

# ATTACHMENT

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## ABSTRACT 18

### A SURVEY OF CHIROPRACTORS ACCESS TO PERFORM PRE-PARTICIPATION EXAMINATIONS (PPEs)

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**OBJECTIVE:** The purpose of this survey is to determine if there is consistency across the United States in allowing chiropractors to perform pre-participation examinations.

**METHODS:** Addresses for both the state chiropractic boards (SBCs) and the state athletic associations (AAs) were located via the internet. A letter was generated and emailed to each state. The wording in the letters going to the state boards of chiropractic and athletic associations were altered appropriately. Return receipts were requested. If no answer was received within 2 weeks, a second request was sent. If two more weeks went by without a response, a phone call was placed to the individual. Results were then tallied into an Excel spreadsheet, including specific comments. Responses were received from all states.

**RESULTS:** 70% (35) of the chiropractic boards have policies allowing PPEs by DCs; 26% (13) have no policy; and 4% (2) specifically deny DCs to perform PPEs. 36% (18) AAs have policies allowing PPEs by DCs; 14% (7) leave the decision up to the local school boards; 42% (21) AAs specifically deny DCs; 4% (2) AAs have no policy; and 4% (2) have policies that require legal interpretation. Colorado uniquely requires the chiropractor to be "school physical certified". Oregon and Washington expressed concerns about the chiropractor's ability to detect cardiac pathologies. Washington has handled this by allowing chiropractors only to perform PPEs as part of a team. Rhode Island and Vermont have no PPE policy. Nevada declares the issue is under review. New Hampshire and Nebraska have policies subject to interpretation. The reason for some of the athletic associations refusing DC-performed PPEs is the issue regarding the DC's ability to detect cardio pathology/cardio-monitoring. They believe chiropractors do not know how to do this, or do not do it with enough regularity.

**CONCLUSION:** The ability for DCs to perform pre-participation examinations (PPEs) is determined by the policies of three entities: state Board of Chiropractic Examiners (BCE), state high school athletic associations (AA), and, at times, the local school board. There is inconsistency between the BCEs and the AAs, as a majority of BCEs permit chiropractic-performed PPEs, but only a fraction of state AAs allow them. Most state boards of chiropractic have a specific policy regarding PPEs. Those state boards allowing chiropractors to do PPEs consider it "within the scope of practice" based on the fact that physical examinations were taught in chiropractic college. While a chiropractic board will permit a PPE to be performed by a chiropractor, it may not always be accepted by the school requesting the exam. The state's school athletic associations can override the state board decisions. Unfortunately there is not always consistency between the two. And, a local school board can override the athletic associations' decision. There are state athletic associations that have devised specific methods and guidelines to handle their individual concerns.

## State PPE Information

STATE	BCE	Ed--Athletic Associations
Alabama	Yes	No
Alaska	Yes	No
Arizona	Yes	Up to local school boards
Arkansas	Yes	Yes
California	Yes	Yes/No definition medical practitioner up to local sch boards
Colorado	no policy	If "School physical certified"
Connecticut	Yes	Yes, per local schools
Delaware	No policy	No, only MD/DO
Florida	No Policy	Yes
Georgia	Yes	No
Hawaii	Yes	No
Idaho	Yes	Yes
Illinois	No Policy	No, only those DCs licensed to practice med in all its branches
Indiana	No Policy	No
Iowa	Yes	Yes
Kansas	Yes	Yes
Kentucky	Yes	Yes
Louisiana	No policy	Yes, per local school boards
Maine	No policy	up to local school boards
Maryland	Yes	No
Massachusetts	Yes	No
Michigan	No Policy	No
Minnesota	Yes	Yes
Mississippi	No Policy	No
Missouri	Yes	Yes
Montana	Yes	Yes
Nebraska	Yes	? w/in scope of training, w/in state statutes
Nevada	Yes	no, but they claim they plan on reviewing it
New Hampshire	Yes	? w/in meaning of NH RSA 329 (physicians & surgeons)
New Jersey	no	No
New Mexico	Yes	Yes
New York	Yes	Up to local school boards
North Carolina	Yes	No
North Dakota	Yes	Up to local school boards
Ohio	Yes	Yes
Oklahoma	Yes	Yes
Oregon	Yes	Yes, but concerned about able to detect cardio pathology
Pennsylvania	Yes-no real policy	No, only MDs, Dos, CRNPs, RNs
Rhode Island	No policy but can do bloodwork	No policy
South Carolina	Yes	No, do not recognize a PPE from a DC
South Dakota	Yes	Yes
Tennessee	Yes	No
Texas	Yes	Yes
Utah	Yes	Yes, I think I might move here-nice people, great skiing
Vermont	no policy	No policy
Virginia	no policy	No
Washington	No	Yes, but not individually-only as part of a team-concerned about cardio path
West Virginia	Yes	Yes, actually cited by the Attorney General, but school can say no
Wisconsin	Yes	No
Wyoming	Yes	No

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Congress Of Chiropractic State Associations  
 Responses to Inquiry on Ability to Perform  
 Pre Participation Examinations

State	Answer
Alabama	NO
Alaska	statute silent, up to school districts
Arizona	NO
California	YES
Colorado	YES
Connecticut	NO
Delaware	NO
Florida	YES
Georgia	NO
Hawaii	NO
Idaho	YES
Illinois	NO
Indiana	NO
Iowa	YES
Kansas	YES
Kentucky	YES
Kentucky Chiropractic Association	YES
Louisiana	statute silent, up to school districts
Maine	NO
Maryland	NO
Massachusetts	NO
Michigan	NO
Minnesota	YES
Mississippi	NO
Missouri	YES
Montana	YES
Nebraska	NO
Nevada	YES
New Jersey	YES
New Mexico	YES
New York	NO
North Carolina	NO
North Dakota	NO
Ohio	YES
Oklahoma	
Oregon	
Pennsylvania	
Rhode Island	YES
South Carolina	NO
South Dakota	YES
Tennessee	YES
Texas	YES
Virginia	NO
Vermont	YES
Washington	NO
West Virginia	YES
Wisconsin	NO
Wyoming	YES