



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION of ORIENTAL MEDICINE

909 22nd Street, Sacramento CA 95816

Mailing Address: PO Box 162340, Sacramento CA 95816

Tel: 916-443-4770 Fax: 916-443-4766 Toll Free: 866-455-7999

www.aaom.org

Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine – State by State Education Requirements

Date of Release: June 22, 2006

State by State educational requirements are predicated upon ACAOM and NCCAOM Standards, with the exception of California, which uses ACAOM standards, but provides its own testing. As the ACAOM standards increase, schools are allocated a specific timeframe to come into compliance.

Educational Standards:

1982: Founded in 1982, The Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (ACAOM) is the sole accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education to accredit professional master's degree and master's level programs in the field of Oriental Medicine. ACAOM program requirements are as follows: Acupuncture: 3 Academic Years/1905 Hours, and Oriental Medicine: 4 Academic Years/2625 Hours. ACAOM accredited Colleges meeting these standards nationwide total 54, and 9 additional colleges are in candidate status.

1982: The National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM) is a non-profit organization established in 1982. *Through the use of standardized examinations, its mission is to establish, assess, and promote recognized standards of competence and safety in acupuncture and Oriental medicine for the protection and benefit of the public.* Today the NCCAOM offers certification examinations in Acupuncture (includes clean needle technique point location), Chinese Herbology, and Asian Bodywork Therapy. Forty-one states use the NCCAOM examinations and applicants must meet ACAOM's hourly requirements in effect at the time their application is submitted. (There are 8 remaining states without a practice act in statute.) **Note:** ¹A summary of state-by-state licensure requirements are provided, as well as a ²US map depicting states utilizing NCCAOM Exams.)

States	ACAOM Standard	Exceeds ACAOM	Notes
Alaska	√		ACAOM Specified
Arizona			Board-approved 1,850 Hours
Arkansas	√		ACAOM specified/4-yr program
California		√	3,000 Hours
Colorado	√		By virtue of NCCAOM Requirements
Connecticut	√		Accredited program specified/1,350 hrs.

¹ National Acupuncture Foundation, Acupuncture Laws and Regulations; 2005

² National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine, Website; 2006

District of Columbia	✓		ACAOM Specified - 3 yr/program
Florida		✓	2700 Hours/Allows for evolution of standards
Georgia	✓		By virtue of NCCAOM requirements
Hawaii	✓		Accredited program specified/2,175 hrs.
Idaho	✓		By virtue of NCCAOM Requirements
Illinois	✓		By virtue of NCCAOM Requirements
Indiana	✓		ACAOM specified - 3/yr program
Iowa	✓		ACAOM specified - 3/yr program
Louisiana			Board approved 36 month Training
Maine			Board approved 1000 hours
Maryland	✓		ACAOM specified
Massachusetts	✓		ACAOM specified
Michigan	✓		By virtue of NCCAOM Requirements
Minnesota	✓		By virtue of NCCAOM Requirements
Missouri	✓		By virtue of NCCAOM Requirements
Montana	✓		ACAOM specified
Nebraska	✓		ACAOM specified
Nevada		✓	3,000 hours
New Hampshire	✓		ACAOM specified
New Jersey			Board approved 2-yr. program
New Mexico		✓	900 Clinic Hrs
New York	✓		ACAOM specified/3 year program
North Carolina	✓		ACAOM specified/3-yr program
Ohio	✓		By virtue of NCCAOM Requirements
Oregon	✓		ACAOM specified
Pennsylvania	✓		Accredited program specified
Rhode Island		✓	ACAOM specified
South Carolina	✓		By virtue of NCCAOM

			Requirements
Tennessee	✓		ACAOM Specified - 3 Year program
Texas	✓		ACAOM specified
Utah	✓		By virtue of NCCAOM Requirements
Vermont	✓		ACAOM specified
Virginia	✓		ACAOM specified/1,000
Washington	✓		ACAOM specified
West Virginia	✓		ACAOM specified
Wisconsin	✓		ACAOM specified

Reference: Updated from National Acupuncture Foundation: 2005 Edition