U.S. States and Territories Expediting Licensure for Inactive/Retired Licensees in Response to COVID-19

Last Updated: June 15, 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>States with Waivers: 9</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>States with Waivers, not allowing new applications: 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>States without Waivers (or closed waivers): 40 + DC + GU + CNMI + USVI + PR</td>
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<td>States allowing long-term or permanent privileges for inactive/retired licensees: 1</td>
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On January 28, 2021, HHS [announced](#) the fifth amendment to the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness (PREP) Act, authorizing any healthcare provider who is licensed or certified in a state to prescribe, dispense, or administer COVID-19 vaccines in any other state or U.S. territory. The amendment also authorizes any physician, registered nurse, or practical nurse whose license or certification expired within the past five years to partake in the immunization effort, but first must complete a CDC Vaccine Training and an on-site observation period by a currently practicing healthcare professional.

### State | Note | Citation |
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<tr>
<td><strong>Alabama</strong></td>
<td>A physician with an active medical license who has executed a retirement waiver in the last twenty four (24) months and who now desires to reenter the practice of medicine for the limited purpose of treating patients suffering from and affected by SARS-CoV-2 shall have his or her medical license reactivated to full and unrestricted status upon submission of the following: (a) An application including the following information: (i) the physician’s name; (ii) the physician's Alabama medical license number; (iii) current mailing address and contact information; (iv) proposed practice location; (v) intended type of medical practice; and (vi) any other medical licenses held; (b) Certification that his or her license to practice medicine or osteopathy is not currently under investigation… (c) Certification that his or her license to practice medicine or osteopathy has never been subjected to discipline. “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.</td>
<td><a href="#">ALBME Declaration/Application</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Status</strong> – <strong>Inactive</strong>, temporarily reinstated licenses <strong>expired December 31, 2020.</strong></td>
<td>Article re: Reinstatement</td>
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<td>[ALBME] - <a href="#">If you plan to practice beyond December 31, you will also need to complete our standard reinstatement process.</a></td>
<td>Expedited Reinstatement Application</td>
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<td>ALBME Guidance re: Expiration</td>
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<td>State Resource Page</td>
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<td><strong>Alaska</strong></td>
<td>(J) The board, executive administrator, or the board’s designee may issue an emergency courtesy license… to an applicant who practices medicine or osteopathy… to provide emergency medical or mental health care within the scope and duration of the declared emergency; a courtesy license may be issued… to a person who… holds a retired license under AS 08.64.276 that has been issued less than two years; (2) submits a completed application on a form provided by the department, and… in good standing and not under investigation in the jurisdiction in which the applicant resides. [2/19/21 Update] Re: waivers - While certain authorities under the DD have expired, the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) is making every effort to minimize potential disruption to interactions between Alaskans and DHSS as we transition out of the DD. DHSS will continue to operate its COVID-19 response under the same guidance and direction that had previously been provided, which includes all prior waived or suspended statutes and regulations.</td>
<td><a href="#">Adopted Emergency Regulations</a></td>
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<td>Article re: Waiver expiration</td>
<td>DHSS Guidance re: Waivers</td>
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<td>AK HB 76</td>
<td>4/30 PHO</td>
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<td><a href="#">State Resource Page</a></td>
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• **Status – Inactive**, AK HB 76, which was signed April 30, formally ended Alaska’s state of emergency. ([Article](#)). According to the [4/30 Public Health Order](#), no inactive/retired license waivers are included.

Arizona

• The Arizona Medical Board (AMB) announces the following available temporary emergency licenses for Physicians (MDs) to practice in Arizona and the extension of the time frame for renewal of MD licenses during the COVID-19 State of Emergency: ... The AMB will convert an inactive license to a temporary active license using the temporary emergency license application if: (1) The physician has been on an inactive status for 4 years or less. (2) The physician submits an attestation that they have the physical and mental capability to safely practice medicine.

• [3/28/22 Update] re: temporary license length - Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey has signed legislation that will prevent temporary medical licenses issued under his coronavirus executive orders from immediately becoming invalid if he ends the state of emergency he issued two years ago... They will be valid until the end of the year if they were active at the start of this month. ([Article](#)).

• [3/31/22 Update] – On March 30, 2022, Governor Doug Ducey terminated the state’s COVID-19 Declaration of Emergency ([Press Release](#)). Temporary licenses will be active through the end of the year.

• **Status – Active**, for those already with emergency temporary licenses, until December 31, 2022 (see above).

Arkansas

• [8/3/21 Update] re: New State of Emergency Declaration – Gov. Hutchinson said the declaration will allow the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management to seek staffing assistance from health workers outside the state. It also eases the process for retired health workers to re-enter the workforce and for medical students to become licensed. ([Article](#)).

• EO 21-14: The Arkansas Division of Emergency Management is hereby ordered to seek necessary staffing assistance... through available avenues to include the Emergency Management Assistance Compact... the Arkansas Dept. of Health is ordered to identify any regulatory statutes, orders, or rules related to licensure of healthcare professionals that may be preventing, hindering, or delaying necessary action for coping with this emergency...

• The Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) is a congressionally ratified interstate mutual aid mechanism (Public Law 104-321) that is supported through legislation enacted by all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. It provides a general framework (and legal basis) for interstate coordination and mutual aid during Governor-declared emergencies or disasters... including Licensure and permit waivers for medical and other professionals

• [9/29/21 Update] re: Emergency declaration rescission - Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson on [9/28/21] said he'd allowed the state's public health emergency for the coronavirus pandemic to end, saying he didn't need any additional powers to respond to it. ([Article](#)).

• **Status – Inactive**, the state’s emergency declaration expired September 27, 2021 (see above).

California

• Reinstatement of inactive/retired licenses (who have been retired or inactive for five years or less) without the CME or other requirements and an abbreviated license application to bring these practitioners into the workforce quickly.

• On March 30, 2020, Gov. Newsom launched a major initiative to expand California’s health care workforce and recruit health care professionals to address the COVID-19 surge. Health care professionals with an active license, public health professionals, medical retirees, medical and nursing students, or members of medical disaster response teams in California are all encouraged to join the new California Health Corps.

• *DCA Waiver DCA-20-02 Reinstatement of Licensure* allows licensees to temporarily restore an inactive or retired license without having to pay any fees or complete, or demonstrate compliance with, any continuing education requirements for up to six months. A licensee with a cancelled status that was voluntarily surrendered within the last five years not relating to a disciplinary action may meet the waiver criteria as well.

• **Status – Inactive**, DCA-22-212 extended the temporary waiver of continuing education requirements and payment of required fees for individuals seeking to restore a retired/inactive license until April 1, 2022, or when the State of Emergency ceases to exist, whichever is sooner.

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.”
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| Connecticut | • The Department of Public Health seeks healthcare professionals to volunteer their services: DPH is asking healthcare professionals, such as retired nurses and doctors, to consider volunteering their services at a medical facility in Connecticut. Those willing to volunteer should fill out the online form located at ctresponds.ct.gov, and their information will be reviewed by staff at DPH who will connect the volunteer to a location in need.  
  
  
  • [4/15/22 Update] re: recission of waiver – “In accord with Special Act 22-1, Executive Order 14 D will expire on April 15, 2022, ending the modification of various provisions of the General Statutes governing the licensure, permitting of health care professionals and supervision of various health care professionals. The following statutory requirements modified by the Executive Order shall no longer be modified and will be in full effect on April 15, 2022.” (DPH Guidance).  
  
  • Status – Inactive, the out-of-state waiver expired April 15, 2022. (DPH Guidance). |
| 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... Any out-of-state health care provider, inactive health care provider, or qualified person appointed pursuant to this order shall be considered a public employee.  
  
  • An individual must be registered with the Medical Reserve Corps before they may be activated to provide healthcare services as a volunteer...  
  
  • Status – Inactive, Delaware’s State of Emergency expired July 13, 2021, according to 7/12 Announcement. |
| Florida | • In an effort to ensure that all Floridians have access to licensed health care providers the Florida Department of Health will temporarily reactivate unencumbered inactive licenses for those who make a request through the Department as provided for in section 381.00315(1)(c)3., Florida Statutes... Inactive medical doctors, osteopathic physicians, physician assistants... will have the option to temporarily reactivate their inactive license for a period of 90 days to assist during the public health emergency due to COVID-19... A license that is reactivated under this provision will return to inactive status when the public health emergency ends or before the end of the public health emergency if the State Surgeon General determines that the health care practitioner is no longer needed.  
  
  • Status – Inactive, Florida’s State of Emergency expired June 26, 2021, according to EO 21-94. |
| Georgia | • The Georgia Composite Medical Board is authorized to grant temporary licenses to physicians who apply for a temporary medical license and are currently licensed as a physician in good standing by equivalent boards in other state to assist with the needs of this public health emergency. Before practicing medicine in Georgia under this provision, the applicant must receive the Board’s approval of the following: (1) an application for this emergency practice permit, (2) proof of current and unrestricted licensure in another state (3) copy of a valid government-issued photo ID and (4) a current National Practitioner’s Data Bank Report.  
  
  • The GCMB reached out to the FSMB to clarify that they are allowing retired/inactive physicians to assist during the crisis by submitting an emergency practice application that is also being used by out-of-state healthcare professionals.  
  
  • Authority for an emergency practice permit derives from GCMB Rule 360-2-.13, which states that “during an event for which the Governor of the State of Georgia has issued an executive order declaring a disaster or a state of emergency, the Board may waive some of the licensure requirements in order to permit the provision of emergency health services to the public.”  
  
  • [8/10/21 Update] re: license flexibility – “...the regulatory provisions of Code Section 43-1-4 and Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. r. 360-2-.05(2), Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. r. 360-2-.05(4), Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. r. 360-2-.06, and all other implementing administrative rules which prohibit the practice of medicine, surgery, osteopathic medicine, and osteopathic surgery, by a licensee |
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<th>Guam</th>
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| Hawaii | • Allow out-of-state physicians, osteopathic physicians, and physician assistants with a current and active license, or those previously licensed... but who are no longer current and active to practice in Hawaii without a license; provided that they have never had their license revoked or suspended and are hired by a state or county agency or facility, or by a hospital, including related clinics and rehabilitation hospitals, nursing home, hospice, pharmacy, or clinical laboratory.  
| Idaho | • Retired or inactive practitioners whose license was in good standing when they 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 and fees have been waived.  
• Status – Inactive, the state’s emergency declaration expired April 24, 2021, per 5/23 proclamation. |
| 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 guidance of the 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.  
• [EO 2020-09] - 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 (limited to prior State of Illinois licensees for physicians and surgeons with active or inactive licenses on July 31, 2017 or in Not Renewed status after July 31, 2017) are suspended with respect to: (i) proof of meeting continuing education requirements for one renewal period; and (ii) payment of the reinstatement fee.  
• Status – Inactive, license reinstatement waivers expired May 31, 2022, per 12/20/21 IDFPR Proclamation, and have not been renewed. |
| Indiana | • Individuals who seek to provide healthcare in the State of Indiana in response to this public health emergency who are not currently licensed to practice in the state, either because their Indiana license is no longer active or they are licensed by another state, may obtain temporary authorization to provide healthcare services as outlined below: (a) Retired healthcare professionals: Any healthcare professional whether licensed in this state or not, who within the past five years has retired or surrendered his or her license or whose license is otherwise inactive but who license was not revoked, suspended or relinquished, may provide healthcare services in Indiana during this public health emergency without reinstatement or approval by the relevant licensing board. Any license issued under these provisions shall only be effective during this public health emergency and further, will be initially limited to a period of 90 days which may be renewed in 30-day increments so long as the public health emergency continues.  
• [EO 20-45] - As provided by Executive Orders 20-13... any individual... who received an initial and/or subsequent 90-day temporary authorization to provide health care in the State of Indiana in response to this public health emergency because he or she was not currently licensed to practice in the state, either because their Indiana license is no longer active or they are licensed by another state, is granted an additional 90-day authorization to continue to provide healthcare services during this public health emergency. All application procedures for reinstatement or approval will be instituted and must be followed upon. |
expiration of these temporary licenses or the lifting of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

- Re: out-of-state registry - According to the IPLA, "The State of Indiana has created a registry of individuals who do not hold a valid license to practice in Indiana but can be mobilized to help fight COVID-19 by issuing temporary permits to practice. Any individual who utilizes the registry may work initially for 90 days (extendable in 30-day increments) or until the public health emergency is over. Once the emergency is over, their license will expire, and all existing application procedures must be followed such as taking the appropriate licensure exam and passing a criminal background check. This registry will be open to: Out-of-state healthcare practitioners; Retired healthcare professionals; and recent graduates of accredited medical, registered nursing, pharmacy, physician assistant, and respiratory care programs."

- [3/31/22 Update] re: Emergency License Registry – On March 21, 2022, Indiana’s Professional Licensing Agency (PLA) issued a bulletin clarifying that the recently signed HB 1003 extends the [out-of-state] healthcare registry through the duration of the COVID-19 public health emergency declared by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services."

- Status – Active, through the declaration of the national PHE, which is currently ongoing (see above).

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Iowa

- I [Gov. Reynolds] temporarily suspend the regulatory provisions of Iowa Code and Iowa Admin. Code rules … which prohibit the practice of medicine and surgery, osteopathic medicine and surgery, nursing, respiratory care, and practice as a physician assistant, by a licensee whose license is inactive or lapsed. Suspension of these provisions is limited to licenses which have lapsed or expired within the five (5) years prior to this Proclamation and is further limited to the provision of medical and nursing care and treatment of victims of this public health disaster emergency and solely for the duration of this Proclamation.

- Status – Inactive, retired/inactive waivers rescinded per 7/24 Emergency Proclamation.

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Kansas

- Temporary COVID-19 emergency licensure. The Emergency Temporary License for COVID-19 response and mitigation is available for all health care professions regulated by the Board. The license will automatically cancel in 90 days, if not renewed, or 30 days after the declared Kansas state of emergency ends, whichever is sooner. All license fees will be waived for this license. Requirements for this license are any of the following: … (2) Have held an active or exempt license in Kansas within the past 2 years, and such license was not suspended or revoked as a result of Board investigation or discipline; … (2) Have held an active or exempt license in Kansas within the past 2 years, and such license was not suspended or revoked as a result of Board investigation or discipline...

- Any and all provisions in Kansas law or regulations are temporarily suspended to the extent that they require any healthcare professional, as a condition of licensure, certification, registration or the renewal of a license... or reinstatement within five years of a lapsed license: (A) An exam, to the extent that the exam’s administration has been cancelled while the emergency declaration is in effect; (B) Fingerprinting… (C) Continuing education… (D) Payment of a fee. [EO 20-19].

- [1/19/22 Update] re: reinstated waivers – EO 22-01, issued January 6, 2022, reissued the same waiver in EO 20-19, please see above for more information.

- [2/22/22 Update] re: long term waiver extension – On January 21, 2022, Gov. Laura Kelly signed HB 2477 into law, which, among other things, “Notwithstanding any statute to the contrary, a healthcare professional may be licensed, certified or registered or may have such license, certification or registration reinstated within five years of lapse or renewed by the applicable licensing agency of the state of Kansas without satisfying the following conditions of licensure, certification or registration…”

- Status – Active, until the reinstated Kansas state of emergency is scheduled to expire January 20, 2023, per HB 2477.

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Kentucky

- Additionally, the law [KY SB 150] … gives the Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure, the Kentucky Board of Emergency Medical Services, and the Board of Nursing the ability to waive or modify state statutes and regulations: … (g) To reactivate the licenses of inactive and retired health care providers, including emergency medical providers and nurses, to allow them to re-enter the healthcare workforce.


- [4/15/22 Update] re: recission of waiver/State of Emergency – Despite SB 25 setting Kentucky’s SoE end date to April 14; on March 22, 2022, Kentucky’s legislature overrode Gov. Beshear’s veto of SJR 150 effectively ending the state of emergency immediately.
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| **Louisiana** | - Status – Inactive, Kentucky’s State of Emergency expired on March 22, 2022, with the passing of SJR 150, please see above.  
  - The state calls on students and retired medical professionals to join the fight against COVID-19. Louisiana Gov. Edwards says the existing healthcare workforce is quickly getting stretched thin... “I am imploring you to volunteer,” said Edwards.  
  - If you are a healthcare student, graduate, or an active member/retiree of the healthcare workforce, please sign up to volunteer your time and talent to help the State and our healthcare system meet the challenges of COVID-19. We are looking for volunteers with backgrounds in the fields of medicine, nursing, allied health professions, dentistry, counseling, mental/behavioral health, laboratory science, among others.  
  - Status – Active, as of March 28, 2022, Louisiana’s COVID-19 Healthcare Volunteer Form is still active, but the state’s PHE expired on March 16, 2022, per Gov. Bel Edward’s 3/14 statement. |
| **Maine** | - [3/20 EO] C. All physicians, physician assistants and nurses who have retired in good standing in this State within two years of this date [3/20/20] who have no disciplinary or adverse action in the last 10 years... shall have their licenses immediately reactivated upon request and such license shall remain valid during the state of emergency. License application fees... are waived.  
  - 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.  
  - [MDs]: Applicants must have a valid medical license or physician assistant license in another state that remains valid for the duration of the emergency license (100 days) or have retired their Maine medical license or physician assistant license within the past two years. Applicants who have disciplinary or adverse action in the past ten years involving loss of license, probation, restriction or limitation do not qualify for licensure.  
  - [DOs/PAs]: If you have been disciplined by a licensing Board within the last 10 years and that discipline included practice restrictions, limitations, probation or the loss of your license, you do not qualify for this license; You must have a valid license, in good standing, in another state which will remain valid for a minimum of 90 days from the issue of this license or, you must have retired within the last 24 months (both DOs and PAs).  
| **Maryland** | - V. Inactive Practitioners – A) 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, if: i) qualified supervisory personnel at the health care facility reasonably conclude that the inactive practitioner can competently engage in such activities; ii) doing so is necessary to allow health care facility to meet required staffing ratios or otherwise ensure the continued and safe delivery of health care services... B) The Secretary, ... are ordered to expedite all requests from inactive practitioners to reinstate inactive licenses.  
  - The Board is suspending the requirement that licensees on inactive status apply to for and meet requirements to reactivate the license while working at a healthcare facility. Inactive Maryland licensees are not required to apply to the Board for reactivation of their license during the state of emergency while working at a healthcare facility.  
  - Re: Maryland Medicaid - Enroll Providers with Expired Licenses or Licenses from Out of State: Maryland Medicaid will not enforce the COMAR 10.09.36.02 requirement to have an active license on file to receive payment for services during the state of emergency. Maryland Medicaid will permit enrollment for an individual who has an expired Maryland license or out-of-State license, as long as there is no apparent Board sanction.  
  - [1/10/22 Update] re: reactivating waivers - Any inactive practitioner may, at a Health Care Facility, engage in activities that would have been authorized under his/her inactive license without first reinstating his/her inactive license, if: i. qualified supervisory personnel at the Health Care Facility reasonably conclude that the inactive practitioner can competently engage in such activities; ii. doing so is necessary to allow the Health Care Facility to meet required staffing ratios...  
  - Status – Inactive, out-of-state waivers were re instituted January 4, 2022, but expired on February 3, 2022, when the public health emergency expired, per 2/3/22 Memo. |
| **Massachusetts** | - Individuals who have within the last ten years held a license to practice as a health care provider that was issued by a Massachusetts licensing authority, including but not limited to a state agency, a board of registration or division with licensing authority within a state agency, and whose license, registration, certification or authorization has expired, lapsed or been retired but is not revoked, suspended, surrendered or subject to any non-disciplinary restriction shall have their licenses immediately renewed or reactivated upon request, per MDPH Order (4/3)  
  - Reactivation App. |
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| **Michigan** | In reviewing claims of exemption for licensure under this provision the Department would consider all the relevant circumstances, including the following information: Individuals who were licensed as a health professional but have been retired for five or less years may be eligible to provide services and practice in his/her previously licensed profession under this provision to assist health care providers during the COVID-19 response and while the State of Emergency is in effect.  
- **Status – Inactive**, Michigan’s state of emergency expired October 27, 2020 per EO 2020-186, and has not been renewed, with the state supreme court ruling the Governor’s authority unconstitutional October 12. (Though EO 2020-150 explicitly rescinded the waiver for physicians licensed in other states to practice in Michigan, LARA points to MCL 333.16171, which states that “(c) An individual who by education, training, or experience substantially meets the requirements of this article for licensure while rendering medical care in a time of disaster...”)
- The governor and her team have called on retirees, volunteers and others to help care for the growing number of COVID-19 patients.
- The order also empowers LARA to ensure an adequate supply of care providers during the emergency by granting the department additional flexibility in its decisions about licensing, registration, and workflow requirements.
| **Minnesota** | In Minnesota, utilizing help from willing retirees is one of several strategies the state is considering supplementing the health care workforce so it can handle an expected patient surge, said Jan Malcolm, the state health commissioner, during a conference call with reporters on April 7, 2020... The Minnesota Hospital Association told lawmakers last week that retired doctors and nurses should be able to renew licenses to help out by providing telemedicine. The Minnesota Board of Medical Practice has talked with lawmakers about whether there’s a need for the Legislature to create a special pathway for returning retirees to practice. But Ruth Martinez, the group’s executive director, said by e-mail, “We have not, at this time, identified the need for such an expedited process.”
- **Status** – No waivers in place. |
| **Mississippi** | For individuals who hold a retired or inactive Missouri license, you may return to practice to assist solely with COVID-19. Physicians that fall under these licensure waivers do not have to make application for reinstatement or notify the Board of their desire to return to practice to assist with COVID-19. They may be required to show proof of Missouri licensure to the employers and third-party payers through the Board’s online verification system. (20 CSR § 2150-2.153).
- **Re**: Assistant physicians and physicians assistants: The purpose for the waiver is to temporarily remove barriers to practice for APs who hold an inactive license to return to practice without notifying the board to immediately assist with the State of Emergency.
- [8/31/21 Update] re: continuing waivers - All waivers previously authorized under prior Executive Orders 20-04, 20-10, 20-12, 20-19, 21-07, and are currently in effect, are hereby authorized and shall remain in effect until otherwise withdrawn by the agency in coordination with the Governor’s Office or the termination of this Executive Order. [EO 21-09].
- For individuals who hold a retired or inactive license, you may return to practice to assist solely with COVID-19; however, if you wish to practice beyond COVID-19, you must reapply for reinstatement with the Board. [Healing Arts COVID-19 Waivers].
- **Inactive**, waivers expired December 31, 2021, per EO 21-09, and have not been renewed. (Press Release). |
| **Missouri** | For individuals who hold a retired or inactive Missouri license, you may return to practice to assist solely with COVID-19. Physicians that fall under these licensure waivers do not have to make application for reinstatement or notify the Board of their desire to return to practice to assist with COVID-19. They may be required to show proof of Missouri licensure to the employers and third-party payers through the Board’s online verification system. (20 CSR § 2150-2.153).
- **Re**: Assistant physicians and physicians assistants: The purpose for the waiver is to temporarily remove barriers to practice for APs who hold an inactive license to return to practice without notifying the board to immediately assist with the State of Emergency.
- [8/31/21 Update] re: continuing waivers - All waivers previously authorized under prior Executive Orders 20-04, 20-10, 20-12, 20-19, 21-07, and are currently in effect, are hereby authorized and shall remain in effect until otherwise withdrawn by the agency in coordination with the Governor’s Office or the termination of this Executive Order. [EO 21-09].
- For individuals who hold a retired or inactive license, you may return to practice to assist solely with COVID-19; however, if you wish to practice beyond COVID-19, you must reapply for reinstatement with the Board. [Healing Arts COVID-19 Waivers].
- **Inactive**, waivers expired December 31, 2021, per EO 21-09, and have not been renewed. (Press Release). |
| **Montana** | Montana Gov. Steve Bullock issued two directives April 21 related to the coronavirus outbreak... The second makes it easier for retired health care professionals and licensed out-of-state providers to practice in Montana.  
- Under the Governor’s Directive for Easing Licensing Requirements for Health Care Providers During the Emergency (effective April 21, 2020), certain “health care providers” who held a Montana license that terminated within the past five years and who have a clean disciplinary record, may receive a temporary permit without paying a fee or demonstrating recent continuing education, certification, or competency evaluation. “Health care providers” include persons engaged in an occupation or profession that requires licensure through the following Montana licensing boards: ... Medical Examiners... |
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<tr>
<td>Nebraska</td>
<td>The Governor began the conference by discussing an executive order he signed, authorizing the credentialing of retired or inactive health professionals who wish to serve Nebraskans during the coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) emergency. The provisions of Neb. Rev. Stats. ... are temporarily suspended to permit individuals formerly licensed in Nebraska who want to renew a credential after its expiration date or to change from inactive to active status to do so without being subject to continuing competency requirements. Such individuals may be temporarily reinstated to practice upon submission of a completed application to the Department. Status – Inactive, waivers expired 30 days after the end of the COVID-19 emergency, which was resinded on June 30, 2021, per Gov. Rickett’s 6/28 announcement, meaning the waivers expired July 30, 2021.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nevada</td>
<td>Professional licensing boards regulating providers of medical services shall temporarily waive certain licensing requirements to allow the practice of currently unlicensed skilled medical professionals during the pendency of the COVID-19 crisis... including without limitation, medical doctors, physician assistants... The waiver and exemption of professional licensing requirements shall apply to qualified providers of medical services during this declared emergency who... have retired from their practice in any state with their license in good standing. These waivers and exemptions shall not apply to persons whose licenses have been revoked or voluntarily surrendered as a result of disciplinary proceedings. [5/13/22 Update] re: End of State of Emergency – On May 6, Nevada Gov. Steve Sisolak announced that he will end Nevada’s state of emergency on May 20, 2022. Status – Inactive, Nevada’s state of emergency was resinded May 20, 2022, per Gov. Sisolak’s 5/6 announcement (see above). (Article) re: ending emergency.</td>
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<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>Any Healthcare professional that is not licensed in NH and has a current license in good standing in another jurisdiction or has had a valid license within the last three years and will provide qualifying services in NH during the COVID-19 State of Emergency such as: Retired healthcare professionals no longer licensed, Healthcare professionals licensed in another state. [6/13/22 Update] re: extending temporary healthcare licenses – On June 7, 2022, NH SB 277 was signed into law, which, among other things, makes valid emergency or temporary healthcare licenses issued during the COVID-19 pandemic prior to January 31, 2022 until June 30, 2023. Status – Active, only for holders of temporary/emergency licenses issued on or prior to January 31, 2022, until June 30, 2023 (please see above). Otherwise, the NH State of Emergency expired June 11, 2021. (Article).</td>
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<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>On April 1, Gov. Murphy today signed Executive Order No. 112, authorizing the Division of Consumer Affairs to temporarily reactivate the licenses of recently retired health care professionals. The Order authorizes the Division of Consumer Affairs to temporarily reactivate the licensees of healthcare professionals previously licensed in the State within the last five years. This will enable doctors, nurses, and other healthcare professionals who have recently retired or have allowed their licenses to lapse to temporarily reactivate their license. On April 14, Gov. Murphy signed NJ A 3901, which expedites 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. [1/12/22 Update] re: EO 281 – “…granted the Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of Consumer Affairs, the authority to temporarily reactivate certain inactive health care licenses…” Status – Inactive, the New Jersey PHE was resinded on March 7, 2022, per EO No. 292.</td>
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<td>New Mexico</td>
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<td>New York</td>
<td>Gov. Cuomo said on March 12 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 &quot;on call&quot; 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. NY DOH Director Howard Zucker: “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…”</td>
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*EO 2021-10* | [Press Release re: Waivers](#) | [State Resource Page](#) |
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<td>Emergency License Application</td>
<td><a href="#">Emergency License Application</a></td>
<td><a href="#">State Resource Page</a></td>
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<td>OPLC Guidance</td>
<td><a href="#">State Resource Page</a></td>
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<td><a href="#">Press Release</a></td>
<td><a href="#">Executive Order 112</a></td>
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<td><a href="#">Article</a></td>
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<td><a href="#">State Resource Page</a></td>
<td><a href="#">NY DOH Letter 3/24</a></td>
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<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>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. 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 while under investigation; and (4) The applicant must confine his or her practice to areas in which he or she is clinically competent. <strong>Status – Active</strong>, 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 (the emergency declaration is currently scheduled to expire <strong>July 15, 2022</strong>, per EO #4.9. Please see above for more information.</td>
<td>NCMB Guidance, Emergency Administrative Rules, Inactive Emergency License Application, State Resource Page</td>
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<td>North Dakota</td>
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<td>Ohio</td>
<td>There are many retired physicians and physician assistants who may wish to reactivate their license to help during this pandemic. Board staff is exploring options for reactivating licenses for retired providers and will bring the matter back before the Board if it needs to act further. The Board briefly discussed the potential problems in reactivating the licenses of physicians who have been retired for several years and may not be up-to-date on current standards of care. Dr. Rothermel… suggested that the Board discuss the matter of retired physicians at a future meeting. <strong>Emergency Licensure</strong>: Ohio does not have a legal mechanism to allow out-of-state licensees to practice in Ohio or to automatically reactivate inactive licensees. Board members were surveyed for opinions and comfort level. In the event the Medical Board is provided the legal authority to allow out-of-state licensees or inactive licensees who reactivate their licenses to practice, the responses showed the board is comfortable with issuing emergency licenses with necessary parameters. <strong>Status – No waivers in place.</strong></td>
<td>Board of Med 3/18 Meeting Minutes, Board of Med 4/20 Meeting Summary, State Resource Page</td>
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<td>Oklahoma</td>
<td>All state agencies with licensing and certificate responsibility over medical professionals, including the Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision, State Board of Osteopathic Examiners, and Board of Nursing shall, by April 15, 2020 promulgate emergency rules necessary to increase the number of professionals able to practice in the State. Such action may include, but is not limited to, the following: … (B) Removal of barriers of entry for retired medical professionals from reentering the workforce. Medical professionals who have lapsed or inactive licenses or certifications may have their single-state license or certification reinstated if they submit a reinstatement application and fee proscribed by their respective licensing boards and meet the qualifications for licensure or certification established by such Board, provided such license shall only be valid as long as this Order is in effect. The continuing qualifications as required for licensure or certification are hereby waived for those reinstated licensees as long as this Order remains in effect. It is strongly</td>
<td>EO 2020-13, EO 2021-11</td>
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<td>Oregon</td>
<td>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. Emeritus and Locum Tenens physicians and PAs – current administrative restrictions are lifted during this emergency. (A) Emeritus licensees are no longer restricted to volunteer practice only. During this emergency, they may receive payment for their medical care. (B) Locum Tenens licensees are no longer limited to 240 days/biennium of practice in Oregon. During this emergency, they may practice indefinitely in our state. Administrative Medicine/Inactive/Lapsed/Retired physicians and PAs – a new expedited reactivation process is in place during this emergency. (A) To qualify, a licensee must have been in active clinical practice within the previous three years and must have been in good standing at the time the Oregon license status became Administrative Medicine, Inactive, Lapsed, or Retired. (B) To apply, submit the [Emergency Reactivation Application] and supplemental materials. Status - Inactive, the Oregon State of Emergency was rescinded June 28, 2021, per [EO 21-15].</td>
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<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>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. [12/21/20 Update] - On Dec. 21, 2020, the State Board of Medicine extended the reactivation waivers and expiration deadlines for MD licensees. If an individual has already reactivated their license pursuant to the prior reactivation waivers but is unable to meet the requirements for renewal prior to the deadline, that individual may continue to practice after Dec. 31, 2020, and must renew the license by the extended deadline of March 31, 2021. For eligible individuals who have not yet reactivated their licenses but want to assist during the pandemic, the processing of expedited license reactivations will resume after Dec. 21, 2020, for Board of Medicine practitioners whose license is either “active/retired” or “inactive/expired” for at least three months but no more than four years. These individuals will receive a license with an expiration date of December 31, 2022; however, it will be the responsibility of the licensee to complete any required continuing education by June 30, 2021. [8/10/21 Update] re: Reactivated license expiration date - Expiring August 17 Retired/Inactive Professionals: Reactivations for retired healthcare practitioners &amp; licensees who went inactive or allowed their license to expire or lapse related to the following boards: State Board of Medicine, State Board of Osteopathic Medicine... [10/4/21 Update] re: Limited waiver re instituted - Retired Physicians and Nurses and other Healthcare Professionals administering COVID-19 Vaccinations: This waiver allows some retired physicians, nurses, and other healthcare professionals to administer the COVID-19 Vaccine. Expiring: March 31, 2022.</td>
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- [4/4/22 Update] re: Limited waiver extension - On March 30, 2022, Act 14 of 2022 was signed into law, further extending active suspensions until June 30, 2022. Agencies were again provided with the authority to terminate their own waivers and suspensions sooner than June 30.
- [5/4/22 Update] re: Expired waivers - Expired Waivers and Suspensions: Retired/Inactive Professionals: Reactivations for retired healthcare practitioners & licensees who went inactive or allowed their license to expire or lapse related to the following boards: State Board of Medicine, State Board of Osteopathic Medicine, ... (expired: August 17, 2021)
- Status – Inactive, waiver to reactive healthcare licenses expired August 17, 2021, per PA DOS Guidance. However, retired physicians and nurses can still administer COVID-19 vaccinations until June 6, 2022.

| Puerto Rico | [No information found] | Territory 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
- The relevant provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, Titles 63 and 68, and related rules are hereby suspended to the extent necessary to give the Commissioner of Health the authority to grant a license, certificate, or registration to a healthcare professional, who has been out of practice for a period of time without requiring that individual to demonstrate continued competency or submit to an interview before a licensing board or other licensing authority, provided that the individual satisfies all other requirements for licensure, certification, or registration.
- Status – Inactive, waivers allowing inactive or retired healthcare professionals, most recently included in EO 90, expired November 19, 2021, and haven’t been renewed.

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 four years are encouraged to apply for licensure to help during the pendency of this disaster. The retired status exempts physicians from the registration process, registration fee, and CME. The following restrictions apply to physicians whose licenses are on retired status: (1) the physician cannot engage in clinical activities or practice medicine in any state, (2) the physician cannot prescribe or administer drugs to anyone, nor may the physician possess a Drug Enforcement Agency controlled substances registration; and (3) to be eligible for retired status, a physician’s license cannot be under investigation, under a Board order, or be otherwise restricted.
- Status – Active, until end of Texas State of Emergency, which is currently scheduled to expire June 21, 2022, per 5/22 Proclamation.

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.
- Status – Inactive, Utah’s State of Emergency expired June 1, 2021, according to the National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP); the state’s licensing waiver persisted much longer, as of April 21, 2022, Utah’s Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing (DOPL) is no longer listing emergency, out-of-state licenses.

Vermont
- MDs, physician assistants, and podiatrists who meet all the criteria below can be deemed to be licensed to practice in Vermont for practice in the following circumstances: (1) Providing remote services by telemedicine (note that this refers to “telemedicine” in a generic sense, following the guidance in the emergency law and advisories issued by Vermont agencies and federal authorities). (2) As part of the staff of a licensed facility in Vermont.
- Deemed License for Vermont Retirees – those who retired from practice within the last 3 years and let their license lapse are also eligible to practice under the “deemed” framework... limited to telemedicine or to practice with the staff of a licensed facility in Vermont. Your license must have been in good standing when you retired and not have subsequently been subject to discipline. You need only to submit the notice telling us who you are and providing contact information and where you will be practicing.
- Those who do not qualify to be deemed licensed may apply for an emergency license. There is no fee for an emergency license and the process to apply involves much less than our normal licensing process. Emergency licenses will be valid for 90 days or the duration of the declared emergency, whichever is shorter, but may be reissued. The groups who would need to get an emergency license (because they cannot be deemed licensed) are: (2) Retirees who retired more than 3 years ago but less than 10 years ago. All retirees who fall into this group must obtain an emergency license in order to practice. The legislature passed emergency legislation [H. 960] that was signed by Governor Scott on March 30, 2020 that allows retired Vermonter and those with expired licenses to return to the workforce to help in a state of emergency... [until] March 31, 2021. **Status** – Although the Vermont State of Emergency expired on June 15, 2021 (Press Release), on March 29, 2021, Gov. Phil Scott signed S. 117, which extends pandemic-related waivers until March 31, 2022; including reimbursement parity for audio-only telephone, early prescription refill, authorization to prescribe buprenorphine, and allowing healthcare professionals licensed in other jurisdictions, as well as professionals with inactive licenses, to practice in VT as a volunteer member of the Medical Reserve Corps or as part of the staff of a licensed facility or federally qualified health center.

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<th>U.S. Virgin Islands</th>
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<td><strong>Virginia</strong></td>
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- 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.  
- A. A practitioner whose license has been lapsed for two successive years or more and who requests reinstatement of licensure shall: 1. File a completed application for reinstatement; 2. Pay the reinstatement fee...; and 3. Provide documentation of having completed continued competency hours equal to the requirement for the number of years, not to exceed four years, in which the license has been lapsed. B. An inactive licensee may reactivate his license upon submission of the required application, payment of the difference between the current renewal fee for inactive licensure and the current renewal fee for active licensure, and documentation of having completed continued competency hours equal to the requirement for the number of years, not to exceed four years, in which the license has been inactive. C. If a practitioner has not engaged in active practice in his profession for more than four years and wishes to reactivate his license, the board may require the practitioner to pass one of the following examinations...
- **Status** – Inactive, while Virginia is still in a public health emergency (EO 16), there was no mention of retired/inactive physician waivers in the most recent EO.  
  
| **Washington** |  
- The language of each statutory and regulatory provision specified below is hereby waived and suspended in its entirety: Licensed health profession rules restricting the practice of retired active licensees.  
- WAC 246-919-480 Retired active license. (1) To obtain a retired active license a physician must comply with chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 5, excluding WAC 246-12-120 (2)(c) and (d). (2) A physician with a retired active license may not receive compensation for health care services; (3) A physician with a retired active license may practice only in emergent or intermittent circumstances; and (4) Physicians with a retired active license must renew every two years and must report one hundred hours of continuing medical education at every renewal. Subsections (2) and (4) of this rule are waived beginning on February 29, 2020 of the Governor’s emergency Proclamation 20-05. The waivers will remain in effect until withdrawn by the commission or until the Governor issues a proclamation declaring the termination of the state of emergency declared by Proclamation 20-05, as amended by any subsequent amendatory proclamations, whichever is earlier.  
- **Status** – Active throughout the currently ongoing COVID-19 emergency, per Proclamation 20-05.  
  
| **Washington, DC** |  
- Specifically, DC Health is requesting assistance from (1) providers who are actively licensed, or (2) providers who have retired or placed their license in inactive status within the past five (5) years. This request is not limited to just physicians, nurses, respiratory therapists, and physician assistants, but includes any practitioners who feel they can provide assistance...
West Virginia

- **Status – Inactive**, DC’s Public Health Emergency, which governs physician licensure waivers, was **terminated on July 25, 2021** per Mayor’s Order 2021-096. The 60-day grace period for the waivers expired on September 23, 2021, per DC DOH website.

- 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.

- Inactive and retired physicians and physician assistants are eligible to register if they: (1) were in good standing at the time their West Virginia license became inactive or expired; (2) have participated in active clinical practice within the last five years; (3) no longer hold an active status medical or physician assistant license in any state; (4) are not the subject of a pending or active complaint, investigation, Consent Order, Board Order or pending disciplinary proceeding in any jurisdiction; and (5) have not surrendered a license while under investigation or had a license revoked in any jurisdiction.

- To maximize the number of healthcare providers available during the State of Emergency declared by Governor Jim Justice regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board has developed procedures for emergency temporary permits for the following practitioners: (2) Retired or Inactive Practitioners: DOs and PAs who, at one time, possessed a license issued by the West Virginia Board of Osteopathic Medicine which was not revoked by the Board, but who are now retired or in inactive status.

- The following statutory regulations are to be suspended for the duration of the State of Emergency: Requirement that a person on inactive license status wanting to return to active status must pay a renewal fee.

- **Status – Active, until the end of the COVID-19 emergency.**

Wisconsin

- VI. Recently Expired Credentials or Licenses. (A) DSPS is directed to assess its records to identify healthcare providers with recently lapsed license who would be eligible for renewal... (B) The following administrative rules are suspended: ... Renewal of a lapsed license within five years of expiration... “fulfillment of the continuing education requirements” is suspended. Nothing about this suspension should be construed to apply to a licensee who has unmet disciplinary requirements or whose credential has been surrendered or revoked.

- On April 15, Gov. Evers signed AB 1038, which, among other things, authorized former health care providers to obtain a temporary credential granted by DSPS and provide health care services for which they have been previously licensed or certified. Under the bill, DSPS may grant a temporary credential to a person who applies and was at any time during the previous five years, but is not currently, any of the following, if the person’s credential was never revoked, limited, suspended, or denied renewal.

- Re:-recission of waivers – [Em. O 16; 3/27/20] This Order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect for the duration of the public health emergency as declared in Executive Order #72 [3/12/20], including any extensions. On May 11, 2020, EO 72 expired and was replaced by EO 82, which did not adopt EOs 16 & 20 and thus an out-of-state practitioner is not able to work in Wisconsin through Interstate Reciprocity.

- [Wisconsin DSPS Memo] - The legislature did not extend the public health emergency and it ended May 11, 2020. Therefore, your temporary license will expire on June 10, 2020. This temporary license cannot be renewed.

- [October 1, 2020 Update] – Reinstatement of Recently Lapsed Credentials – Any healthcare provider with a license that has recently lapsed (within 5 years of expiration) who applies to DSPS for reinstatement shall not be required to pay any late renewal fees, and shall not be required to fulfill lapsed continuing education requirements.

- [April 5, 2021 Update] – EO 105 expired on April 5, 2021, meaning that Em. Order #2 is no longer in force and Wisconsin is no longer in a state of emergency.

- **Status – Inactive, waivers rescinded with the expiration of EO 105 on April 5, 2021.**

Wyoming

- **New rule from an October 23 BOM meeting**: Provide an expedited process for physicians and physician assistants to temporarily reactivate lapsed or inactive licenses during a declared public health emergency. This includes a “tail period” for the reactivation to last 45 days after termination of the public health emergency to ensure continuity of care.

- **Status – Inactive**, the 45 day grace period (per 10/23 BOM rule) expired on April 28, 2022, after Gov. Mark Gordon announced the public health emergency declaration will be rescinded on March 14, 2022. (Article).

Questions, comments, or corrections? Please contact Andrew Smith (asmith@fsmb.org)