Oriental Medicine in Nevada:

The 2019 Nevada Legislative session made significant changes to NRS 634, the law governing the practice of Oriental medicine in Nevada. The major objective of the proposed NAC 634A regulation changes is to codify the changes made to NRS 634.

The proposed changes include updating definitions, board member training requirements, clarifying licensure standards, including the content covered by the licensing test, licensing fee payment schedule clarifications, the Board endorsement process for practicing acupuncture injection therapy, online continuing education credit requirements, and medical record retention rules. The proposed regulation changes align the NAC to the new NRS requirements.

More specifically, since the Legislature defined the process of dry needling in NRS634A; as a type of acupuncture, the definition will be codified into the NAC.

The proposed regulation further requires newly appointed Board members to attend the AG board training which will improve the new Board member's understanding of the policies and procedures governing a state board.

Moreover, rules addressing the issue of payment of overdue licensing fees, and issuance of licenses is added.

The process of licensure by endorsement is further clarified, as is the pathway to licensure for long-time practitioners who cannot meet the didactic requirements. The degree requirements for applicants using the normal path is also clarified.

The TOEFL will be eliminated as a licensing requirement, as the NCCAOM testing process will adequately test the use of English.

Acupuncture injection therapy has been in the scope of practice for over a decade. By creating an endorsement system for acupuncture injection therapy, the Board will ensure public safety by requiring training and insurance coverage for all licensees who practice it.

Because NCCAOM certification examination is so thorough, the Board would like to focus the state exam on the rules and regulations governing the practice of Oriental medicine in Nevada.

As part of its duties, the Board is responsible for approving continuing education units. There have been questions in the past regarding the number of CEUs that can be earned in an online format; clearly establishing the acceptability of online coursework gives licensees peace of mind when choosing online formats.

The current members of the Nevada Board of Oriental Medicine believe that it is our duty to promote the highest standards of professional competency and public safety. In keeping with that duty, we believe that the proposed changes bring Nevada into alignment with the high professional standards

that govern the modern practice of Oriental medicine, and fully incorporate the changes made to the NRS 634.