

General requirements for foreign citizens to practice chiropractic in Iceland

Section 1:

To have successfully graduated from a Chiropractic educational institution that is accredited by ECCE (European Council on Chiropractic Education) or from another comparable accrediting institution, if applicant is a graduate from an institution located in another continent. The education must be recognized by the Icelandic government and the government in the country where the educational institution is located.

To be licenced in Iceland, the applicant must have finished a one year internship in a chiropractic office or a professional setting which must be approved beforehand by the Icelandic Chiropractic Association.

For applicants who graduated from educational institutions located in the European Economic Area or Switzerland, the following regulations apply:

- 1) The regulation about the recognition of the education and proficiency of health professionals from the European Economic Area and Switzerland, number 461/2011.
- 2) The Nordic Agreement about the joint work market of Scandinavian countries for certain health professions and veterinarians, number 36/1993.

Section 2:

The Directorate of Health issues chiropractic licences. Along with an application, the following documents must be submitted:

- 1) A certified copy of the applicant's chiropractic licence, if one exists.
- 2) A certified copy of diploma.
- 3) A copy of the applicant's passport.
- 4) A *letter of good standing*, no more than three months old. It must contain information about possible limitations, suspensions or withdrawal of applicants licence.
- 5) A *letter of conformity*, a certificate from governmental authorities stating the accreditation of the applicant's education.

Sometimes, the content of the letter of good standing and the letter of conformity is supplied in one, then called a *Certificate of Current Professional Status* (CCPS).

If the original documents are written in languages other than Icelandic, English, Danish, Norwegian or Swedish, a translation by a certified translator must also be submitted.

For further information, see: www.landlaeknir.is

Section 3:

Applicants who are nationals of a state outside of the European Economic Area and Switzerland:

A residence permit is needed, issued by Útlendingastofnun (The Directorate of Immigration).

For further information, see: www.utl.is

A limited work permit is needed from Vinnumálastofnun, (Directorate of Labour) to be allowed to do a job that requires expert knowledge. A work contract must exist between employer, for example a chiropractic office, and the applicant, the employee needed at the workplace to do work that requires specific education. In this case, someone with a chiropractic education, able to provide chiropractic care.

For further information, see: www.vinnumalastofnun.is

When applicants submit an application to the Directorate of Health they must hand in documents mentioned in section 2: parts 1 – 4. Additionally, the following documents must be handed in:

- 1) A certified copy of application for a limited work permit.
- 2) A certified copy of the application for a residence permit.
- 3) A signed work contract.
- 4) A proof of secure housing. (a signed copy of a rental agreement for an example)
- 5) A certification of proficiency in the Icelandic language.
- 6) A proof of applicant having health insurance in Iceland is needed. A statement from an insurance company is necessary, employer is responsible.

The Surgeon General asks for a review of the application from the Icelandic Chiropractic Association before issuing a chiropractic licence.

A certified copy means that the compliance between original documents and copies must be certified by the appropriate authorities, such as the Surgeon Generals offices, police stations or sheriff's offices.



Helpful links:

Healthcare Practitioner's Act:

[https://eng.velferdarraduneyti.is/media/acrobat-enskar_sidur/Healthcare Practitioners Act No34 2012-as-amended.pdf](https://eng.velferdarraduneyti.is/media/acrobat-enskar_sidur/Healthcare_Practitioners_Act_No34_2012-as-amended.pdf)

Icelandic regulation on chiropractors:

<https://eng.velferdarraduneyti.is/media/health-reg/Regulation-No-1087-2012---chiropractors.pdf>