Executive Director Update

by Marschall Smith

The IMLC had a busy and successful start to 2021. The commission saw its 20,000th license issued, completed audits for FY2019 and FY2020, and provided the necessary licensure flexibility to states to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. And all indications are that the second half of the year will be equally exciting.

The IMLC completed the 4th Annual Data Study and published the results on our webpage. The audit reports and financial statements are also available on the webpage. We are gathering information and data to provide reports and information to the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), as part of its grant documentation requirements; and to IMLC commissioners and member boards so that they can better understand the critical function that the IMLC process plays in providing an effective method for multi-state physician licensure.

New projects coming for the second half of the year include the IMLC Licensing Summit, which took place in early August in conjunction with the Administrators In Medicine Licensing Staff Training; iStarsII phase 2 projects that include developing an API interface with member boards and an expanded physician profile; and anticipating an in-person annual commission meeting to be held in November in Denver.

We continue to grow and mature as an organization which is reflected in the continued interest of non-member states and the expanding number of applications from physicians. It is a good place to be.

New member states include Delaware, Louisiana, Ohio, and Texas.

Budget Committee Update

by Commissioner Christine A. Farrelly (Maryland)

The fiscal 2022 budget was reviewed and approved by the Executive Committee at its meeting on June 8, 2021. The spending authority of the executive director, to include execution of contracts and remittance of fees to the member states, also was discussed and approved.

The IMLCC will not levy fees or assessments to member states for FY 2022.

These agenda items were originally scheduled for discussion at the May full commission meeting; however, a quorum was not established.

Because of additional licensing activity from the new member boards, including Texas, Delaware, Louisiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and the District of Columbia, there may be a request for additional funding authorization at the November meeting.

Communications Update

by Commissioner Mark A. Spangler (West Virginia)

The Communications Committee of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact has been quite active throughout 2021. The Committee decided early in the year to do a continuous review of the Compact’s website and evaluate it for concise and relevant information to ensure its usefulness to the public.

The content management of the website has been a team effort involving IMLC staff and the members of the Communication Committee.

Secondly, the Committee and staff embarked upon creating and publishing educational videos that provide a comprehensive view of the application process. The videos address pre-qualification, initial application, initial selection of states, creating a secure portal account, additional selection of states, renewal, and redesignation of state of principal licensure. These videos are available on the Compact’s website under Educational Videos and have been placed in appropriate locations throughout the website.

Finally, The Committee is compiling the Annual Report of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact and will publish it this fall. Committee members look forward to continuing to pursue and develop effective ways to communicate the mission and work of the IMLC.
Member Profile: Idaho

The Idaho State Legislature enacted the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact during the 2016 legislative session. The law went into effect on July 1, 2016. Idaho has one medical board in the Compact—the Physicians, Surgeons and Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons Board—within the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing.

The first two commissioners were Director Anne Lawler and Board member Dr. Erich Garland. Currently, the Commissioners are Executive Officer Nicki Chopski and Board member Dr. Mark Grajcar.

The Idaho State Board of Medicine issues licenses for six other boards representing athletic trainers, dieticians, naturopathic medical doctors, physician assistants, and respiratory therapists.

Participation in the Compact has been extremely beneficial for the health care industry in Idaho. Idaho has a strong need in its rural areas for physicians and the Compact has been beneficial in providing assistance.

As the SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) pandemic has increased the use of telemedicine, Compact licensure was an extremely valuable tool for providing greater access to telemedicine and health care while ensuring the integrity of the providers through Compact licensure.

IMLCC Annual Meeting
November 2021

The next meeting of the commissioners will be held in Denver. The meetings are currently being planned to be both in-person and virtual.

The first day of the meetings on Monday, Nov. 15, will be a committee day with the opportunity for committees to meet and prepare for the commission meeting.

The second day will be the Annual Meeting of Commissioners on Tuesday, Nov. 16. Additional details about the location of the meeting will be provided later in September.

The IMLCC provides reimbursement for reasonable expenses so that commissioners can attend the meeting.

Interested in having your state become part of the Compact?
Contact Marschall Smith at imlccexecutivedirector@imlcc.org.