

IN THE MATTER OF
CORRINE HIGGINS,
(Unlicensed)

APPLICANT

* BEFORE THE MARYLAND STATE
* BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC
* EXAMINERS
* CASE NUMBER: 20-25C

* * * * *

**FINAL ORDER OF DENIAL OF APPLICATION FOR CHIROPRACTIC
ASSISTANT TRAINING PROGRAM**

On May 4, 2021, the Maryland State Board of Chiropractic Examiners (the “Board”) notified **CORRINE HIGGINS** (the “Applicant”) of the Board’s intent to deny her Application for Chiropractic Assistant Training Program under the Maryland Chiropractic Act (the "Act"), Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. ("Health Occ.") §§ 3-101 *et seq.* (2014 Repl. Vol. & 2020 Supp.).

The pertinent provisions of the Act provide as follows:

§ 3-302 Qualifications of applicants.

- (a) In general. To qualify for a license, an applicant shall be an individual who:
- (1) Submits to a criminal history records check in accordance with §3-302.1 of this subtitle;

...

- (b) Moral character. The applicant shall be of good moral character[.]

§3-313. Denials, reprimand, suspensions, and revocations.

Subject to the hearing provisions of § 3-315 of this subtitle, the Board may deny a license to any applicant, reprimand any licensee, place any licensee on probation, with or without conditions, or suspend or revoke a license, or any combination thereof, if the applicant or licensee:

(1) Fraudulently or deceptively obtains or attempts to obtain a license for the applicant or licensee or for another;

...

(12) Makes or files a false report or record in the practice of chiropractic[.]

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On or about October 14, 2020, the Applicant submitted an Application for CA Training Program (the "Application").

2. The Chiropractic Assistant training program is a structured one-year program of chiropractic training under a Board-licensed supervising chiropractor in order to qualify and apply for a registration as a Maryland registered chiropractic assistant. COMAR 10.43.07.01(4).

3. The Application included a "Stage 1" questionnaire (the "Questionnaire") that was completed by the Applicant.

4. The Questionnaire instructed the Applicant to "Please truthfully answer each of the following questions. If you answer yes to any question, please describe the circumstances surrounding each incident in detail on a separate sheet."

5. In her Application, the Applicant answered "yes" to question 2, which asked: "Have you ever been arrested, charged with a crime, or pled guilty, *nolo contendere*, [*sic*] no contest, or been convicted or received probation before judgment for any criminal act, including DWI or DUI in this or any other state?"

6. The Application instructed the Applicant to "attach a copy of the court records related to each incident. You must also submit a detailed letter with this application explaining the circumstances involved in each incident".

7. The Applicant provided a Maryland Judiciary Case Search printout along with a letter of explanation regarding her arrest On May 15, 2018 for “Assault-Sec Degree” and arrest for “Dangerous Weapon-Int/Injury” and her subsequent conviction for “Assault-Sec Degree” in the District Court for Baltimore County, Maryland on July 26, 2018.

8. The Applicant signed the Application attesting that “my answers are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and beliefs.”

9. The Board initiated an investigation of the Applicant’s responses. The Board’s investigation revealed that the Applicant failed disclose that she was arrested on June 3, 2019 and charged with issuing a false document, forgery, possession of private documents, and theft of one hundred dollars to under one thousand five hundred dollars.

10. The Board requested a detailed explanation of the criminal charges that were not provided on her application.

11. On October 22, 2020, the Applicant provided a written explanation admitting to being arrested on June 3, 2019 for fraudulently attempting to cash a check. She stated that she appeared in court on August 12, 2019 and that a nolle prosequi was entered and that subsequently the case was expunged and that she did not have any of the court documents.

12. The Applicant failed to respond truthfully to Question 2 on the Questionnaire; specifically, she failed to report that she had been arrested and charged with a crime on June 3, 2019.

BASIS OF DENIAL

13. The Applicant's conduct, as outlined above, constitutes violations of the Act in that:

- a) The Applicant failed to answer truthfully and accurately on the Application for CA Training Program Questionnaire that she had been arrested and charged with a crime;
- b) In failing to report that she had been arrested and charged with a crime, the Applicant demonstrated a lack of good moral character.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the above, the Board concludes, as a matter of law, that the Applicant fraudulently or deceptively obtains or attempts to obtain a license for the applicant . . . in violation of Health Occ § 3-313(1) and that the Applicant made or filed a false record in the practice of chiropractic, in violation of Health Occ. § 3-313(12). The Applicant's conduct demonstrates that she does not meet the good moral character requirement pursuant to Health Occ. §3-302(b).

ORDER

It is, on the affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum of the Board, hereby

ORDERED that the Applicant's Application for Chiropractic Assistant Training Program, is **DENIED**; and it is further

ORDERED that this is an Order of the Board, and as such, is a **PUBLIC DOCUMENT**, pursuant to Health Occ. §§ 1-607 and Gen. Prov. § 4-333(b)(6).

03/10/2022
Date

Sharon Oliver
Sharon J. Oliver, MBA, Executive Director
Maryland Board of Chiropractic Examiners

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO PETITION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW

Pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 3-316 and the Administrative Procedure Act, Md. Code Ann, State Gov't §10-222, the Applicant has the right to seek judicial review of this Final Order. Any petition for judicial review shall be filed within thirty (30) days from the date of this mailing of this Final Order. The cover letter accompanying this Final Order indicates the date it was mailed.