



States Expediting Licensure for Inactive/Retired Licensees in Response to COVID-19

March 27, 2020

State	Note	Citation
Alabama	“Physicians with retirement waivers will be able to obtain emergency reinstatement of their licenses without completing the 25 credits of continuing medical education that would normally be required,” the statement reads. The temporary licenses will cost applicants nothing and will be in effect until the statewide health emergency is over, according to the statement. Those who receive the temporary emergency licenses will also receive restricted Alabama Controlled Substances Certificates to treat only those suffering from and affected by COVID-19.	Article re: Reinstatement State Resource Page
Alaska	[No information found]	State Resource Page
Arizona*	Exploring temporary waivers to allow retired physicians to be quickly licensed according to Department of Health Services Director Dr. Cara Christ	Article re: Relicensing State Resource Page
Arkansas	[No information found]	State Resource Page
California*	*The California Medical Association is surveying to find members who may be able to help treat the wave of COVID-19 patients, including people who are retired and others no longer practicing medicine.	Article State Resource Page
Colorado	“These emergency provisions, ordered by Governor Polis, will enable providers from out of state, those not currently practicing - such as retired or semi-retired professionals, or those whose license may have expired to provide much-needed support to our health care system.” Suspension of requirement under § 12-240-118(1), C.R.S., that requires a physician to have been on inactive status for not more than two years prior to receiving a pro bono license.	DORA Press Release DORA Emergency Licensing Measures State Resource Page
Connecticut	[No information found]	State Resource Page
Delaware	All physicians, pharmacists, respiratory therapists, physician assistants, paramedics, emergency medical technicians, practical nurses, professional nurses, advanced practice registered nurses, and nursing assistants who have held an active Delaware license or certification within the last five years, which is now inactive, expired, or lapsed, may provide healthcare services in Delaware, so long as that license was active and in good standing for the duration of the five-year period prior to the date it went inactive, expired or lapsed	DEMA/DPH Order State Resource Page
Florida	[No information found]	State Resource Page
Georgia	[No information found]	State Resource Page
Hawaii	[No information found]	State Resource Page
Idaho	Retired or inactive practitioners whose license was in good standing when they retired or went inactive, AND who retired or went inactive less than 5 years ago, may apply for a temporary license to practice in Idaho. Such licensure will be valid for 120 days, unless extended by the Board. Applications for temporary licensure can be found on the Board's website. Applications for temporary license for MDs, DOs, PAs, and RTs will receive expedited processing.	Board of Med Proclamation Application for Temporary Licensure State Resource Page
Illinois	Gov. Pritzker issued a “call to action” for all former physicians, nurses, physicians’ assistants, nurse practitioners, and respiratory care specialists who have recently left the field for retirement or another reason to “come back and join the fight.”... the state will waive fees and expedite new licensure for all such personnel. Doctors who have had expired or inactive licenses for fewer than three years can temporarily restore their license. No fee or continuing education is required to work under the direction of Illinois Emergency Management Agency, the Illinois Department of Public Health or in a long-term care facility, hospital, or federally qualified health center, according to the release. The same goes for physician assistants. The temporary practice approval expires on Sept. 30.	Article re: Gov. Pritzker quote Article re: Inactive license Physician Reinstatement Application

	<p>* Re: Telehealth: Telehealth Services must be provided by Illinois licensed providers. However, reinstatement requirements of licenses that have lapsed or are inactive for less than three years are suspended with respect to: (i) proof of meeting continuing education requirements for one renewal period; and (ii) payment of the reinstatement fee.</p>	<p>Article re: Telehealth State Resource Page</p>
Indiana	[No information found]	State Resource Page
Iowa	Strict compliance with the provisions of Iowa law which prohibit the practice of medicine and surgery, osteopathic medicine and surgery, nursing, respiratory care, and practice as a physician assistant, with an inactive or lapsed license would prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with this disaster in all counties of our state.	<p>Public Health Disaster Emergency State Resource Page</p>
Kansas	[No information found]	State Resource Page
Kentucky	[No information found]	State Resource Page
Louisiana	[No information found]	State Resource Page
Maine	Allow the expedited licensure (at no cost) of qualified physicians and physician assistants that have retired within two years to provide assistance for the duration of the emergency.	<p>Executive Order 3/24 Emergency Application License State Resource Page</p>
Maryland	Any inactive practitioner may, at a health care facility in Maryland, engage in activities that would have been authorized under his/her inactive license without first reinstating his/her inactive license.	<p>Gov. Press Release State Resource Page</p>
Massachusetts	Any physician who has retired from the practice of medicine within one year of Executive Order No. 591, dated March 17, 2020, may have their license reactivated upon request.	<p>Board of Med Press Release Emergency Reactivation Application State Resource Page</p>
Michigan	[No information found]	State Resource Page
Minnesota	[No information found]	State Resource Page
Mississippi	[No information found]	State Resource Page
Missouri	[No information found]	State Resource Page
Montana	[No information found]	State Resource Page
Nebraska	[No information found]	State Resource Page
Nevada	[No information found]	State Resource Page
New Hampshire	[No information found]	State Resource Page
New Jersey*	* A pending bill in the legislature, A 3901, which passed the House unanimously 3/25, will expedite the reactivation of retired and inactive medical professionals' occupational licenses during a state of emergency or public health emergency, to any individual who held a corresponding license, certificate of registration or certification, in good standing at the time that the individual retired from active practice or was placed on the inactive status, within the last three years.	<p>Press Release A-3901 State Resource Page</p>
New Mexico	[No information found]	State Resource Page
New York*	<p>Gov. Cuomo said Thursday that New York is asking former doctors and nurses to "reconnect" with their past employer, in order to create a reserve workforce of health care professionals who are "on call" for coronavirus response. The state's Department of Health has also been asked to accelerate recertifications in order to expedite the process, according to the governor.</p> <p>I am asking you alert current and former colleagues and retired healthcare professionals of this need and call to service. We need physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants... We welcome those who licenses have expired, whether recently or long ago, because experience and skills are what matter right now...</p>	<p>Article NY DOH Director Letter 3/24 Retired Health Professional Application State Resource Page</p>
North Carolina	Temporary and emergency rules approved by the Board would allow a physician or PA who inactivated his or her NC medical license within the past 24 months to quickly obtain a temporary license. Under the emergency rules, the physician or PA would be entitled to practice for whichever period is shorter: 90 days or 30 days from the point at which the state of emergency in North Carolina is declared over. Issuance of temporary authority to practice is subject to the following conditions: (1) The applicant must demonstrate that he or she has practiced clinical medicine for at least 80 hours during the most recent 24 months; (2) The applicant must have been licensed continuously for at least 10 years prior to making his or her medical license inactive; (3) The applicant must have no history of public discipline and must not have inactivated his or her license	<p>NCMB Guidance Inactive Emergency License Application</p>

	while under investigation; and (4) The applicant must confine his or her practice to areas in which he or she is clinically competent.	State Resource Page
North Dakota	[No information found]	State Resource Page
Ohio	[No information found]	State Resource Page
Oklahoma	[No information found]	State Resource Page
Oregon	The second effort creates a new expedited license reactivation process for Administrative Medicine, Inactive, Lapsed, and Retired physicians and PAs who have been in active practice within the previous three years and who ended their clinical practice in good standing with the Board.	Med Board Press Release Emergency Authorization Application State Resource Page
Pennsylvania	State Board of Medicine licensees who are in active/retired status for less than four years can apply for reactivation of their license. Their continuing education (CE) requirements and license reactivation fees will be suspended. This measure allows retired/inactive MDs, physician assistants, respiratory therapists and perfusionists to become active until December 31, 2020. If a licensee wishes to continue practicing beyond Dec. 31, 2020, the licensee will need to renew the active-unrestricted license and meet all current requirements at that time... State Board of Osteopathic Medicine licensees who are inactive/retired status for less than four years can apply for reactivation of their licenses. Their CE requirements and license reactivation fees will be suspended. This measure allows retired/inactive Doctors of Osteopathic Medicine (DOs) to become active unrestricted until Oct. 31, 2020.	Article Press Release State Resource Page
Rhode Island	[No information found]	State Resource Page
South Carolina	[No information found]	State Resource Page
South Dakota	[No information found]	State Resource Page
Tennessee	[No information found]	State Resource Page
Texas	Gov. Abbott directed the Texas Medical Board (TMB) and the Texas Board of Nursing (TBN) to fast-track the temporary licensing of out-of-state physicians, physician assistants, certain retired physicians, nurses, and other license types. Texas resident retired physicians seeking a return to active status whose license has been placed on official retired status for less than two years are encouraged to apply for licensure to help during the pendency of this disaster.	Article re: Re-licensing TMB Guidance License Reactivation Application State Resource Page
Utah	If a healthcare professional's former Utah license to practice expired or lapsed while in good standing, the professional may obtain expedited licensure in their profession by submitting a regular application for renewal or reinstatement of licensure. Many other healthcare professionals who were formerly licensed in Utah or in another U.S. state or territory, whose license was unrestricted and in good standing, may apply for a volunteer health care practitioner license to work exclusively as a volunteer at a qualified location (clinic, hospital, church, etc.). These professionals would work under a delegation of service agreement with an actively licensed supervising professional.	DOPL Guidance State Resource Page
Vermont	[No information found]	State Resource Page
Virginia	During the period in which the Governor's Declaration of Emergency is in effect, the Board of Medicine will waive the regulations relating to fees and continuing education for reinstatement or reactivation of licensure for doctors of medicine, osteopathic medicine, physician assistants, and respiratory therapists who held an unencumbered, active license within the past four years.	Dept. of Health Professions Guidance State Resource Page
Washington*	[Guidance expected from Medical Commission 3/25] * WAC 246-919-480 Retired active license. (1) To obtain a retired active license a physician... may practice only in emergent or intermittent circumstances. Conditions that physicians with retired active licenses cannot receive compensation and report 100 CME hours every two years will be waived according to the Governor's emergency Proclamation 20-05 and will remain in effect until the Governor issues a proclamation declaring the termination of the state of emergency.	Emergency Rulemaking Special Meeting Emergency Draft Language State Resource Page
Washington, DC	[No information found]	Resource Page
West Virginia	The following statutory regulations are to be suspended for the duration of the State of Emergency: Requirement that any medical provider, including osteopathic physicians or surgeons, "hold an active, unexpired licensed" issued by the Board of Medicine, with the exception of those with pending complaints, investigations, consent orders, board orders or pending disciplinary proceedings	Executive Order 07-20 State Resource Page
Wisconsin	[No information found]	State Resource Page

