

# Alabama Extern / Preceptor Program



**ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF  
CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS**

12/22/2025

# Our Program

## PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Executive Director: Amy Deavers

Applications for Extern / Preceptor / Licensure

Administrative Assistant III: Angie Johnson

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## PRECEPTOR DIRECTOR

Visit this link to go to the Board Members  
page to find the Directors information:

<https://chiro.alabama.gov/board.aspx>

## OUR PROGRAM IS ONE STUDENT / ONE PRECEPTOR DOCTOR.

To start the process:

Apply online or submit by mail: your name, mailing address, Chiropractic College, potential graduation date, email address, telephone number and fee for the program. See note on fee selection below. Please notate on your request that you plan to participate in the Extern / Preceptor program and if you are participating in your schools' program.

*Note: The fee for Extern **only** is \$200.00 and must accompany a completed Extern application. However, if you desire an Alabama license upon graduation, you may submit the full fee of \$390.00 and a completed Licensure by Examination application **in addition to** the Extern application. If mailed, the fee must be a cashier's check or money order.*

## Establishing the Program in Alabama

The Director of the Preceptor / Extern program shall be a licensed Alabama Doctor in active practice appointed by the Board of Examiners.

The Director reviews application packets for approval or denial of participation in Alabama's program. He /she is responsible for checking by phone or on-site visits with each preceptor doctor at least quarterly. He /she is responsible for notifying the Board president or staff of known violations of the program.

## Definitions



**Preceptor Doctor.** The **sponsoring licensed doctor** who participates with a chiropractic college as part of the preceptor program. The program is designed to provide experience and practice for unlicensed or student doctors before or after graduation as further qualified by the Rules and Regulations and the Chiropractic Practice Act.

Violations of the Preceptor program are considered Unprofessional Conduct.

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**Extern.** A student enrolled **in their last year** at a Board approved chiropractic college accredited by the Council of Chiropractic Education that has been approved to practice under the direct on-premises supervision of a sponsor doctor licensed to practice chiropractic in the state of Alabama and in some cases a student, under the supervision of the accredited school.

**Graduate.** A recent chiropractic graduate who applies **within six (6) months** of graduation from an approved chiropractic college maintaining a standard of training acceptable to the Board and not yet licensed in any other state.

**Tier I.** Applicants whose results from any required background checks have not yet been received. Tier I applicants are not allowed to adjust or make any diagnosis or treatment directly with the patient. Tier I externs can perform the same services as a chiropractic assistant as long as under the direct supervision of the preceptor doctor and may observe the preceptor doctor's treatment of patients.

**Tier II.** Applicants who have successfully complied with all requirements set out in the rule. Tier II applicants may have full patient treatment privileges as long as under the direct supervision of the preceptor doctor. A student who graduates is no longer eligible to participate in the preceptorship program unless at the time of graduation the requirements of Parts III and IV of the National Board of Chiropractors Examination have not been satisfied. In that event, participation in the preceptor program may continue for no longer than twelve (12) months following the date of graduation.

## Extern Application Process

Qualifications in order to Extern:

- Must submit an Extern application and if desired a Licensure by Examination application, including fees and all documentation. (See Application Process for Extern with Licensure by Examination.);
- Have submitted a current transcript directly from the Chiropractic College;
- Have submitted a letter from the Chiropractic College verifying student is in final academic year & potential graduation date;
- Shall only deliver chiropractic services under the direct on-premises supervision of an approved sponsoring preceptor. The chiropractic services delivered are those specified in the Alabama Chiropractic Practice Act or in any Rule adopted by the Board. (See Tier I and Tier II definitions.)

### Student

- Be currently enrolled in the final academic year at an approved chiropractic college which maintains a standard of training acceptable to the Board;
- Have a transcript submitted to Alabama showing successfully passing Parts I and II of the National Board of Chiropractic Examination;
- Provide evidence of malpractice insurance coverage.

### Graduate

- A student who graduates is no longer eligible to participate in the program unless at the time of graduation they have not passed NBCE Parts III and IV. In that event, the graduate may continue for no longer than twelve (12) months following the graduation date.
- Have graduated from an approved chiropractic college maintaining a standard of training acceptable to the Alabama Board within six (6) months prior to the filing of application for licensure and not yet licensed in any other state.

- Have a transcript submitted to Alabama indicating successful passage of Parts I and II of the National Board of Chiropractic Examination.
- Must successfully pass Part III and IV of the National Board of Chiropractic Examination within twelve (12) months following the date of graduation.

### APPLICATION PROCESS for EXTERN with LICENSURE BY EXAMINATION

- The \$390 fee covers both Extern and Licensure by Examination applications, examination and license issue (If mailed, must be in the form of cashier check, money order, certified bank check.)

We strongly recommend the student return the fingerprint cards, MO and form ASAP as it takes up to 4 weeks for the results to come back to the Board.

- Completed ALEA Records Release Form. \* Do not mail to State Bureau of Investigation. \* Mail back to ASBCE. \*;
  - Money order or cashier's check payable for \$37.00 made to ALEA Records & Identification. \* Do not mail to State Bureau of Investigation. \* Mail back to ASBCE. \*;
  - 2 Completed Fingerprint Cards \* Do not mail to State Bureau of Investigation. \* Mail back to ASBCE. \*;
  - Application for Licensure by Examination- completed online, printed, signed and mailed; or application in packet completed, signed and mailed;
  - Signed photograph (uploaded with online application or attached to paper application and mailed.);
  - Citizenship documents from list (uploaded with online application or attached to paper application and mailed.);
  - Chiropractic College transcript, directly from College;
  - Letter from College verifying student is in final academic year & potential graduation date;
  - Final Chiropractic College transcript directly from the College after graduation;
  - Transcript with Bachelor's degree from an accredited College or University;
  - National Board transcript Parts I and II, directly from National Board;
  - National Board transcript Parts I, II, and SPEC, directly from National Board or
  - National Board transcript Parts I, II, III and IV, directly from National Board prior to Jurisprudence examination;
  - Verification of Licensure from other states active or inactive after graduation;
- The above is in addition to:
- Extern application (on our website will print with online Extern application);
  - Preceptor application (on our website);
    - Current copy of malpractice insurance;
    - Preceptor fees \$75 (per quarter); and
    - Student work schedule.

\* Per 34-24-160(b) and 34-24-165(f):

The fingerprints will be utilized to conduct a federal and state criminal background check. Being possessed of sound mind and legally competent to complete this request, the applicant authorizes the Alabama Board of Chiropractic Examiners to obtain any and all criminal history information on said applicant from the ALEA and/or FBI. Applicant may challenge or appeal any portion of his/her own Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) that he/she believes to be incomplete or inaccurate by visiting the website of the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA) at [www.alea.gov](http://www.alea.gov) or call (334) 353-4340.

## PRECEPTOR DOCTOR APPLICATION PROCESS

### Alabama requirements:

- Have an active Alabama license and be in **active** practice for three (3) or more years;
- Have no Class A or B violations of Board rules for two (2) years and have no present investigations for possible Board violations;
- Mail in a completed preceptor application which states that he or she has read and understands Code of Alabama 1975, 34-24-145, and Board rules and regulations pertaining to this program;
- Submit the quarterly fee of \$75 with the preceptor application;
- Send a copy of current unexpired malpractice insurance for themselves; and
- Submit a schedule showing the location and when the extern will be working under direct on premises supervision for the program.

**Note:** In cases where more than one licensed doctor is in the clinic, each doctor who will direct the unlicensed student must be approved as outlined above. This does not apply to students participating in a school-based program.

## ONE EXTERN / ONE DOCTOR

In compliance with most chiropractic college preceptor programs Alabama follows one Extern / one Doctor Policy.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- ❖ Do I wait for the school's approval before I start my Extern application?
  - No, you should make application to Alabama as soon as you decide this is where you want to Extern. An application file remains open for 24 months.
- ❖ What should I do first, after I receive my application packet?
  - Take the supplied fingerprint cards to a local law enforcement agency and mail the completed cards and ALEA form back to our office with the Money Order for \$37.00.
- ❖ Why do I have to provide a 10-year residence history?
  - It is required on the application.
- ❖ Why do I have to provide citizenship documents?
  - It is required by the Code of Alabama
- ❖ May I apply for Extern before I pass NBCE I and II?
  - You may apply but we will not process the application without a NBCE transcript documenting successfully passing parts I and II.
- ❖ May I be in the Preceptor's office before my paperwork is approved? No
- ❖ Upon graduation what must I complete before I can be licensed?
  - Must have the chiropractic college submit a final transcript;

- Must have National Board submit transcript of successfully passing Parts I, II, III and IV;
- Must pass the Jurisprudence Examination.
- ❖ Can I take the Jurisprudence before I graduate?
  - No, final transcripts must be on file before you are set up for the jurisprudence exam.

## ***Reservation of Rights***

### ***ASBCE Extern Preceptor Program Handbook***

It is the responsibility of program participants to read the Extern Preceptor Program Handbook, thoroughly and become familiar with its contents. ASBCE reserves the right, without notice, to change, revise, or eliminate any information in the handbook. Revised information may supersede, modify, or eliminate existing information. An up-to-date version of the handbook will be maintained on the ASBCE website and in the Board office. It is the responsibility of program participants to inquire as to whether a change has been made.

## **CONTACT US**

For Directions to the office click this link: <https://chiro.alabama.gov/directions.aspx>

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**ASBCE**

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Examiners*

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