



FEDERATION OF
STATE MEDICAL BOARDS

Reentry to Practice
Board-by-Board Overview

- 46 Boards have policies on physician reentry.
- 59 Boards decide reentry requirements on a case-by-case basis.
- 46 Boards require a form of examination for reentry.
- 57 Boards require reentering physicians to acquire CME credits.
- 48 Boards require reentering physicians to take a fitness-to-practice evaluation.

| SMB | Board has policy on physician reentry to practice | Decide on case-by-case basis | SPEX/ COMVEX | CME | Fitness-to-practice Evaluation | Citation | Additional Comments |
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| AL | X | X | X | X | X | Ala. Board of Med. Exam. Admin. Code Ch. 540-X-23-.03 | “Considerations on Closing or Leaving a Practice,” ALBME (incl. instructions on license reinstatement) |
| AK | X | X | X | X | X | Alaska Stat. § 08.64.276 12 AAC 40.031 | |
| AZ-M | X | X | X | — | — | Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 32-1431 | |
| AZ-O | X | X | X | X | X | Application Procedures For Doctors Re-Entering Practice | |
| AR | X | X | X | X | X | Ark. Med. Board Reg. 39 | The board does not always require fitness-to-practice exam. |
| CA-M | X | X | X | X | X | Cal. Bus & Prof Code § 704 Cal. Bus & Prof Code § 2428 | |
| CA-O | X | X | X | X | X | Cal. Bus & Prof Code § 2428 | The Board may review on a case-by-case basis, require test, and or fitness evaluation. |

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| | | | | | | Cal. Code Regs. tit. 16 § 1646 | |
| CO | X | X | X | X | X | Col. Rev. Stat. § 12-240-119 3 Colo. Code Regs. § 713-1.8 | A reentry license shall be valid for no more than three years and shall not be renewable. Licensing panel “may exercise discretion to require the individual to undertake a competency assessment or evaluation, supervised practice, or educational program.” |
| CT | X | X | X | X | X | Conn. Gen Stat § 20-10b | Applicants for reinstatement who have not been in the active, clinical practice of medicine for longer than 6 months are reviewed by the CMEB “ Reinstatement of a Lapsed License ” |
| DE | X | X | — | X | X | Del. Code tit. 24 § 1723 Del. Admin. Code Title 24.7 | Physicians out of practice for 3 years or more must complete approved re-entry program |
| DC | X | X | X | X | X | Policy Re-Entry to Active Practice (Revised) | |
| FL-M | — | X | X | X | X | Fla. Stat § 458.321 Fla. Admin. Code r. 64B8-7.002 | Reentry after 3 years requires participation in a program approved by the Board for 6 months or more including supervised practice |
| FL-O | X | X | X | X | — | Fla. Admin. Code Rule 64B15-12.0075 | Reentry after 5 years requires an appearance before the Board to “establish the ability to practice with the care and skill sufficient to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public” |
| GA | X | X | X | — | X | Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 360-2-.06 (inactivity) & .07 (revocation) | “The Board, in its discretion, may impose any remedial requirements deemed necessary” |
| GU | X | — | X | X | — | Guam Code Ann. § 12215(b)-(d) Guam Adm. Code § 10601 | License may be renewed within 4 years after following conditions. “The Board shall be directed to establish an effective system for reviewing re-registration forms.” |
| HI | — | X | X | X | X | Hawaii Medical Board “Restoration Information” | Failure to restore a forfeited license within 1 year (MDGs: physicians employed by state or local gov’t) or 2 years (MDs) “will result in the termination of the license and the person must apply as a new applicant and meet current licensing requirements.” |

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| ID | — | X | X | X | — | Idaho Admin. Code § 22.01.01.078.04 Physician Re-Entry After Absence From Practice Application For Medical Licensure | Physicians whose licenses have been canceled for a period of more than 5 years, shall be required to make application to the Board as new applicants for licensure. |
| IL | X | X | X | X | X | Ill. Admin. Code tit 68 § 1285.130 | A licensee seeking restoration of a license that has been placed on inactive status for 3 years or less shall have the license restored upon payment of the renewal fee, submission of a completed physician profile , and the CME requirements for the last renewal period. |
| IN | — | X | — | X | — | Ind. Code 25-22.5-7-1 Ind. Code 25-1-8-6 | Licensees out of practice for 3 years or more may be issued a provisional license under IC 25-22.5-5-2.7 . These applicants must “complete such remediation and additional training as deemed appropriate by the board given the lapse of time involved.” |
| IA | X | X | X | X | X | Iowa Code § 148.9 Iowa Admin Code § 653-9.15 | Licensees seeking reinstatement after more than 1 year of inactivity must complete the full suite of requirements. |
| KS | X | X | — | X | X | Kan. Stat. Ann. § 65-2809(e) Kan. Admin. Regs. § 100-6-6 | Any license canceled for failure to renew may be reinstated within 2 years, upon recommendation of the Board, payment of renewal fees, and proof of compliance with CME requirements. After a longer period of inactivity, applicants “shall submit a proposed reentry plan for review by the board.” |
| KY | X | X | — | X | X | Kent. Admin. Reg. § 201-9-051(§4) | Upon failure of a licensee to register their license before the expiration allowed for late registration, the license shall become inactive and continued practice by the physician shall be considered the unauthorized practice of medicine or osteopathy. |
| LA | X | X | X | X | X | La. Admin. Code tit. 46:XLV § 419 | A license which has expired may be reinstated by the board provided that application for reinstatement is made within 4 years. A physician whose license has lapsed for longer may apply to the board for an initial original or reciprocal license. |
| ME-M | X | X | X | X | X | ME-MD: Reentry to Practice Guidelines Me. Rev. Stat. tit. 32 ch. 48 § 3280-A(4) | A licensee whose license has lapsed for more than 5 years shall apply for a new license. Formal reentry to clinical practice programs exist that include assessment, education, and mini residency. These programs vary in length and cost, and will be required when an applicant has been unlicensed and out of clinical practice for a period of more than 5 years. |

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| ME-O | X | X | — | X | — | ME-DO: Reentry to Practice Guidelines Me. Rev. Stat. tit. 32 ch. 36 § 2581 | Licenses that have allowed their licenses to lapse and/or have not clinically practiced for 2 or more years may be required to demonstrate current clinical competency prior to full reinstatement/licensure/relicensure of their licenses. |
| MD | X | X | — | X | — | Md. Code Ann. § 14-317 Md. Code Ann. § 14-409 (discipline) | |
| MA | — | X | — | — | X | Code of Mass. Reg. tit. 243 § 2.06(4)(e) | If the physician in retired status has not engaged in a clinical practice of medicine for 2+ years, and intends to return to practice, the Board may require that the physician demonstrate current clinical competency prior to reviving the license. |
| MI-M | X | X | X | X | X | Mich. Admin. Code r. 338.2437 Mich. Comp. Laws § 333.16201 | Varying standards whether a licensee has been out of practice <3 years, between 3 and 5 years, and >5 years. |
| MI-O | X | X | X | X | X | Mich. Admin. Code r. 338.133 | |
| MN | X (reapplying for licensure) | — | — | — | — | Minn. Stat. § 147.039 Minn. Stat. § 147.02 (licensure requirements for initial applicants) | The Board shall not renew, reissue, reinstate, or restore a license that has lapsed and is not subject to a pending review, investigation, or disciplinary action, and has not been renewed within two annual license renewal cycles . A licensee whose license is canceled for nonrenewal must obtain a new license by applying for licensure and fulfilling all requirements then in existence for an initial license to practice medicine in Minnesota. |
| MS | X | — | — | — | X | Miss. State Board of Medical Licensure; Admin. Code Part 2601 ch. 1 Rule 1.3 | Prior to the issuance of, or reinstatement of a license, any physician... who has not actively practiced for 3 years shall be required to participate in a Board approved assessment program, clinical skills assessment program or re-entry program to assure post-licensure competency. |
| MO | — | X | — | X | X | Mo. Rev. Stat. tit. XXII ch. 32 § 334.002 | Any licensee allowing their license to become inactive may within 5 years return to active status by notifying the board in advance of such intention, paying the appropriate fees, and meeting all established licensure requirements of the board, excluding the licensing examination, as a condition of reinstatement. |

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| MP | — | — | — | — | — | Commonwealth Reg. § 185-10-1215 (discipline) | |
| MT | X | X | X | X | X | Mont. Admin. R. 24.156.618 | Licenses inactive for 2 years or longer must complete reentry requirements. |
| NC | X | X | — | X | — | 21 N.C. Admin. Code 32B.1370 | An applicant for licensure who has not actively practiced or who has not maintained continued competency for the 2-year period immediately preceding the filing of an application for a license shall complete a reentry agreement as a condition of licensure. |
| ND | — | X | X | X | X | N.D. Cent. Code § 43-17-26.1 | A physician whose license lapsed more than 3 years must submit a new application for licensure, whether or not they have practiced medicine in the state. |
| NE | X | X | X | X | X | Neb. Rev. Stat. § 38-2026.01 | Licenses inactive for 2 years or longer must complete reentry requirements. |
| NH | — | X | — | X | X | N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 329:16-h OPLC Reentry Application | |
| NJ | X | X | X | X | X | N.J. Rev. Stat. § 45:9-6.1 | Licenses inactive for 5 years or longer must complete reentry requirements. |
| NM | X | X | X | X | X | N.M. Code R. § 16.10.7.16-18 N.M. Code R. § 16.17.6.8 | Varying reentry requirements based on whether licenses was inactive more or less than 2 years. |
| NV-M | X | X | X | — | X | Nev. Rev. Stat. § 630.257 | If a licensee does not engage in the practice of medicine for more than 24 consecutive months, the Board may require the same examination to test medical competency as that given to applicants for a license. |
| NV-O | ^ | — | — | † | — | Nev. Rev. Stat. § 633.491 | ^ If after 3 years without license, must reapply like new applicants † If license expired 3 years or less, must show proof or pay fine for lack of credits |
| NY | — (OPMC) | X (OPMC) | X (OPMC) | X (OPMC) | X (OPMC) | | |
| OH | — | X | X | X | X | Ohio Rev. Code § 4731.281(c) | Licenses inactive for 2 years or longer must complete reentry requirements. |

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| | | | | | | Ohio Rev. Code § 4731.222 | |
| OK-M | X | X | X | X | X | Okla. Stat. tit. 59, § 59-495(h) OK Board of Med Guidelines on Re-Entry | |
| OK-O | — | X | X | X | X | Okla. Stat. tit. 59, § 59-642(b) | |
| OR | X | X | X | X | X | Or. Admin. R. 847-001-0045: 847-020-0183 | If an applicant has ceased the practice of medicine for a period of 12 or more consecutive months immediately preceding the application for licensure or reactivation, the applicant may be required to demonstrate clinical competency. |
| PA-M | X | X | X | X | X | 63 Pa. Stat. § 422.43 49 Pa. Code § 16.15 | |
| PA-O | — | X | — | X | — | 49 Pa. Code § 25.271 | |
| PR | — | — | — | — | — | | |
| RI | N/A | X | N/A | X | N/A | Rules And Regulations For The Licensure And Discipline Of Physicians § 9.1.1 | At the discretion of the Board, the applicant may be required to appear before the Board for an interview. |
| SC | X | — | — | X | — | S.C. Code Ann. § 40-47-42 Board Policy on Retired Physicians | |
| SD | — | X | — | — | — | S.D. Codified Laws § 36-4-24.2 S.D. Codified Laws § 36-4-31.4 | The reissuance of any license, resident license, or certificate may be made in such manner and form and under conditions as the board may require. |
| TN-M | X | X | X | X | X | Tenn. Code Ann. § 63-6-210 Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 0880-02-10(3) | |

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| TN-O | X | — | X | X | — | Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 1050-02-.07 & .08 | |
| TX | X | X | X | X | X | 22 Tex. Admin. Code Part 9 § 163.10 Board Guidelines re: Physician License Retirement Options | If a physician has been on official retired status for 2 years or longer, the request must be reviewed by the Licensure Committee of the Board. If the request is granted, it may be granted without conditions or subject to such conditions which the board determines are necessary to adequately protect the public. Requests are reviewed on a case by case basis. |
| UT-M | — | X | X | X | X | Utah Admin. Code r. 156-67-302(d)(2) (initial requirements) Utah Admin. Code r. 156-1-308g (reinstatement) | After 2 years of more of inactivity, applicants to reinstate their licenses must reapply as if it is an initial application. |
| UT-O | — | X | X | X | X | Utah Admin. Code r. 156-1-308(g) | |
| VT-M | — | X | — | X | — | Vt. Stat. Ann. Tit 26. § 1400(g) Vt. Rules of the Board of Medical Practice § 9.0 | Varying reentry requirements based on whether licenses was inactive more or less than 1 year. |
| VT-O | X | X | X | X | X | 04-220 Code Vt. R. 04-030-220-X § 3.4 | |
| VI | — | — | — | — | — | | |
| VA | X | X | X | X | X | Va. Code Ann. § 54.1-2904 18 Va. Admin. Code § 85-20-240 | Varying reentry requirements based on whether licenses was inactive for 2 years or 4 years or more. |
| WA-M | X | X | X | X | — | Wash. Admin. Code § 246-12-040 Wash. Admin. Code § 246-919-475 Wash. Med. Qual. Assurance Comm. Interpretative Statement; Guideline | Varying reentry requirements based on whether licenses was inactive for less than 3 years (WAC § 246-12-040) or more than 3 years (initial application requirements per RCW 18.71.050) |

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| WA-O | X | X | X | X | X | Wash. Admin. Code § 246-853-245 | Licenses inactive for 2 years or longer must complete reentry requirements. |
| WV-M | X | X | X | X | X | W. Va. Code § 30-3-12 | Varying reentry requirements based on whether licenses was inactive for 1 year or more, if the latter, applicant must apply for a new license. |
| WV-O | X | X | X | X | X | W. Va. Code § 30-14-10 | |
| WI | — | X | — | X | X | Med 14.06 | Varying reentry requirements based on whether licenses was inactive more or less than 5 years. |
| WY | X | X | X | X | X | Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 33-26-305 Wyo. Board of Med. Rules & Regs § 11-12 | |

For informational purposes only: This document is not intended as a comprehensive statement of the law on this topic, nor to be relied upon as authoritative. Non-cited laws, regulation, and/or policy could impact analysis on a case-by-case or state-by-state basis. All information should be verified independently.

Questions, comments, or corrections? Please contact us! (advocacy@fsmb.org)