

What does a Chiropractor do?

Chiropractors care for patients with health problems of the neuromusculoskeletal system, which includes nerves, bones, muscles, ligaments, and tendons. They use spinal adjustments, manipulation and other techniques to manage patients' health concerns, mostly back and neck pain. Chiropractors focus on patients' overall health and believe that misalignments of the spinal joints interfere with a person's neuromuscular system and can result in lower resistance to disease, as well as other conditions of poor health. Some chiropractors use procedures such as massage therapy, rehabilitative exercise, and ultrasound in addition to spinal adjustments.

Salary

Chiropractors with up to five years' experience usually earn \$40,000 to \$60,000 per year, while chiropractors with more than five years' experience usually earn \$60,000 to \$200,000 per year.

What subjects do I need to take at school?

- ❖ Biology
- ❖ Chemistry
- ❖ Physics
- ❖ Physical Education

How do I get into it?

To become a chiropractor you must complete:

- ✓ Diploma in Applied Science
- ✓ Bachelor of Chiropractor degree

The New Zealand College of Chiropractic recommends the Diploma in Applied Science Pre-Chiropractic at Auckland University of Technology. If you wish to study your diploma elsewhere, you will need the diploma approved by the New Zealand College of Chiropractic first.

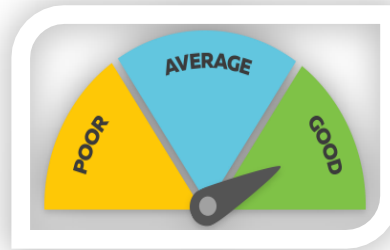
A chiropractor may specialise in chiropractic radiology, which requires:

- ✓ completion of three year Residency in Diagnostic Imaging at New Zealand College of Chiropractic
- ✓ American Chiropractic Board of Radiology exam

Interpersonal skills:

Chiropractors should be:

- ❖ patient and understanding
- ❖ motivated
- ❖ concerned for others
- ❖ good communicators



Will I get a job after training?

The number of chiropractors is growing because more kiwis are willing to try alternative health care methods, using modern technology is leading to posture problems and ACC is funding chiropractic treatment. Most chiropractors are self-employed. The remainder is employed at private practices, natural health care clinics, education institutions as teachers and chiropractic institutions doing research.

Chiropractors can do postgraduate training and move into teaching and research roles. They can also progress into management roles, or establish their own practice.

Chiropractors may specialise in chiropractic radiology, which deals with the diagnosis of bone disorders from looking at x-rays.

Where can I find out more?

- **New Zealand College of Chiropractic**
(09) 526 5678 - admissions@nzchiro.co.nz - www.chiropractic.ac.nz