

The Councils on Chiropractic Education International 6100 Leslie Street, Toronto ON M2H 3J1, Canada | www.cceintl.org

## Policy 5 Equivalence of CCEI Member Agency Standards and Degrees Granted by Accredited Entities

## Equivalence of Accreditation Standards

The expectations, requirements and processes of educational accrediting agencies, normally stated as "standards", serve as core elements in assessing and assuring educational quality through accreditation. Consequently, effective and credible accrediting bodies consider, approve and state their standards with great care. Accrediting bodies publish their standards to achieve transparency, broad awareness and understanding.

As a requirement for membership in the Councils on Chiropractic Education International (CCEI), the CCEI Bylaws note that all member accrediting agencies are required to be an independent, not-for-profit accrediting agency for education of entry level chiropractic practitioners (CCEI Bylaws 12.2.1), have standards that meet or exceed the International Framework for Chiropractic Education and Accreditation established by CCEI (CCEI Bylaws 12.2.2), align with the mission and goals of CCEI, and comply with all relevant provisions of the CCEI Bylaws and Policies (CCE Bylaws 12.2.4). Furthermore, all CCEI member bodies are required to be "organized to assess and make determinations regarding the quality and content of educational programs that graduate entry-level chiropractic practitioners, with standards, competencies and processes equivalent to the CCEI Framework for International Chiropractic Education." (CCEI Bylaws 12.1.1)

Thus, the International Framework for Chiropractic Education and Accreditation is the basis and minimum benchmark for fundamental equivalence in assessment and accreditation of chiropractic education by CCEI member agencies around the world. CCEI undertakes a regular periodic process of review to ensure that its International Framework for Chiropractic Education and Accreditation is clear, current and appropriately applicable to the roles of chiropractic education accrediting bodies worldwide, and to ensure proper rigor and effective performance in accreditation. This thorough process of review occurs at regular intervals. (See CCEI Policy #2, Standards Review)

To ensure that all member agencies' standards and processes meet or exceed those of the International Framework for Chiropractic Education and Accreditation, the published standards of all member agencies are examined to verify consistency with the International Framework for Chiropractic Education and Accreditation before an agency can be admitted

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to membership in CCEI. All member agency standards are further reviewed on an ongoing basis to assure consistency with the International Framework for Chiropractic Education and Accreditation.

To ensure timeliness and accuracy in this review process, a current version of all agency accreditation standards and agency constitutions (articles/bylaws) must be provided and kept on file with CCEI. A copy of any revised version of an agency's standards or constitution must be provided to CCEI immediately upon approval by the member agency, and the member agency must clearly identify all revisions made to the former version. The Executive Committee of CCEI will review all such changes for compliance with CCEI requirements and report its findings to the CCEI Board for discussion and/or action as might be necessary.

With all the above as foundation, it is the carefully considered position of CCEI that the standards for accreditation, as published and implemented individually by all CCEI member agencies, are fundamentally equivalent. Their standards are highly effective as the basis and means for assessment and accreditation of chiropractic education by CCEI member agencies around the world. The consistency and quality assurance afforded by this equivalence is a sound basis for confidence in the accreditation practices of all CCEI member agencies. These agencies, along with various entities and individuals associated with the chiropractic profession, benefit from this mutual recognition of their individual accreditation actions.

## Equivalence of Degrees Awarded

CCEI recognizes that numerous academic qualification titles are issued across countries around the world. Examples are included in Table 1 below. Due to this variation in credentials and variations in how and when articulation occurs between secondary and tertiary education, it is not possible to determine the quality of chiropractic education by degree title alone.

Therefore, CCEI confirms that credentials conferred by programs or institutions accredited by CCEI member agencies are issued after completion of courses of study that meet or exceed the International Framework for Chiropractic Education and Accreditation and are

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recognized by all CCEI member agencies<sup>1,2</sup>. CCEI confirms that these credentials, if issued from a program accredited by a CCEI member agency at the time, represent satisfactory international performance expectations, clinical competencies, and required outcomes for graduation as a chiropractor.

**Table 1 –** Examples of various degree designations used internationally for the chiropractic profession

Degree	Full Name
DC	Doctor of Chiropractic <b>OR</b> Diploma of Chiropractic (Diplôme de
	Chiropraxie) (Country dependent)
B.App.Sc. (Clin). & BCSc.	Bachelor of Applied Science (Clinical Science) & Bachelor of
	Chiropractic Science
BSc, BClinChiro	Bachelor of Science (Chiropractic) & Bachelor of Clinical Chiropractic
B.App.Sc. (Compl) &	Bachelor of Applied Science (Complementary Medicine) & Master of
M.Clin.Chiro.	Clinical Chiropractic
BChiro.	Bachelor of Chiropractic
BChiro. & MChiro	Bachelor of Chiropractic & Master of Chiropractic
BSc. (Hons) Chiro	Bachelor of Science (Hons) Chiropractic
BTech. (Chiro) and MTech.	Bachelor in Technology (Chiropractic) & Master in Technology
(Chiro)	(Chiropractic)
BHSc Chiro, MClinChiro	Bachelor of Health Science Chiropractic, Master of Clinical Chiropractic
MQuiro	Masters Propio en Quiropràctica (Master of Chiropractic)
MChiro.	Master of Chiropractic
MSc	Master of Science
MClinChiro	Master of Clinical Chiropractic
BScChiro	Bachelor of Science (Hons) Chiropractic
BHSc	Bachelor of Health Science
M.Chiro.Med	Master of Chiropractic Medicine
Dr.Med.Chiro	Doctor of Medicine Chiropractic
MTech (Chiropractic)	Masters in Technology Chiropractic

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Countries and jurisdictions may have additional requirements for recognition of graduates from accredited chiropractic programs. These include but are not limited to: competency-based assessments ('Board Exams'), criminal history checks, and being in 'good standing' with current licensing/regulatory Boards. Additionally, bridging courses may be required to acquire additional competencies.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Provided that the program or institution is accredited at the time of graduation of the individual.