



Criminal Background Checks

Board-by-Board Overview

- 62 state medical boards conduct criminal background checks as a condition of initial licensure
 - 59 state medical boards require fingerprints as a condition of initial licensure
 - 60 state medical boards have access to the Federal Bureau of Investigation database

SMB	Medical Board requires applicant to submit to criminal background check as a condition of initial licensure	Medical Board requires fingerprints	Medical Board has access to NCIC (FBI Database)
AL	X	X	X
AK	---	---	---
AZ-M	X	X	X
AZ-O	X	X	X
AR	X	X	X
CA-M	X	X	X
CA-O	X	X	X
CO	X ¹	X ¹	X
CT	X ¹	X ¹	X ¹
DE	X	X	X
DC	X	X	X
FL-M	X	X	X
FL-O	X	X	X
GA	X ²	X ¹	X ¹
GU	X	X ¹	X
HI	---	---	---
ID	X	X	X
IL	X	X	X
IN	X	X	X
IA	X	X	X
KS	X	X	X
KY	X	X	X
LA	X	X	X
ME-M	X ¹	X ¹	X
ME-O	X ¹	X ¹	X
MD	X	X	X
MA	X	---	---
MI-M	X	X	X
MI-O	X	X	X
MN	X	X	X
MS	X	X	X
MO	---	---	---
MT	X ¹	X ¹	X
NE	X	X	X

¹ Criminal background check and fingerprints are only required for physicians applying for licensure through the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact

² Criminal background checks are required for each owner, principal, manager, agent, officer, and licensed health care practitioner of a pain management clinic

SMB	Medical Board requires applicant to submit to criminal background check as a condition of initial licensure	Medical Board requires fingerprints	Medical Board has access to NCIC (FBI Database)
NV-M	X	X	X
NV-O	X	X	X
NH	X	X	X
NJ	X	---	X
NM	X	X	X
NY	---	---	---
NC	X	X	X
ND	X	X	X
OH	X	X	X
OK-M	X	X	X
OK-O	X	X	X
OR	X	X	X
PA-M	X ¹	X ¹	X
PA-O	X ¹	X ¹	X
PR	X	---	---
RI	X ¹	X ¹	X ¹
SC	X	X	X
SD	X	X	X
TN-M	X	X	X
TN-O	X	X	X
TX	X	X	X
UT-M	X ¹	X ¹	X
UT-O	X ¹	X ¹	X
VT-M	X ¹	X ¹	X
VT-O	X ¹	X ¹	X
VI	---	---	---
VA	X	X ³	X
WA-M	X	X	X
WA-O	X	X	X
WV-M	X	X	X
WV-O	X	X	X
WI	X ¹	X ¹	X
WY	X	X	X

Note: This document is not intended as an exhaustive or 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 Andrew Smith (asmith@fsmb.org)

³ The Virginia Board of Medicine only requires a thumbprint, not a full set of fingerprints.