



Interstate Medical Licensure Compact

Information Release – August 3, 2021

IMLCC Data Study – Year 4

The Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Commission (IMLCC) has conducted its annual data study of selected completed applications. The data study looks at applications which were completed during a time frame of April 1st to March 31st of a 12-month period. The most recent study looked at application completed between April 1, 2020 and March 31, 2021. A completed application is defined as an application started by the physician and all requested licenses have been issued or the physician failed to meet the qualification requirements and the application was denied.

The IMLCC's process, which was engaged in April 2017, has been used by more than 10,000 physicians who were able to secure more than 21,000 licenses in IMLCC member states through June 30, 2021. There are 33 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Territory of Guam, who are members of the IMLCC – a map of the member states can be found at www.imlcc.org. To use the expedited licensure process, a physician must meet nine requirements and hold an active, unrestricted license in a member state where they live or are employed.

Of special note are the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, specifically two direct impacts that are believed to have influenced the outcomes of the 2021 results. Those impacts are:

- Physician access to fingerprint-based background check sites. During for several months between April and November 2020, many states did not have any facilities available for physicians to have their fingerprints taken for submission to the FBI. Obtaining a fingerprint-based background check is a statutory requirement to participate.
- Quarantine and Work-From-Home orders impacted member board staff's access to information. The State of Principal License (SPL) is required to verify the physician's application from primary source from the board's archives. Often these archives kept as physical documents not available for view remotely. Additionally, many member boards furloughed or reduced working staff numbers or hours and required staff to work from home, impacting the processing time, especially for a State of Principal License (SPL).

Data Questions	April 2018 Results	April 2019 Results	April 2020 Results	April 2021 Results
Number of completed applications included in the data study	654	2,845	2,995	3,653

Data Questions	April 2018 Results	April 2019 Results	April 2020 Results	April 2021 Results
Average Number of licenses obtain per applicant	3.0	3.0	1.6	4.0
Percentage who obtains one or two licenses	68	64	80	58
Percentage who obtains three or more licenses	32 <i>With 13% obtaining 7 or more licenses</i>	36 <i>With 13% obtaining 7 or more licenses</i>	20 <i>With 6% obtaining 7 or more licenses</i>	42 <i>With 14% obtaining 7 or more licenses</i>
Percentage of applications with a determination that the physician did not meet the eligibility requirements	11	10	16	9
Percentage of the applications which were additional license requests using the original Letter of Qualification but a separate application	11	20	26	This data field is no longer tracked by the IMLCC system.

Data Questions	April 2018 Results	April 2019 Results	April 2020 Results	April 2021 Results
Average number of days from application received to Letter of Qualification (LOQ) issued	34 <i>With 33% obtained in 15 days or less</i>	36 <i>With 32% obtained in 15 days or less</i>	37 <i>With 34% obtained in 15 days or less</i>	50 <i>With 33% obtained in 30 days or less (please note the change in our tracking mechanism)</i>
Average number of days from the date an applicant is determined to be qualified to the date the requested licenses are issued	15 <i>With 45% obtained in 7 days or less</i>	19 <i>With 51% obtained in 7 days or less</i>	20 <i>With 51% obtained in 7 days or less</i>	21 <i>With 53% obtained in 7 days or less</i>

The Year 4 data study publication was delayed and includes changes to how the information is reported. Data was gathered from two separate data sources, the original processing system that was in place until August 2020, when it was replaced with the iStarsII processing system. The change in systems has resulted in 2 fields that are altered in the April 2021 data study.

Additional information regarding applications received and licenses issued, including month by month, physician demographical information, and numbers by member board will be posted on the IMLCC's website at <https://www.imlcc.org/news/press-releases-and-publications/>

Please contact the IMLCC Executive Director at imlccexecutivedirector@imlcc.net with questions.