



IMLCC Toolkit

Executive Summary

The Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Commission (IMLCC) offers this toolkit to assist states and other interested parties in understanding the purpose and practices of the Commission. The toolkit was developed by the IMLCC Communications Committee and Federation of State Medical Boards.

While not exhaustive, the toolkit is intended to provide users with a quick reference guide regarding the IMLCC's functions, benefits, and resources.

The toolkit can be found online under the IMLCC website's Publications tab at <https://www.imlcc.org/news/press-releases-and-publications/>.

Model Legislation

To participate in the Compact, a state's legislature must introduce and enact a bill authorizing the state to join. The language of the Compact must be consistent in each state that joins.

States participating in the Compact make an affirmative and informed choice to accept the Compact's terms – made possible by the formal legislation, adopted and signed into law.

To assist states interested in joining the Compact, the IMLCC has created model legislation, which is available at the IMLCC website and can be downloaded:

- <https://www.imlcc.org/imlc-commission/compact-policies-rules-and-laws/>

How to Use the Toolkit

The toolkit provides facts and identifies resources to become familiar with the IMLCC. It is designed to engage stakeholders in the review and discussion to consider if pursuing legislation to enable a state to participate in the IMLCC.

Copies/weblinks from the toolkit can be left with legislators and other stakeholders.

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IMLC Overview

The Interstate Medical Licensure Compact is a legal agreement among participating states that allows them to work closely together to address issues of mutual concern that cross state borders. Hundreds of compacts exist in the United States, and they have helped states address everything from shared water use to transportation issues.

In the case of the IMLCC, it is an agreement that allows states to work together to ***significantly streamline the licensing process for physicians who want to practice in multiple states.*** Expedited licensure process requires that a physician:

- Hold a full, unrestricted license in a member state
- Meet all nine qualifying requirements:
 1. Graduated from an accredited medical school
 2. Successfully completed ACGME- or AOA- accredited graduate medical education
 3. Passed each component of the USMLE or COMLEX-USA in no more than 3 attempts
 4. Holds a current specialty certification by the ABMS or AOABOS, aka Board Certified
 5. Have no disciplinary actions against their medical license
 6. Have no history of controlled substance actions against their medical license
 7. Not be currently under investigation
 8. Have no criminal history
 9. Complete an FBI fingerprint-based background check

Additionally, the State of Principal License, where the physician holds their full, unrestricted license must review and confirm that the information on the IMLCC application is correct and has been primary-source verified. Once the application is approved, the verified information is sent to the states from whom the physician wishes to receive licenses. Only states who have formally joined the IMLCC can participate in this process.

The IMLCC process requires that all member boards issue a full, unrestricted license to the physician, who must then comply with that state's medical practice act – just like all full, unrestricted licenses issued by that state.



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Talking Points

- The IMLCC benefits patients, hospitals, and health systems by increasing much needed access to licensed physicians. It benefits physicians and state licensing boards by streamlining the licensing process while retaining states' rigorous practice of medicine standards.
- Since 2017, 33 states plus the District of Columbia and the Territory of Guam have passed the Compact legislation creating a national opportunity to make the multi-state licensing process for physicians more efficient while retaining state control over the practice of medicine.
- This is non-partisan legislation. States with Republican- and Democrat-controlled state houses and governors have passed this legislation, often with bipartisan support.
- The COVID-19 situation illustrates the need for states to have multiple pathways to physician licensure. The IMLCC successfully demonstrates that the expedited pathway to licensure works for both regular and emergency situations.
- The IMLCC is self-funded. The IMLCC's budgets are available at <https://www.imlcc.org/imlc-commission/budgets/>
- Governance of the IMLCC is created in the model legislation, which provides the authority for the Commission to create bylaws, rules, and policies. The IMLCC is an independent, self-governed governmental instrumentality. The IMLCC Bylaws, Rules, and Policies are available at <https://www.imlcc.org/imlc-commission/compact-policies-rules-and-laws/>
- Once a state joins the IMLCC, a state-specific training plan is developed and implemented in collaboration with the medical license issuing authority or authorities if a state has separate medical and osteopathic boards. This training takes place in a test environment or "sandbox".
- Frequently Asked Questions and more details about the IMLCC are available at <https://www.imlcc.org/imlc-commission/about-the-imlc-commission/>



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Resources and Contacts

- To go to the IMLCC website landing page: <https://www.imlcc.org/>
- To attend a meeting or review minutes from prior meetings: <https://www.imlcc.org/imlc-commission/public-notices-agendas-and-minutes/>
- To review public notices and publications, such as the IMLCC Annual Report and data studies: <https://www.imlcc.org/news/press-releases-and-publications/>
- To see a roster of IMLCC Commissioners: <https://www.imlcc.org/imlc-commission/roster-of-imlcc-commissioners/>
- For Educational and Legislative work sessions, informational sessions and more information: Contact the IMLCC Executive Director at imlccexecutivedirector@imlcc.net