

## ACUPUNCTURIST, REGISTERED

**Licensing Authority** LaDee Piner  
Board of Medical Examiners  
Iowa Department of Public Health  
400 SW 8th St Ste C  
Des Moines IA 50309  
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**Legal Authority** Code of Iowa, Chapter 147, 148E, and 272C

**Job Description** Acupuncturists promote, maintain or restore health based on traditional oriental medical concepts of treating specific areas of the human body, known as acupuncture points or meridians, by performing any of the following practices: 1) inserting acupuncture needles; 2) moxibustion; or 3) applying manual, conductive thermal or electrical stimulation through the use of acupuncture needles or any other secondary therapeutic technique except for the use of electromagnetic or ultrasound energy sources. State law requires that a medical evaluator (a person licensed by the state to practice medicine and surgery, osteopathic medicine and surgery, chiropractic, podiatry or dentistry) evaluate a patient's condition and make a written referral to the registered acupuncturist prior to treatment. The acupuncture treatment must then take place within 90 days of the initial referral for the evaluation to remain current.

**Education & Experience Required** Applicant must hold current active status as a diplomate in the National Commission for the Certification of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM), demonstrate sufficient knowledge of the English language to understand and be understood by patients, Board, and Committee members, and successfully complete a course in clean needle technique approved by the NCCAOM. Applicant must also successfully complete a three-year postsecondary training program or acupuncture college program accredited by, in candidacy for accreditation by, or which meets the standards of the National Accreditation Commission for Schools and Colleges of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine.

Licensed Iowa MDs, DOs, podiatrists, chiropractors, and dentists are not required to be licensed to practice acupuncture.

**Continuing Education** A total of 30 approved Professional Development Activity (PDA) points are required biennially to qualify for license renewal.

**Examination** Applicants must pass the NCCAOM Comprehensive Written Examination. This includes acupuncture theory and clean needle technique (CNT) and Point Location Practical Examination (PEPLS).

**Fees** Application:\$300  
Duration: One year  
Renewal: \$300 – with documented evidence of 30 Professional Development Activity (PDA) points

**SOC Code, Title, & Avg. Hourly Wage** 29-1199 – All Other Health Diagnosing and Treating Practitioners (\$21.87)

**Number of Licenses Issued** Total number of licenses active as of December 31,  
2001: 23  
2000: 15

**For Additional Information** National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine  
11 Canal Center Plaza Ste 300  
Alexandria VA 22314  
Phone: (703) 548-9004  
Fax: (703) 548-9079