

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 9, 2013  
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 21, 2013  
CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 808**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Fong**

February 21, 2013

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An act to amend Section 4938 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to acupuncture.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 808, as amended, Fong. Acupuncture: license requirements.

Existing law, the Acupuncture Licensure Act, provides for an Acupuncture Board within the Department of Consumer Affairs to license and regulate the practice of acupuncture. Existing law requires the board to issue a license to practice acupuncture to a person who files an application, pays a fee, and meets specified criteria, including taking a written examination and completing a clinical internship program.

This bill would require an applicant for a license to practice acupuncture to also pass a practical examination administered by the board *on and after January 1, 2016*.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 4938 of the Business and Professions
- 2 Code is amended to read:

1 4938. The board shall issue a license to practice acupuncture  
2 to any person who makes an application and meets the following  
3 requirements:

4 (a) Is at least 18 years of age.

5 (b) Furnishes satisfactory evidence of completion of one of the  
6 following:

7 (1) An educational and training program approved by the board  
8 pursuant to Section 4939.

9 (2) Satisfactory completion of a tutorial program in the practice  
10 of an acupuncturist which is approved by the board.

11 (3) In the case of an applicant who has completed education  
12 and training outside the United States and Canada, documented  
13 educational training and clinical experience which meets the  
14 standards established pursuant to Sections 4939 and 4941.

15 (c) Passes a written examination and, *on and after January 1,*  
16 *2016,* a practical examination administered by the board that tests  
17 the applicant’s ability, competency, and knowledge in the practice  
18 of an acupuncturist. The written and practical examinations shall  
19 be developed by the Office of Professional Examination Services  
20 of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

21 (d) Is not subject to denial pursuant to Division 1.5 (commencing  
22 with Section 475).

23 (e) Completes a clinical internship training program approved  
24 by the board. The clinical internship training program shall not  
25 exceed nine months in duration and shall be located in a clinic in  
26 this state, which is approved by the board pursuant to Section 4939.  
27 The length of the clinical internship shall depend upon the grades  
28 received in the examination and the clinical training already  
29 satisfactorily completed by the individual prior to taking the  
30 examination. On and after January 1, 1987, individuals with 800  
31 or more hours of documented clinical training shall be deemed to  
32 have met this requirement. The purpose of the clinical internship  
33 training program shall be to ensure a minimum level of clinical  
34 competence.

35 Each applicant who qualifies for a license shall pay, as a  
36 condition precedent to its issuance and in addition to other fees  
37 required, the initial licensure fee.

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