

Welcome to the IMLCC Newsletter

By Ian Marquand, Communications Committee Chair (Montana)

Here at the IMLCC, the word “communications” covers a lot of things. Here are just a few items from the Communications Committee’s portfolio:

- Orientation materials for newly appointed compact commissioners.
- Orientation tools for states joining the compact.
- Compact Commission annual reports.
- Development of commission information policy.
- The IMLCC website.
- The IMLCC newsletter.
- Monitoring news media reports about the compact.

Our most recent accomplishment is this first edition of the IMLCC newsletter. Sign up to receive it via e-mail—and look for future editions on the IMLCC website. Speaking of which, the committee currently is involved in reviewing the website and suggesting upgrades in design and content.

We also respond when the commission sees a need for additional information tools or materials to assist compact participants or member states and boards. Elsewhere in this first newsletter, you’ll see an advisory about why physicians who participate in the compact must maintain a State of Principal License.

30!--Kentucky, N. Dakota, Oklahoma

Three more states have approved entrance into the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact.

Kentucky became the 28th jurisdiction to join the Compact when Gov. Matt Bevin signed Senate Bill 22 into law.

North Dakota became the 29th member of the Compact on April 8, when Gov. Doug Burgum signed Senate Bill 2173 into law.

Oklahoma followed on April 18 and became the 30th member.

Elsewhere, the Compact Commission is keeping an eye on Georgia, where the bill to enter the Compact has been sent to the Governor for signature.

Legislation also is in process in South Carolina and Florida. See the full national “status” map at imlcc.org.

Interested in having your state become part of the Compact?

Contact Marschall Smith at: imlccexecutivedirector@imlcc.org

Attention Physicians:

Maintain Your State of Principal License!

Losing your SPL can mean losing all licenses acquired via Compact

By Ian Marquand,

Communications Committee Chair (Montana)

Among the terms and abbreviations used in the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact, none are more important than “State of Principal License” or “SPL.” Put simply, it’s the state where you live or practice medicine that issued your Letter of Qualification (LOQ) to participate in the Compact. The LOQ is what allows you to acquire additional medical licenses faster and more easily through the Compact’s expedited licensure process.

Call it your foundation, your home or your anchor—you must have a State of Principal License in order to keep the other licenses you’ve acquired through the Compact. And to keep your SPL, you must maintain an “active” license in that state.

Failure to maintain a license in your designated state of principal license will result in termination of all licenses issued by member states, as required by the IMLC law.

The importance of keeping your State of Principal License in place—and keeping an active license in that state—can’t be overstated. Don’t put your licenses at risk. If you have any questions about maintaining your SPL, contact the Compact office at: imlccexecutivedirector@imlcc.org

IMLCC Officers for 2019

CHAIR: Ken Simons (WI)

VICE-CHAIR: Vacant

TREAS.: Edward Cousineau (NV) PAST CHAIR: Diana Shepard (WV)

EXEC. DIRECTOR/SECRETARY: Marschall Smith

News from IMLCC Staff and Committees

FROM THE IMLCC CHAIR

By Ken Simons, M.D. (Wisconsin)

"Efforts and courage are not enough without purpose and direction."
-John Fitzgerald Kennedy

The inspirational words of our 35th President reflect the mission and current successes of the IMLCC and it is a sincere pleasure to add my voice in to this inaugural newsletter. All of us in the IMLCC are most thankful for the efforts of the Communications Committee in making this communication a reality. That being said, their efforts are reflective of what is expected for all of us who have the privilege of serving as Commissioners.

Simply stated, despite busy schedules in all of our day jobs, each Commissioner is expected to meaningfully participate for the good of the organization. Only through our collective efforts will we achieve our desired outcome: expedited licensure for physicians that will permit them to deliver safe, quality care to the patients in participating states that meets each states' high standards.

I would be remiss if I did not thank my predecessor Chairs, Mr. Ian Marquand, Dr. Jon Thomas, Mr. Mark Bowden and Ms. Diana Shepard, each of whom provided the necessary leadership, courage and experience that charted the direction that has led us to this point. In addition, the IMLCC is most grateful for our relationship with the FSMB. The FSMB has assisted us from the very beginning, securing much needed grant funding that has allowed us to reach our current state, 41 Medical and Osteopathic Boards in 28 member states, 1 district and 1 territory in under 4 years following the original seating of the Commission in October 2015.

The IMLCC and its' Commissioners are making a difference and making lives across the country better through greater access to physicians resources thus embodying the words of Robert F. Kennedy, "The purpose of life is to contribute in some way to making things better." We look forward to continuing to make things better and to assisting in any way, whether by answering questions, testifying at legislative hearings, etc., our members as well as those states and their affiliated member boards who have not yet joined the Compact so that even more patients may derive benefit from the remarkable asset that is the IMLCC.

FROM THE BUDGET COMMITTEE

By Edward Cousineau, IMLCC Treasurer (Nevada)

The Budget Committee of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (Compact) held a telephonic meeting during the week of April 15 to finalize the recommendations regarding the Compact's 2019-2020 budget. These recommendations will be offered to the full Compact Commission at its semi-annual meeting to be held on the 30th of this month.

Main components of the proposed budget seek to increase both Compact staffing and improve IT functions related to initial licensure and renewal of licensure through the Compact.

FROM THE IMLCC OFFICE

By Marschall Smith, Exec. Director

It is an honor and a privilege to be a part of this organization. The Commission has seen an incredible amount of growth since it started in April 2017. The application volume has increased from an average of 59 applications per month in 2017 to an average of 171 application per month in 2018. Let that sink in for a second....59 to 171...

Since the Commission started over 3,300 applications have been received and processed, over 5,400 licenses have been issued and over 1,200 of those licenses have been renewed. At this point, the concept has been proven and it is a resounding success. None of this would have been possible without the incredible and dedicated member board licensing staff. People who day-in and day-out get the job done in a quiet and effective manner.

The future holds more of the same and with more states joining – we should be over 30 member jurisdictions by the end of the 2019 session – the volume numbers will be growing. Watch for enhancements and better systems, better processes. As Dr. Suess put it: "It's not about what it is, it's about what it can become."

FROM THE TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

By Kevin Bohnenblust, Committee Chair (Wyoming)

The Technology Committee of the IMLCC and our Project Manager remain busy. Development continues on the "CRM" system--the data management tool approved by the Commission in February 2018. Existing data has been scrubbed and is ready to be put into the CRM. We have requested funding to migrate the IMLC's on-line application forms from DocuSign to the CRM, to develop the disciplinary action notice system to implement Sections 8 and 10 of the IMLC, and to implement the daily data notification and download tool from the IMLC to member boards. Funds have also been requested to redesign and add functionality to the IMLC web page.

We have implemented an on-line process for physicians to change their state of principal license, and are in the processing of enhancing the on-line license renewal process. We migrated to a new payment processor, improving accountability and reporting to member boards. Steps have also been taken to ensure the integrity and security of physician data held by the IMLCC, and there are monthly support user support teleconferences for licensing staff from member boards. Our Project manager has also provided orientation sessions for licensing and I.T. staff members from licensing boards new to the IMLC.

Look for information from these IMLCC committees in future issues of this newsletter:

BYLAWS & RULES COMMITTEE

Ruth Martinez, Committee Chair (Minnesota)

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Patricia McSorley, Committee Chair (Arizona)