

As a physician, you know that your time is valuable. And you know that medical license application processes can be arduous and time-consuming. Between deciphering state board instructions, preparing a polished application, verifying credentials, tracking deadlines and dealing directly with state licensing boards, the process can consume hours and hours that young doctors don't have to spare. Add to that the possibility of applying to multiple state boards, and the process becomes exponentially more complicated. Engaging an experienced medical licensing service will have you on your way to serving your patients faster than ever. Our services take the headache out of the nationwide medical licensing process, and we cater to the unique needs of both our individual and business-to-business clients.

There Are Many Licensure Paths To Follow.

Medical Licensure Group (MLG) helps physicians obtain multiple types of medical licenses. In this section, we'll focus on permanent medical licensure, temporary licensure and locum tenens licensure. Each has its own considerations, and we can advise you on the best licensure pathway for your situation.

A permanent medical license allows a physician to work anywhere in the state where they hold privileges and are usually good for one to two years and take between two months to a year to obtain, depending on the state. Licensing requirements also vary by state.

In some states, a temporary medical license may be issued in a situation where a permanent application has been submitted, but something—for example, the Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS)—has not been received by the licensing board. Provided there is no derogatory information to be reviewed, the licensing board will usually issue a temporary license to allow the physician to begin seeing patients.

A locum tenens license is usually issued to a physician who will be working only short-term, out-of-state assignments. Most locum tenens licenses are good for only a few days per year. Generally, once you have received a locum tenens license in a state, you must obtain a permanent license to work in that state again. Not all states issue locum tenens licenses.

Depending on your unique circumstances, it may not be completely clear which type of medical license you need. Our medical licensing experts know the nuances of each state's licensure process and how long each state's licensure process typically takes, so we can provide helpful insights to physicians to help guide their decisions. No matter what type of license you need, a professionally prepared application that is submitted free of errors and on time will help the process go as smoothly as possible.

Pick a State, Get Licensed.

Obviously, you want to be licensed in the state in which you intend to practice. But there are other considerations. It can be to your advantage to maintain medical licenses in more than one state. By joining the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (IMLC), you will be able to practice in multiple participating states, which opens up more career opportunities now and down the road.

A common reason to maintain medical licenses in multiple states is to practice telemedicine. Additionally, holding medical licenses in multiple states offers physicians greater career security, opens doors for lucrative moonlighting opportunities and makes you a more attractive candidate to the large healthcare conglomerates that are coming to dominate the healthcare landscape. At the very least, multi-state medical licensure can provide an essential backup plan you might need someday.

The prospect of multi-state licensure might seem daunting, but we have helped physicians in all 50 states navigate the intricacies of the process. When you work with MLG, you hand off your entire licensing project. We help you achieve licensure, manage your renewals, track renewal dates and verifications and manage every step of the process. Our goal is always to keep your involvement in the medical licensing and renewal processes to a minimum. There's no reason to be afraid to apply to multiple state medical boards.

Research State Requirements.

Each state has its own unique requirements for licensure. Once you've decided which state (or states) you would like to practice in, you need to research the specific requirements of those states. For busy physicians, our services make the state medical licensure process easier. Outsourcing the state medical licensing process to our agency will ensure that you are licensed in the fastest time possible. For more information about each state's specific requirements, visit the State Requirements page on the MLG website.

[State Requirements](#)

How Much Does It Cost?

Every medical license application is accompanied by appropriate fees. Those fees can vary from state to state. We can help you sort out the confusing ins and outs of state licensing fees.

Which States Are Difficult And Which Are Easy?

As you consider using this innovative virtual care medium, it's important to investigate and understand state telehealth laws, reimbursement policies and other licensing requirements. According to a 2018 study undertaken by Manatt Health focusing on health care services provided via telemedicine, the following states are the most progressive in their licensing, meaning their state law and Medicaid policy are set up and designed to enable and incentivize a broad use of telemedicine:

Most Progressive

Alaska	Missouri
Arizona	Montana
California	Nebraska
Colorado	New Jersey
Connecticut	New Mexico
Florida	Nevada
Hawaii	New York
Idaho	Utah
Maine	Vermont
Minnesota	Washington

Meanwhile, these ten states are known for having difficult medical licensure processes, often including lengthy timelines, complex documentation requirements and arduous exam requirements:

Difficult

Nevada	Missouri
Texas	Wisconsin
California	Pennsylvania
Illinois	Maine
Massachusetts	
Delaware	

Conversely, these ten states are known for having the easiest medical licensure processes:

Easiest

Colorado	New York
Florida	Rhode Island
Indiana	South Carolina
Michigan	Utah
Montana	
Nebraska	

Whether the states are progressive, restrictive, easy, or difficult in their processes, MLG can help you navigate the intricacies of the various state licensing requirements. Rather than spending time away from your practice and wading through long and complicated medical license applications, put our expertise to work for you.

Be Professional. Be polite. Get Results.

As a professional medical licensing service, we appreciate how important it is to understand and respect the role of state medical boards. Developing a better understanding of the purpose of medical boards can help alleviate your own frustrations with the process.

Understand first that the top priority of every state medical board is protecting patients. Medical licensure is an avenue by which a state can:

- **Vet new physicians to determine whether they are qualified to treat patients.**
- **Investigate complaints brought against physicians.**
- **Discipline physicians who violate the Medical Practice Act.**
- **Refer physicians for evaluation and rehabilitation when necessary.**

Patients must be able to trust the competency of their doctors. This is why every state medical board takes its role seriously. The right to practice medicine is a privilege granted by the state. Medical boards strive to ensure that only qualified physicians are licensed to practice medicine in their state.

No two states' medical boards are the same. But every state medical board must determine a physician's initial and continuing qualification and fitness for the practice of medicine. No matter which state you're dealing with, the best advice we can give on interacting with state medical boards is to respect their processes and time. Before calling to ask a question, look for answers among their website's "Frequently Asked Questions." Read application instructions carefully and double-check your application for omitted information. Respect application deadlines and timelines. Medical boards must abide by strict rules of conduct that cannot be broken.

At Medical Licensure Group, our licensing specialists are experienced in working with medical boards in all 50 states. We routinely interface with state medical boards on behalf of our clients and work hard to address any questions from medical boards regarding applications or renewals. The simplest and fastest way to navigate the medical licensing process is to let us do the work for you.

Be accurate. Be honest. Be Efficient.

Preparing and submitting your medical license application doesn't have to be stressful if you follow some simple guidelines and avoid a couple of common pitfalls. The first step in preparing your application to a state medical board is confirming and requesting the state's medical licensing requirements. Before beginning your application, compile every required document and reference to avoid time-consuming barriers.

A medical license application should contain complete, accurate and honest information. Your curriculum vitae should also contain only factual information. Even if your record was blemished years ago, you should still be forthcoming with any issues. Being transparent on medical license applications results in fewer delays and hurdles, even if the medical board has questions.

Medical licensure processes can seem to drag on for ages if not properly managed. For example, in the event the medical board has a question about your application, submitting your response in a timely fashion is extremely important. Since medical boards only meet to review applications at infrequent intervals, your delay in answering their questions could add weeks to the process. We respond promptly to medical board queries on your behalf to ensure your application progresses smoothly. Being patient and kind toward medical board staff is always beneficial.

Time-saving solutions like the Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS) and Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (IMLC) can help expedite certain medical licensure processes. However, setting up these accounts and profiles can be difficult. Your dedicated licensing expert at Medical Licensure Group can determine your eligibility for these services and also set up your profiles. Next, your FCVS profile and IMLC licensure can be used in certain situations to simplify the medical licensure process. Particularly for physicians with medical licenses in multiple states, getting IMLC licensure and setting up an FCVS profile can be worthwhile.

Perhaps you have already begun the medical licensure process and have run into issues, or maybe you realize that you lack sufficient time and patience to complete the application—we can help. Our licensing specialists can pick up where you left off before acquiring your medical licensure. If you simply need assistance achieving IMLC licensure or setting up your FCVS profile, we can also help. To completely remove the headache from the nationwide medical licensing process, you can outsource the entire process to our agency to ensure that you are licensed in the fastest time possible.

The Waiting Game.

How long will it take to obtain your medical license? The answer is: It depends on the state. At a minimum, the medical licensure process takes six weeks, and at a maximum, six months. If the application is incomplete, inaccurate or called into question, it can take even longer. Engaging one of our dedicated licensing specialists is the best way to ensure your application process will go smoothly.

Although some state medical boards will grant temporary expedited medical licenses under certain circumstances, there is usually not an expedited licensure pathway available. Medical Licensure Group's accelerated program can prepare and ship your professionally prepared medical license application and credentials verification requests within 24 hours. But you still must wait for the board to process your application.

When you work with Medical Licensure Group, we will always work hard to keep your application moving forward at the fastest pace possible. Still, when you're applying for a medical license, ultimately, you must be prepared to wait.

We're Here to Help.

Time is valuable, and mistakes made in haste can jeopardize a physician's livelihood. MLG can ensure that you will avoid common medical licensing pitfalls such as omitting required information, overlooking important deadlines or fees, not allowing sufficient time for the application process, or including inaccuracies in the application. We can help with all types of medical licenses.

We can assist with Multi-State Licensure, keeping up with the ever-changing intricacies of each state medical board's licensure requirements and tracking your unique renewal deadlines. We can also help you navigate joining the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (IMLC), an expedited licensure pathway for qualified physicians who want to practice in multiple states.

Since physicians and medical professionals can find themselves in a time crunch, we offer express services to "fast track" your application. In many cases, your state application will be professionally prepared and shipped to you for final review in one business day. While our Express Service expedites the application process, all applications are reviewed in the order in which they are received by the Medical Board.



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Call Medical Licensure Group at
844.299.1936 to learn more about
our medical licensing services.