

## Your Credentials Are Always Ready with an FCVS Profile

The Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS) is a permanent, lifetime portfolio of primary-source verified credentials for physicians which allows for easy and cost-effective access to medical credentials whenever they are needed. The FCVS is a fast and convenient way for physicians and physician assistants to store core credentials, exam scores and postgraduate training information. For those applying for licenses in multiple states, for physicians who attended medical school outside the US, or for those whose postgraduate training programs have closed, this service is particularly useful. State medical boards rely on this centralized, uniform repository where they can obtain primary-source verified education information for those applying for licensure.

The core credentials stored within an FCVS profile are limited to medical school information, identity information (passport and/or birth certificate), exam scores and postgraduate training information. They do not include many other state-required items such as profiles, license verifications, employment verification, malpractice/adverse action documentation and many other documents. Clients of MLG can trust that our services pick up where the FCVS drops off by securely keeping this supplementary information on hand for new medical license applications.

## What an FCVS Profile Is (And Isn't)

With an FCVS profile, you can conveniently store your core credentials, exam scores and postgraduate training information in one virtual location. In states that accept FCVS profiles, your medical license application process can be made much shorter, as the medical board can access your profile for the primary-source credentials needed. Setting up an FCVS profile is not easy. Each licensing authority will most likely require information and verification of credentials in addition to those verified by the FCVS. Every state handles FCVS profiles differently and some states do not accept FCVS profiles at all. To determine if an FCVS profile would be worthwhile for you, based on your unique situation, you should talk with one of our experienced licensing specialists.

## What to Expect from the Process

Applying for and setting up an FCVS profile can be a lengthy process and it is worthwhile to learn more about what to expect before starting your application. The FCVS will begin by gathering the information required to verify your credentials after you enter all pertinent information into your profile. This includes information related to your identity, medical education, postgraduate training, licensure examination history, Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates Certification (if applicable) and your licensure history. Upon completion, the portfolio undergoes a rigorous quality assurance audit. The final FCVS product is a non-interpretive physician or physician assistant information profile that is sent to entities designated by the applicant.

However, when you apply for a state medical license that requires or accepts FCVS profiles, you should not expect the FCVS to completely handle your application. While the FCVS is helpful, this does not mean that you can take a hands-off approach to medical license applications and renewals.

## Processing Time Varies Greatly

The time for processing FCVS applications can vary and is dependent on timely and complete responses from multiple sources, including medical schools and training programs. Applicants are encouraged by the FCVS to complete their application at least two months before they need their FCVS profile submitted to a state medical board for licensure.

In some cases, the applicant may need to get involved in gathering information or responses. When you engage MLG to set up your FCVS profile, your dedicated licensing specialist will remain in close communication with both you and the FCVS to keep your application progressing as smoothly as possible.

## What to Watch Out For

Setting up your FCVS profile can be tricky. The FCVS is not always successful in obtaining international medical school records, in which case the responsibility falls to the physician. The physician must either assist in obtaining those records or approve the FCVS profile being deemed complete without the medical school records. In these situations, a state medical board may still require primary-source verification of the physician's medical education. Some physicians become frustrated when they later realize they still have to verify their international credentials to individual state boards. They believed the FCVS would make this unnecessary.

Consider the requirements of each state in which you intend to hold a medical license before deciding to set up an FCVS profile. Our licensing specialists are extremely familiar with the intricacies of the FCVS and can help you determine if this is an appropriate resource for your situation. Call us to determine if the FCVS is right for you.

## An FCVS Profile Will (Probably) Help You

The FCVS is typically a valuable tool for busy physicians and physician assistants. They can benefit from a lifetime portfolio of primary-source verified credentials for state medical licensure, hospital privileges, provider networks and employment and professional memberships. There are certain states where FCVS profiles are not helpful, depending on individual circumstances, but your dedicated licensing specialist at MLG can help you determine the best path for your situation.

Many physicians are surprised to learn that the FCVS will not house all of the information that is typically required of a medical license application. They're also surprised by how lengthy and arduous the FCVS application process is. As a client of MLG, if it is determined that an FCVS profile would be beneficial to you, we can help set up your profile to make the process as simple and easy as possible.

## MLG Can Simplify and Streamline the Process

The FCVS is typically useful to busy physicians, who can benefit from a lifetime portfolio of primary-source verified credentials for state medical licensure, hospital privileges, provider networks and employment and professional memberships. Populating your FCVS profile can be frustrating and time-consuming, but we can help. As a client of MLG, your dedicated licensing specialist can help set up your FCVS profile and ensure your profile information remains updated.

**Call 844.299.1936** today to find out more about whether an FCVS profile is right for you and how we can help to expedite your profile setup.



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