



May 2011

**Dear Interested Applicant:**

**Regulation of Acupuncture**

Acupuncturists in Alberta are regulated by the College and Association of Acupuncturists of Alberta and governed under the province's *Health Disciplines Act* and *Acupuncture Regulation*. This means only individuals who are registered under the Act are entitled to present themselves to the public as Acupuncturists. To view the Regulations, Standards of Practice, and related documents please visit [www.acupuncturealberta.ca/links](http://www.acupuncturealberta.ca/links).

**Registration Process**

To become registered as an Acupuncturist in Alberta, the *Regulation* requires a candidate to:

- have completed a program of studies approved by the Health Disciplines Board for the purposes of registration, or to have completed a program of studies that is substantially equivalent to the approved programs. The programs which have been approved or conditionally approved by the Health Disciplines Board are:
  - 1.) Acupuncture Diploma Program at Grant MacEwan College in Edmonton;
  - 2.) Acupuncture Diploma Program at the Alberta College of Acupuncture & Traditional Chinese Medicine in Calgary, Alberta;
  - 3.) Acupuncture Diploma Program at the Canadian Institute of Traditional Chinese Medicine in Calgary, Alberta;
  - 4.) Acupuncture Diploma Program at the Calgary College of Traditional Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture in Calgary Alberta; and
  - 5.) Reeves College Acupuncture Diploma Program in Edmonton.These programs include approximately 1440 hours of theoretical instruction and 650 hours of clinical instruction/practical experience. **Distance learning OR 'on-line' courses are not recognized by the College OR the Health Disciplines Board as part of the approved curriculum.**
- have, within the two (2) years immediately preceding the date of the application, carried out the practice of acupuncture for at least 500 hours or has completed a satisfactory level of studies and/or additional training as deemed appropriate by the Registrar and/or Registration Committee. It is mandatory for all applicants to have completed a Safety/Clean Needle Course before being registered as an Acupuncturist in Alberta and it is **strongly recommended** that this course is successfully completed before the clinical examination date; and
- have satisfactorily completed Alberta's Provincial Registration Examination for Acupuncturists, as deemed appropriate by the College and/or Examination Committee.

### **Acupuncture Registration Application**

The College and Association of Acupuncturists of Alberta is currently accepting Applications for Registration as an Acupuncturist. Enclosed in this package are the forms you must complete to apply for registration. Any documents you wish to submit in support of your application (e.g. certificates of completion of program) should be in English. Documents that are written in a language other than English are acceptable if they are accompanied by a notarized translated copy in English.

The character declarations forms must be completed by two persons who know you well enough to vouch for your character. Before registration can be assessed, the completed application form (with your signature on Pages 3 and 5), supporting documents, character declarations, and application fee of \$120.00 (payable by cheque or money order to the College and Association of Acupuncturists of Alberta, must be mailed to:

**Attn: Registrar**  
**College and Association of Acupuncturists of Alberta**  
**A- 51 Skyline Cres. NE**  
**Calgary AB. T2K 5X2**

**Telephone: (403) 262-2833 Fax: (403) 262-2896**

**Email: [registrar@acupuncturealberta.ca](mailto:registrar@acupuncturealberta.ca)**

### **Provincial Registration Examination**

Candidates who are found to have adequate education and practical experience, and have met all of the other requirements stated in the Acupuncture Regulation, will be eligible to attempt the Provincial Registration Examination for Acupuncturists. Once the 2011 *Provincial Registration Examination for Acupuncturists in Alberta Candidate Handbook* is available, a copy will be provided to all eligible candidates. The fee for the full exam is \$1300.00

All candidates are accepted on a 'first come, first serve' basis and once the maximum quota of examination candidates is filled, **all** other eligible candidates will be entered on the ***Candidate Examination Waiting List***.

### **Mutual Recognition Agreement (Labour Mobility)**

The Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) for the Profession of Regulated Acupuncturist in Canada is now in effect. An applicant from either British Columbia or Quebec who wishes to be registered in Alberta under the MRA, must be aware of the following important points:

- ✓ 'Regulated Acupuncturist' means acupuncturists recognized by an Acupuncture Regulatory Authority (ARA).
- ✓ 'License' means a license, permit, certificate or registration, issued by an ARA.
- ✓ 'Applicant' means a person who currently holds a License with one (or more) ARA(s) and who is seeking licensure with an additional ARA. (***NOTE: If you wish to apply for registration in Alberta under the MRA, you must be a Registered Acupuncturist in Good Standing from either B.C. or Quebec.***)

If you have any questions concerning becoming registered in Alberta as an Acupuncturist, please contact me directly by telephone: (780) 422-2733, by fax: (780) 415-1094 or by email: [heather.cameron@gov.ab.ca](mailto:heather.cameron@gov.ab.ca).

Sincerely,

**Ms. Heather Cameron**

Registration Consultant to the College and Association of Acupuncturists of Alberta

Enclosures: Acupuncture Application for Registration; Acupuncture Regulation;  
Standards of Competency and Practice for Acupuncturists