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| Dear \*\*\*\*\*\*, The NCCAOM is helping to get the word out! Below is an important notice from the Utah Association of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine and the Acupuncture Board of State of Utah Dept, of Professional Licensing |
| Utah Association of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine Presents:  |
| **Dear Utah Licensed Practitioner,**   Utah_Logo_Small.jpgRecently the Utah Acupuncture Licensing Board voted on a rule proposal that would clarify existing statute, and would further require the passage of all four components of the NCCAOM exams for licensure for new licensure applicants. This would add the NCCAOM herbal examination as a requirement for all new license applicants, enhancing educational requirements and ensuring public safety. Since the use of Chinese medicinal herbs currently falls within our scope of practice, it was felt that knowledge of the use of and principles related to herbal medicine would result in the creation of better practitioners. Even those not currently using herbs in their practices would benefit from the increased knowledge and public safety would be increased. The proposal would grandfather in all existing licensees, and further allow those already licensed in other states only in acupuncture prior to the rule taking effect to practice here in Utah.  In fairness to candidates anticipating 2018 graduation, the change would be rolled out over a reasonable period of time(yet to be determined by DOPL but perhaps about one year), to allow ample time for the adjustment. This rule change was initiated to insure the highest standards of educational requirements in order to further ensure public safety and that citizens of our state were getting the highest quality of care. There are a number of other states who have taken similar stepsto ensure public safety and it appears to be a growing trend in the profession as it further protects our scope to practice Chinese herbs.The Acupuncture Licensure Board of the Division of Professional Licensing, as well as the Board of Directors of the Utah Association of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine voted by majority to move forward with this proposal to the next meeting scheduled for February 20. The NCCAOM also supports the proposed rule change.Chinese herbal medicine and acupuncture have always been inextricably linked, and this rule would further ensure the competence of even those acupuncturists not necessarily practicing herbs, by increasing educational requirements and knowledge. As you are well aware, improper use of medicinal herbs can have potentially dangerous consequences if not used by trained professionals. Our aim is for increased public safety through higher educational and examination requirements. That being said, we would like to reiterate that we are not insisting or even encouraging that other practitioners use Chinese herbs, only that new licensees are able to demonstrate the knowledge base necessary to ensure Public Safety.As Chinese herbal medicine becomes more popular in consumer use, it is important for licensed acupuncturists to educate and inform the public that our training and credentials ensure that we are the most qualified to practice Chinese herbs. We are seeking your support of this rule change. We will be developing a fact sheet with answers to questions shortly.   Lastly, as you may already be aware, the UAAOM released a new website in the fall of 2017. We are now working to get our members online. In order to streamline this process, we ask you to create a new account.   Please go to: [www.utahaaom.org,](http://www.mmsend2.com/link.cfm?r=n8fFBlm0yDrfSYm_3ZFm8A~~&pe=dHKHgsZBCVo_itvtf79R535bhfXeyQeMJgyfeY9OX9xNb-KoW0r7NtDSYGffJp4b0pyoQGxbDtEIj_V3mdCuvQ~~&t=xvjZATkAGvWcXVjbFyU9Mw~~)  select "Existing Member - no dues" and complete the registration process. Once we see your registration information come through, we will make the necessary changes to the database to ensure your membership information is up to date and accurate. There are no auto-renewals, so when the time comes for your membership to renew you will get a series of email reminders.We are all pretty new to this process so please be patient as we work through the kinks! If you are tech savvy or know someone who is willing to volunteer to help in getting our membership information up to date, please let us know.   Thank you for supporting the Utah Association of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine.   **Michael R. Berger,** PhD(ca.) LAc. Dipl.Ac. (NCCAOM) President- Utah Association of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine **Tyehao Lu**, LAc., Dipl. OM (NCCAOM)   Chair of Acupuncture Board of State of Utah Dept, of Professional Licensing  |

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| NCCAOM [2025 M Street NW, Suite 800](https://maps.google.com/?q=2025+M+Street+NW,+Suite+800+Washington+DC,+20036+Ph.:(888&entry=gmail&source=g) [Washington DC, 20036](https://maps.google.com/?q=2025+M+Street+NW,+Suite+800+Washington+DC,+20036+Ph.:(888&entry=gmail&source=g) Ph.:(888) 381-1140, Fax: (202) 3818-1141, email: info@thenccaom.org [www.nccaom.org](http://www.mmsend2.com/link.cfm?r=n8fFBlm0yDrfSYm_3ZFm8A~~&pe=OdZqFcadKmHNVhBLqF3i9MkAnpvBBJpKvc5tLkcbFV4a_t24vbqC7Om0pocef6wkacNV4JhXdnA7yUVjihgBEw~~&t=xvjZATkAGvWcXVjbFyU9Mw~~) |
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