



NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

**March 11, 2024
Presentation Before the Joint
Interim Standing Committee on
Health and Human Services**

License Types

- Medical Doctors (M.D.)
 - Active/Unrestricted
 - Administrative (No Clinical Practice)
 - Special Purpose (Telemedicine)
 - Locum Tenens (Valid for Three Months)
 - Endorsement (Licensed Out-of-State, Does Not Meet NRS 630.160)
 - Endorsement for U.S. Armed Forces (Active/Veteran/Spouses)
 - Restricted (Underserved Areas)
 - Authorized Facility (Prison Only)
 - Special Event (For Training and Demonstrations in Nevada)
 - Resident (Limited License During Residency)
 - Rotating Resident
- Physician Assistants (PA)
 - Active/Unrestricted
 - Endorsement (Licensed Out-of-State)
 - Endorsement for U.S. Armed Forces (Active/Veteran/Spouse)
 - Temporary (Waiting for Examination/Results)
 - Simultaneous (Licensed by NSBME and BOM)

License Types (continued)

- Practitioners of Respiratory Care (RT)
 - Active/Unrestricted
 - Endorsement (Licensed Out-of-State)
 - Endorsement for U.S. Armed Forces (Active/Veteran/Spouse)
 - Temporary (Practice as an Intern)
- Perfusionists
 - Active/Unrestricted
 - Endorsement (Licensed Out-of-State)
 - Endorsement for U.S. Armed Forces (Active/Veteran/Spouse)
 - Temporary (Waiting for Examination/Results)
- Anesthesiologist Assistants (AA)
 - Active/Unrestricted
 - Endorsement (Licensed Out-of-State)
 - Endorsement for U.S. Armed Forces (Active/Veteran/Spouse)
 - Simultaneous (Licensed by NSBME and BOM)

Overview of Licensure Process (1)

- Applicants submits online application form and **pays application fee.**
- Applicant's file is opened, initial reports are run, and file is given to License Specialist.
- License Specialist reviews the applicant's file for eligibility.
- If an applicant is not eligible for licensure via initial submission, the License Specialist communicates with applicant regarding other licensure options such as endorsement.
- If an applicant is eligible for licensure via initial submission, the License Specialist "opens" the applicant's application.

Overview of Licensure Process (2)

- Applicant is emailed acknowledgment packet (includes acknowledgment letter, fingerprint instructions, and other application forms needed for that application).
- License Specialist stays in contact with the applicant in order to obtain all necessary documents and verifications.
 - For example, verifications of post-graduate training, verification of graduation from medical school, verification from insurance company regarding malpractice claim history.
- Once an application is complete, it is submitted for final review.
- Once an application passes final review, the application is approved, and the licensee is notified and asked to pay the registration fee.
- **Once the registration fee is paid, the license is issued.**

Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (IMLC)

- The [IMLC](#) offers an expedited pathway to licensure for qualified physicians who wish to practice in multiple states.
- Approximately 50% of new Nevada M.D. licenses are issued through the IMLC.
- Qualifications:
 1. Must have full, unrestricted license in compact member state that can be the applicant's State of Principal Licensure (SPL).
 2. SPL condition must be met (primary residence in SPL, 25% of medical practice in SPL, employer in SPL, or SPL as state of residence for IRS purposes).
 3. Graduation from accredited medical school and completed accredited post-graduate medical education.
 4. Board certified by American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) member board.
 5. No criminal or license disciplinary history.
- **Licensure in Nevada 1 to 3 business days, on average.**



IMLC Member States

See [*U.S. State Participation in the Compact*](#),
Interstate Medical Licensure Compact

2023 Total New Licenses: 2,072

- Physicians:
 - M.D. Unrestricted: 1,688 (839 through the IMLC)
 - M.D. Special Event: 6
 - M.D. Special Purpose: 5
- Physician Assistants:
 - 175 (8 Simultaneous with D.O. Board)
- Practitioners of Respiratory Care: 166
- Perfusionists:
 - Unrestricted: 24
 - Temporary: 7
- Denials (All Categories): 1

Average Licensing Times in 2023

- M.D.
 - Average (including IMLC): 86 days
 - Fastest Licensing Time (non-IMLC): 22 days
- Physician Assistant: 116 days
- Practitioner of Respiratory Care: 146 days
- Perfusionist: 127 days

Please Note: 2023 was a renewal year, and over 14,000 license renewals were processed by License Specialists, including almost 11,000 M.D. license renewals in less than three months, in addition to the new licenses issued in 2023 and the work done to issue and renew Resident licenses.

Resident Licenses

- With few exceptions, all Resident Licenses expire each year on June 30.
- New Resident Limited Licenses Issued in 2023: 215
- Resident Limited License Renewals in 2023: 319
- Total Residents Practicing in Nevada: 534
- 9 institutions in Nevada offer approximately 64 ACGME-accredited residency programs.
 - Number of programs offered varies year to year.
- If a M.D. completes residency in Nevada, the M.D. is more likely to stay and practice in Nevada.
 - Association of American Medical Colleges: NV 52.3%
 - American Family Physician: 56% of M.D.s practice within 100 miles of residency.

2024* YTD New Licenses: 441

- Physicians:
 - M.D. Unrestricted: 339 (152 through the IMLC)
 - M.D. Special Event: 1
 - M.D. Special Purpose: 1
- Physician Assistants:
 - 72 (20 Simultaneous with D.O. Board)
- Practitioners of Respiratory Care: 24
- Perfusionists:
 - Unrestricted: 0
 - Temporary: 1
- Anesthesiologist Assistants: 3
- Denials (All Categories): 0

*1/1/2024 to 2/29/2024

Licensing Snapshot (as of 2/29/24)

- 48 approved applications, waiting for payment of registration fees
- 5 applications complete, waiting for final review and approval
- 462 applications open, waiting for applicants to submit application materials
- Average Licensing Times
 - M.D.
 - Average (including IMLC): 49 days
 - Fastest Licensing Time (non-IMLC): 15 days
 - Physician Assistant: 66 days
 - Practitioner of Respiratory Care: 82 days
 - Perfusionist: 29 days

Recent Improvements to Licensing Efficiency (1)

- Online application portal opened on January 1, 2021.
- New Chief of Licensing as of February 2023.
- Effective February 13, 2024, applicants may submit fingerprints via LiveScan in Nevada (electronic prints).
- Implemented June 2023:
 - All initial correspondence and fingerprint instructions sent via email.
 - Accept a notarized copy of identity document, rather than applicant mailing original documents.
 - Only one addendum requested at the end of the process, after all verifications are received.
 - Use FSMB Physician Data Center (PDC) report for M.D.s and PAs to verify current license information instead of requiring direct-source verifications from other state boards.
 - No longer require direct-source verification of clinical rotations for island/Caribbean schools.

Recent Improvements to Licensing Efficiency (2)

- Implemented in June 2023 (continued):
 - ABMS certifications are verified by License Specialist through CertiFacts, and applicant no longer is required to send a copy with their application.
 - No longer require proof of observerships/research positions.
 - Many unnecessary and redundant questions in the Application Addendum were removed.
 - Applicants need to only provide a summary of their activities for five years preceding the application date, or since graduation from medical school, or other post-secondary education related to their licensure, if graduation was less than five years ago.
 - Malpractice documentation must only be provided for cases within the last ten years.
 - Arrest documents are no longer required of applicants, unless they are appearing before the Board in connection with their application.
 - Multiple change have been made to staff processes to allow License Specialists to work more quickly and efficiently.

Recent Improvements to Licensing Efficiency (3)

- Staffing Changes in the Licensing Division:
 - Added 3.5 FTE License Specialist positions since January 2023.
 - Two License Specialists dedicated to IMLC applications.
 - Additional License Specialists trained in the final review process and resident licensure process to further improve licensing timelines.
- Regulations in process to streamline application process for all license types.
 - LCB File No. R068-23
 - Workshop: April 3, 2024; Public Hearing: April 24, 2024.
 - LCB File No. R033-24
- Reduced staff turnover in the Licensing Division by implementing staff raises and bonus structure adopted in the 2023 Legislative Session.

Coming Changes to Licensing Efficiency

- Updated Licensing Software:
 - Will allow applicants to communicate with Board staff and securely upload documents via internal messaging platform.
 - Brings enhancements to applicant and licensee portals, allowing more access via mobile devices.
 - Implementation anticipated in September 2024.
- Adding new Staff Member to focus on IT improvements.
- Application instruction videos on Board website to aid applicants.
- Work with OCIO (State IT) to revamp Board website.
- Continuing to empower Board staff to suggest and implement changes that will allow us to improve our efficiency in licensing.

Perceived Board-Related Delays to Working in Nevada

- Other entities, such as hospitals, often do not begin the credentialing process until the applicant is licensed by the Board. This credentialing process takes additional time, and that is a separate process that the Board does not control.
- Nearly 75% of the time to issue a license is related to applicants obtaining the proper documentation.
 - Majority of the reason for the number of days to licensure is related to applicants and third parties gathering required information.
 - *See* Legislative Auditor Report #[LA22-13](#), at 17.
 - A recent example: An applicant took four months to respond to a request from the applicant's License Specialist for additional information regarding an undisclosed arrest.
- Applications are not routed to License Specialist until the applicant attests that the information provided is complete and correct, hits "submit", and pays the application fee.

Potential Bill Draft Requests

- Administrative Clean Up Bill
- Continuing Medical Education (CME) requirements for M.D.s and PAs are confusing and burdensome.
 - Extra credit given for CMEs in specific areas:
 - Geriatrics and Gerontology
 - Effective Management of Medications
 - Diagnosis of Rare Diseases, including Pediatric Cancer
- 40 Total CME Hours Required Every 2 Years, but:
 - 8 hours required in first 2 years of licensure (all new M.D.s, PAs, and AAs):
 - 4 hours Medical Consequences of Acts of Terrorism or Use of Weapons of Mass Destruction
 - 2 hours in Evidence-Based Suicide Prevention and Awareness
 - 2 hours in Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT)

Potential Bill Draft Requests

- Approximately 10 hours every 2 years are prescribed by statute and not focused on the licensee's area of practice:
 - 2 hours in Ethics; Pain Management; or Addiction Care
 - 2 hours in Misuse and Abuse of Controlled Substances; Prescribing of Opioids; or Addiction [only for those registered to dispense controlled substances]
 - 2 hours in Cultural Competency and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion [only for psychiatrist M.D.s and PAs working under the supervision of a psychiatrist]
 - 2 hours in Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) [must be completed one-time by 2025 renewal]
 - 2 hours every 4 years on Suicide Detection, Intervention, and Prevention
 - 2 hours on Stigma, Discrimination and Unrecognized Bias Toward Persons Who Have Acquired or Are at High Risk of Acquiring Human Immunodeficiency Virus [only for M.D.s and PAs working in emergency medical services (EMS) or primary care and must be completed one-time by 2025 or one-time after changing to EMS or primary care]

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS



<https://medboard.nv.gov/>
nsbme@medboard.nv.gov