



## **Retired License Status FAQ**

New provisions for [California Code of Regulations section 1399.419.3](#) went into effect April 1, 2026. Below are answers to common questions the Board receives.

1. How do I know if I can apply for retired status?

You can apply for retired status only if your license is current. This means your license is not expired, delinquent, or cancelled when you apply.

2. Can I apply for retired status if my license is delinquent?

No. If your license is delinquent, you must first pay the past-due renewal fee(s) and late fee. Your license must be current before you apply.

3. Can I apply for retired status if my license is inactive?

Yes. If your license is inactive, you can apply for retired status.

4. Can I still practice acupuncture while on retired status?

No. A retired license does not allow you to practice acupuncture in California.

5. Do I need to complete continuing education (CE) while my license is retired?

No. CE is only required if you choose to restore your license to active status.

6. How much does it cost to place my license on retired status?

The fee is \$85.

7. How long can my license stay on retired status?

Your license will remain in retired status indefinitely.

8. Can I restore my license to active status after it is in retired status?

Yes, but only for three years after you go on retired status. After three years, you would need to take and pass the California Acupuncture Licensing Exam again to get a new license.

9. What do I need to do to restore my license to active status?

To restore a retired license to active status you must complete and submit a restoration application, pay the fee of \$500, and have completed 50 hours of CE within the last two years.

10. Can I still purchase herbs and needles on retired status?

The Acupuncture Board does not regulate the sale of herbs or needles. You will need to check with your supplier to see whether your retirement status will affect their ability to sell to you.

11. How do I apply for retired status?

You can apply by submitting the retired status application through the Board's [online platform](#).

If you have any questions not covered here, please contact the Board for assistance. For the full legal text, please refer to [California Code of Regulations section 1399.419.3](#).