

# **MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS    FY 2027 – 2031**

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## **Comprehensive Mission Statement**

The Mission of the Mississippi State Board of Chiropractic Examiners is to:

- preserve and protect individual life and health through the chiropractic profession and practice.
- assure public safety and to promote the public interest and welfare by providing for the licensure of chiropractors, chiropractic assistants, chiropractic radiologic technologist and chiropractic claims examiners.
- promote chiropractic education through the approval of continuing education providers and programs within the State of Mississippi;
- limit licensing barriers by implementing the Fresh Start Act of 2019, Military Family Freedom Act of 2020, and the Universal Recognition of Occupational Licenses Act of 2021; and
- compliance with the Patient's Rights to Informed Healthcare Choices Act, Miss. Code Ann. §41-121-1 et seq.

## **Statement of Philosophy**

The Mississippi State Board of Chiropractic Examiners provides quality and appropriate regulatory services guided by the principles of:

- efficiency of board management operations.
- engaging chiropractic professionals, chiropractic educators and government bodies to insure understanding of the Act, Rules and Regulations and Standards of Practice; Fresh Start Act, Military Family Freedom Act, and the Universal Recognition of Occupational Licensure; and
- adherence to the highest professional standards as recognized in the U.S.

## **Statewide Goal 1**

Protect Mississippians from risks to public health and to provide them with the health-related information and access to quality healthcare necessary to increase the length and quality of their lives.

### **Benchmarks**

- ✓ Inquiries for professional standards requested.
- ✓ Availability and accessibility of information from website
- ✓ Processes for complaint resolution

## **Statewide Goal 2**

To develop a robust state economy that provides the opportunity for productive chiropractic employment while providing quality continuing education through approved instruction and program content.

### **Benchmarks**

- ✓ Net growth in licensees
- ✓ Number of quality continuing education programs approved will enhance the knowledge of licensed professionals.

## **Statewide Goal 3**

To continue development of online processes for renewals that provide for a more efficient government operation.

### **Benchmarks**

- ✓ Average length of time for processing online applications with online payments
- ✓ Develop efficiency measures for online instructions.

## **Overview of the Board's 5-Year Strategic Plan**

The Mississippi State Board of Chiropractic examiners have the following six main functions:

1. Review applicant files for all requirements of licensure, and to issue licenses to Chiropractors, chiropractic assistants, chiropractic radiologic technologist, and chiropractic claims examiners to practice in Mississippi.
2. Renew licenses annually; ensuring that all disciplines have completed recognized continuing education required by law at the time of renewal.
3. Register chiropractic continuing education programs.
4. Protect the public by investigating complaints against chiropractors and chiropractic staff to eliminate the unlicensed practice of chiropractic examiners.
5. Complete all required component conversions and continued maintenance and operation of the Licensing Maintenance System Database (LMS).
6. Continue to provide enhancements to on-line processes.
7. Continually research methods to reduce the cost of licensing to licensees.

The Mississippi State Board of Chiropractic Examiners continues to work diligently toward the successful performance of the above functions. Board members continue to seek new and improved ways to serve the population of the State of Mississippi ensuring the safe and ethical practice of chiropractic licensees in Mississippi and the accessibility to licensure without undue restrictions.

### **Significant External Factors Which May Affect Performance**

- ✓ Number of licensees renewing licenses.
- ✓ Number of applicants for initial licensure.
- ✓ Number of valid complaints filed and requiring investigation and/or hearings.
- ✓ Changes in the standards of practice of profession.
- ✓ Changes in educational standards; and
- ✓ Changes in state statutes.

**Agency Program Goal –A:** Ensure the health and safety of the public who utilize chiropractic services (Miss. Code Ann. § 73-6-1 et seq).

Objective A.1: Ensure that all applicants for initial or renewal licenses meet the standards for licensure set forth in the “Mississippi Professional Chiropractic Act;” the “Military Family Freedom Act” of 2019, as revised 2020 and “Universal Recognition of Occupational Licensure Act” of 2021.

Outcome: Number of applicants for initial and renewal licensure

Outcome: Number of applicants denied initial and renewal

Strategy A.1.1: Maintain and administer to all applicants the Mississippi State Jurisprudence Examination

Output: Number of tests administered to applicants

Output: Number of applicants scoring  $\geq 70\%$  on test

Efficiency: Percentage of applicants passing exam

Strategy A.1.2: Evaluate application responses for evidence of competency.

Output: Number of applicants whose application responses indicate a potential lack of competency

Output: Number of applicants denied initial, or renewal licensure based on application responses indicating a lack of competency

Efficiency: Percentage of applicants that are denied initial or renewal licensure based on application responses indicating a lack of competency

Objective A.2: Ensure that chiropractors conduct their practice in an ethical, professional, and lawful manner.

Outcome: Number of complaints / non-compliant inspections received

Outcome: Number of hearings conducted due to unethical conduct / practice

Strategy A.2.1: Investigate and resolve complaints.

Output: Complaints received against licensees

Output: Complaints received against unlicensed persons

Output: Hearings resulting from complaints

Output:	Number of licensing hearings whose outcome included a license action (i.e., suspension, revocation, or denial)
Output:	Fines levied based on licensing hearing
Efficiency:	Percentage of hearings resulting in licensing actions
Efficiency:	Average fine per licensing hearing

**Agency Program Goal B:** Provide for quality continuing education for chiropractic licensees.

Objective B.1:	Ensure that all chiropractic licensees have access to quality continuing education in a timely manner.
Outcome:	Continuing education programs offered
Outcome:	Time between submittal and committee clearance
Objective B.2:	Ensure that education providers conduct themselves in an ethical, professional, and lawful manner.
Outcome:	Complaints received
Strategy B.2.1:	Investigate and resolve complaints.
Output:	Complaints received against continuing education providers
Output:	Fines levied based on complaints
Efficiency:	Average fine per complaint

### **Agency Program Goal # 3 – Efficiency of Board Management**

In FY 2026, the Board will continue to work toward a paperless office to the extent practical. The Board will also continue to focus on licensing opportunities for applicants through the Fresh Start Act, Military Family Freedom Act, and Universal Recognition of Occupational Licensure provisions set for by the Mississippi Legislature as well as other licensing requirements under the direction of this Board to further advance accessibility to licensure without undue restrictions.

#### **Objective with Outcome Measure**

- Collaborate with PersonItch to continue on-line projects for FY 2026. Priorities include implementing additional on-line processes.
- improve reporting requirements to provide more accountability of on-line process through the existing database; and
- streamline management services to provide greater accessibility to applicants.

#### **Agency's Internal Management System utilized to Evaluate its Performance**

The Mississippi State Board of Chiropractic Examiners was created by the legislature of the State of Mississippi to safeguard life, health, property, and the public welfare in Mississippi to protect its people against unauthorized, unqualified, and improper

applications of chiropractic by regulating the practice. The Rules and Regulations are reviewed and revised regularly; and

- maintains a set of written policies and protocols to govern the internal actions of the Board. Additionally, the Board implements the following controls: The Board enforces a Conflict-of-Interest Policy.
- maintains an agency wide minority expenditure rate of at least 75%.
- complies with the requirements of the Occupational Licensing Review Board prior to filing any pending rules with the Mississippi SOS.
- complies with the Administrative Procedures Act as established by the Mississippi Secretary of State, including the SOS requirements under the Administrative Procedures rules of July 1, 2024.
- complies with the Mandatory Risk Assessment recommendations as required of all Mississippi State agencies.
- complies with the Internal Control Section of the Mississippi Agency Accounting Policy and Procedures Manual and will conduct an annual evaluation of all internal controls including the organization and management, administration of accounting and budgeting, purchasing, and contracting, personnel and payroll, revenues and receivables, expenditures, grant administration, and electronic data processing attachments. The findings of the evaluation shall provide reasonable assurance that the assets of the agency have been preserved, the duties have been segregated by function, and the transactions executed are in accordance with the laws of the State of Mississippi. Material weaknesses in any of its functions must be identified and compliance efforts will be implemented.
- complies with the Affordable Care Act reporting requirements regarding agency participation in the DFA central process; and
- complies with the Military Family Freedom Act; the Universal Recognition of Occupational Licenses; and the Fresh Start Act, where applicable.

The Board is required by law to meet four (4) times annually; however, special meetings may be held to conduct necessary business. Special care is taken to ensure that the needs of the general public are met and protected and that chiropractic licensees adhere to the regulatory requirements for licensure. Board members work to correct any problems or deficiencies that impair or prohibit performing their duties entrusted to them by the Governor, their peers, and the citizens of the State of Mississippi. The Board has all records computerized to reduce search times and to offer easier access to information pertaining to applicants, licenses, and complaints filed with the Board. The Board also has a regularly updated website to provide the public with easy access to copies of the Rules and Regulations, complaint forms, applications for licensure, telephone, and postal contact information, approved continuing education programs and a database to search for the legal status of chiropractors in Mississippi.

The Mississippi State Board of Chiropractic Examiners has legal representation from the Attorney General's Office, Catherine Bell; fiscal management services through

Cornerstone Consulting Group; and a managerial contract with Yvonne Laird, President of J-Bar and Associates, Inc.

Non-general funds are used for the operation of the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

***S/ Desmond Hoda, D.C.***

Chairman

For and on behalf of the

MS State Board of Chiropractic Examiners