

# CHIROPRACTOR

Chiropractors are concerned with the healthy functioning of the entire body, and focus on the spinal column as a source of many illnesses. Diagnosis of a patient's health problem is done through patient interviews, physical examinations, x-ray examinations, and laboratory tests. The patient is then either treated or referred to another health care provider for further assessment.

Chiropractic treatment consists primarily of adjusting and manipulating the body, especially the spinal column. Some chiropractors supplement adjustment with therapies involving water, light, heat, diet, exercise, and rest. Chiropractors do not use prescription drugs or surgery.

Most chiropractors are self-employed and have a general practice. Some specialize in chiropractic roentgenology (x-rays) or chiropractic orthopedics (the prevention of skeletal deformities). Other chiropractors teach or engage in professional research.

## Where do chiropractors work in Alaska?



Most chiropractors work in private practice or join together with other health care professionals to form a group practice. Few chiropractors can establish a full time practice in rural Alaska. Those who do are located in urban areas or regional centers and travel to outlying communities on a scheduled basis.



## Hourly Wage Range

**\$29.25-\$59.45 (Mean \$41.89)**

\*based on Alaska DOL data



**Years in School:  
8 years or more\***

\*after high school graduation

## Educational Requirements



- Graduation from high school with a strong background in science, math, and English.
- Completion of a four-year college degree program, with coursework in biology and the sciences.
- Completion of a four-year chiropractic program. The student spends the first two years in the study of sciences, and the final two years in clinical study.
- Successful completion of a state licensing examination.
- Must pass National Board of Chiropractic Examinations (4 parts)

## Academic Programs in Alaska

There are no chiropractic programs in Alaska. The closest program is in Portland, OR:

Western States Chiropractic College  
2900 NE 132nd Ave.  
Portland, OR 97230  
Phone: (503) 256-3180  
Toll free: (800) 641-5641  
Fax: (503) 251-5723  
Email: [admissions@wschiro.edu](mailto:admissions@wschiro.edu)  
Web site: <http://www.wschiro.edu>

For a list of other chiropractic schools in the United States, visit: <http://www.naturalhealers.com/qa/chiropractic.html>

## State and National Contacts

### State Contact:

Alaska Chiropractic Society  
Phone: (907) 222-2123  
Email: [akchiro society@aol.com](mailto:akchiro society@aol.com)  
Web site: <http://alaskachiropracticsociety.com/>

### National Contact:

The American Chiropractic Association  
Phone: (703) 276-8800  
Email: [memberinfo@acatoday.org](mailto:memberinfo@acatoday.org)  
Web site: <http://www.amerchiro.org>

Information from: [www.healthcareersinalaska.info](http://www.healthcareersinalaska.info)

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developed by Alaska Center for Rural Health-Alaska's AHEC: <http://nursing.uaa.alaska.edu/acrh/>