

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

April 21, 2020

States with Waivers: 33

States without Waivers: 17 + DC

State	Note	Citation
Alabama	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	ALBME Declaration/Application Article re: Reinstatement
Alabalila	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	Expedited Reinstatement Application State Resource Page
	COVID-19.	COVID-19 Health
Alaska	[No information found]	<u>Mandates</u> State Resource Page
Arizona*	Exploring temporary waivers to allow retired physicians to be quickly licensed according to	Article re: Relicensing
Arkansas	Department of Health Services Director Dr. Cara Christ [No information found]	State Resource Page State Resource Page
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, 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.	CMA News Release Executive Order N-39- 20 Press Release Cal. Health Corps License Reinstatement Application 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	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.	Updated Executive Order 3/16 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 Board of Med Prot. 1 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. * 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.	Article re: Gov. Pritzker quote Article re: Inactive license Physician Reinstatement Application Article re: Telehealth State Resource Page
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.	Executive Order 20-13 Temporary Healthcare Professional Registry State Resource Page
lowa	I temporarily suspend the regulatory provisions of lowa 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.	Public Health Disaster Emergency State Resource Page
Kansas	The Board is accepting applicants seeking temporary licensure for the purpose of preparing for, responding to, and mitigating any effect of COVID-19. The Emergency Temporary License for the COVID-19 response is available for all health care professions regulated by the Board. Those who hold an emergency temporary license are limited to engaging in the practice of their profession for healthcare services relating to COVID-19 response efforts and/or mitigating any effect of COVID-19. The license will cancel in 90 days, if not renewed, and will automatically cancel 30 days after the declared Kansas state of emergency ends. All license fees will be waived for this license. Requirements are any of: (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	Updated KSBHA Guidance (3/20) Emergency Temporary License Application State Resource Page
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.	Article re: License reactivation KY SB 150 State Resource Page
Louisiana	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	Louisiana COVID-19 Healthcare Volunteer <u>Form</u>

	backgrounds in the fields of medicine, nursing, allied health professions, dentistry, counseling, mental/behavioral health, laboratory science, among others.	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. [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).	Executive Order 3/24 [MDs only]: Emergency Application License [DOs/PAs]: Information and Emergency License Application State Resource Page
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.	Gov. Press Release State Resource Page
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.	Board of Med Press Release Emergency Reactivation Application State Resource Page
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 * 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.	LARA Clarification Article re: Retirees Michigan Medical Volunteer Form Executive Order 2020- 13 State Resource Page
Minnesota*	In Minnesota, utilizing help from willing retirees is one of several strategies the state is considering to supplement 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 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."	Article re: Retirees State Resource Page
Mississippi	[No information found]	State Resource Page
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. Cites 20 CSR § 2150-2.153	Healing Arts COVID-19 Waivers 20 CSR § 2150-2.153 State Resource Page
Montana	[No information found]	State Resource Page
Nebraska	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.	Executive Order 20-10 Article re: Waivers State Resource Page
Nevada	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, nurse practitioners, advanced practice registered	Emergency Directive 011

	nurses, registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, emergency medical technicians, advanced emergency medical technicians, respiratory care practitioners, paramedics, pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, medical students, nursing students, medical laboratory directors or technicians, and licensed or certified behavioral health professionals The waiver and exemption of professional licensing requirements shall apply to qualified providers of medical services during this declared emergency who currently hold a valid license in good standing in another state, providers of medical services whose licenses currently stand suspended for licensing fee delinquencies, providers of medical services whose licenses currently stand suspended for failure to meet continuing medical education requirements, and providers of medical services 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.	SERV-NV Emergency License Application State Resource Page
New Hampshire	[No information found]	State Resource Page
·	On April 1, Gov. Murphy today signed Executive Order No. 112, authorizing the Division of	
New Jersey	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.	Press Release Executive Order 112 State Resource Page
New Mexico	[No information found]	State Resource Page
New York	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 "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. 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,	Article NY DOH Director Letter 3/24 Retired Health Professional Application
	whether recently or long ago, because experience and skills are what matter right now"	State Resource Page
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 while under investigation; and (4) The applicant must	NCMB Guidance Inactive Emergency License Application State Resource Page
N. d. D. L.	confine his or her practice to areas in which he or she is clinically competent.	CL L D
North Dakota Ohio*	[No information found] 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.	Board of Med 3/18 Meeting Minutes State Resource Page
Oklahoma	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 recommended any required fees be waived to the fullest extent possible Further, any retired physician who	Executive Order 2020- 13 State Resource Page

	returns to practice to provide assistance with he state's response to COVID-19 shall register with the Medical Reserve Corps.	
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	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.	Executive Order 20 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
	* 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.	Med Board Guidance
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 described above. That is 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.	Deemed License Application Emergency License Portal 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	<u>Dept. of Health</u> <u>Professions Guidance</u>

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	reinstatement or reactivation of licensure for doctors of medicine, osteopathic medicine,	Application for
	physician assistants, and respiratory therapists who held an unencumbered, active license	<u>Reinstatement</u>
	within the past four years.	State Resource Page
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 * (Draft Language) 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.	Amended Proclamation 20-05 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 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.	Executive Order 07-20 Board of Med Guidance [MDs]: Registration for Emergency Practice Osteopathic Board Guidance [DOs]: Temporary Permit Application State Resource Page
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.	Executive Order #16 State Resource Page
Wyoming*	* On April 3, the Wyoming Board of Medicine will discuss the expedited reactivation of physician licenses in a public health emergency is discussing making changes to existing policy, have a bill pending in legislature	State Resource Page

^{* =} Indicates state is discussing making changes to existing policy, have a bill pending in legislature, or have vague existing guidance.