

Arizona State Board of Homeopathic and Integrated Medicine Examiners

Minutes of the Rules Committee

**Held at 1400 West Washington, Room 230, Phoenix, Arizona
at
8:00 a.m. on
March 30, 2012**

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

A Telephonic meeting of the Rules Committee of the Board of Homeopathic and Integrated Medicine Examiners was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Dr. Martha Grout who was present along with Alan Kennedy, and advisory member, John Soliven. Dr. Todd Rowe joined the meeting at 8:30 a.m.

Christine Springer the Executive Director was also present. No members of the public were present.

Mr. Soliven introduced himself and indicated he was a licensed R.N. in Canada, with an H.M.D. in the province of Ontario. He is also a current student at the American Medical College of Homeopathy. Mr. Soliven provided a brief background of his homeopathic credentials and described the Canadian homeopathic education process.

II. Review and Consider Changes to Rules

Mr. Kennedy suggested a separate set of rules should be created to delineate the requirements for the Doctor of Homeopathy license from current requirements for the Medical Doctor of Homeopathy (M.D.H.) or Osteopathic Doctor of Homeopathy (D.O.H).

Within Section 38-101, the following terms would need definitions:

- Homeopathic medical school
- ECFMG
- Accreditation Council
- Osteopathic Medical School
- Medical School

The Committee members discussed Section 38-102 concerning requirements for applicants that graduate from an unapproved school of medicine. The Educational Council for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) was discussed and Dr. Grout stated that the Fifth Pathway is no longer recognized by the American Medical Association as of the class of 2009.

Committee members agreed that Section 38-102 should be separated into two separate subsections with Subsection 'A' describing what criteria a homeopathic medical school should meet for graduates to be accepted for licensure by the Board and Subsection 'B' describing criteria for graduates of Allopathic or Osteopathic medical schools.

Committee members discussed Sections 103 and 104 which are intended for M.D.'s and D.O.'s that do not graduate with a degree of doctor of medicine in homeopathy and must meet licensure requirements by presenting evidence of approved postgraduate coursework in alternative therapy modalities.

The Committee discussed fees and whether separate fees could be set to delineate between the application for the Doctor of Homeopathy and the M.D. (H) or D.O (H) application. Section 105 does not differentiate separate fees at this time. They agreed that this would be a question for the Assistant Attorney General and may require a statutory change to add a separate license fee for the Doctor of Homeopathy application. Mr. Soliven commented that Canadian fees are greater than the \$550 application fee currently charged in Arizona. Committee members noted that if legislation is sought two other new fees should be considered: a late renewal of medical assistants and a fee to retake the M.D. (H)/D.O (H) examination.

Section 38-107 regarding the examination process was reviewed with considerable discussion on whether applicants should be allowed to utilize electronic devices. Mr. Kennedy suggested the Committee may wish to consider allowing the use of computers in one section of the examination. Dr. Grout agreed although she noted that the same program would have to be utilized by all examinees because it is common for different programs to arrive at different remedies. Dr. Rowe and Mr. Soliven urged against the use of computers noting that critical thinking is important in the process of arriving at the remedy.

There was discussion of whether the Board should create its own examination. Dr. Rowe commented that the Board may wish to consider requiring passage of the examination offered by the Council for Homeopathic Certification.

The Committee suggested creating a new Section 38-119 to establish criteria for approving unapproved schools of homeopathy. There was consensus that the schools should be accredited within the United States or Canada by a recognized accrediting agency. International schools could apply for accreditation from the ACHENA (Accreditation Commission for Homeopathic Education in North America).

Mr. Soliven cautioned that ACHENA had approved a Canadian school that was not recognized in the Province of Ontario because the school did not have a science component as part of its curriculum. He also cited a school in Vancouver approved by the ACHENA that was not recognized in British Columbia, noting that homeopathy is unregulated in that province.

Dr. Rowe commented that one guiding principal should be that the homeopathic program must be legally recognized within the state, province, or country where it operates.

The Committee discussed the display of the professional license issued by the Board as sited in Section 38-115. They agreed that the language should be expanded in subsection D. to include a location *prominent to the public*.

The meeting adjourned at 9:39 A.m. p.m.

Respectfully,

Christine Springer
Executive Director

Accepted in Regular Meeting on November 8, 2011 by Board Members that were in attendance at the Finance Committee Meeting