

## How to choose an NCCAOM certified acupuncturist?

The first step is to visit the NCCAOM website ([www.nccaom.org](http://www.nccaom.org)) and select *Find a Practitioner*. To find a certified practitioner in your area, enter either your city and state, or your zip code. The list that appears will include all NCCAOM certified practitioners along with their certification and their contact information. Only Diplomates who are actively maintaining their certification will appear on the list. Designations include the following certifications.

**Diplomate of Acupuncture (NCCAOM)**

**Diplomate of Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM)**

**Diplomate of Chinese Herbology (NCCAOM)**

**Diplomate of Asian Bodywork Therapy (NCCAOM)**

Note: Individuals certified in Oriental Medicine have met requirements for board certification in both Acupuncture and Chinese Herbology.

Once you have selected an NCCAOM practitioner, the next step is to visit your state's licensure verification website to determine that your practitioner has a state license that is both current and clear without discipline. For further information on licensure requirements in each state, go to the NCCAOM website, under *Find a Practitioner* to use the State Requirements table to find the phone number and website for each state licensing board.

**The NCCAOM is a nonprofit organization, established in 1982. The mission of the NCCAOM is to establish, assess and promote recognized standards of competence and safety in acupuncture and Oriental medicine for the protection and benefit of the public**



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**NCCAOM  
Providing  
National Standards for  
Certified Acupuncture  
Practitioners**

## **The National Standard for Certification of Acupuncture practitioners.**

Identifying a competent acupuncture practitioner need not be trial and error. Thanks to the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM) consumers can locate board certified acupuncturists by visiting the NCCAOM website at [www.nccaom.org](http://www.nccaom.org). NCCAOM publishes contact information for practitioners who are nationally certified in Acupuncture, Oriental Medicine, Chinese Herbology, and Asian Bodywork Therapy. Since the founding of NCCAOM, over 26 years ago, the NCCAOM has issued over 25,000 certificates to its Diplomates (nationally board-certified practitioners).

Certification by the NCCAOM indicates to patients, employers, and peers that its Diplomates have met national standards for education and

examination to determine safe and competent practice. The NCCAOM is accredited by the National Certification Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) of the National Organization for Competency Assurance (NOCA).

### **Why Choose an NCCAOM Diplomate of Acupuncture?**

To be certified as an acupuncturist, a practitioner must:

- Complete an accredited national master's or doctoral degree program
- Pass a series of rigorous certification examinations, including biomedicine
- Abide by the NCCAOM Code of Ethics
- Document maintenance of competency every four years



The NCCAOM certification programs are recognized for licensure in 95% of the states that regulate the practice of acupuncture.

### **What is the difference between an NCCAOM Diplomate of Acupuncture and Other Healthcare Providers who can legally practice Acupuncture?**



Standards for the practice of acupuncture vary from state to state. In some states chiropractors, medical doctors, dentists, podiatrists and even physical therapists may be allowed to provide acupuncture treatments in their practice. At this time their requirements do not meet NCCAOM standards for NCCAOM certification.