

This electronic newsletter shall serve as official notice from the Maryland Board of Physicians. It is the responsibility of every licensee to read and understand the contents of this newsletter.



June 2024

FEATURED

- Legislative Update
- Coming Soon - Limited X-Ray Machine Operator (LXMO)
- Physician Assistant Advanced Duties Workgroup
- The Role and Responsibilities of Allied Health (AH) Advisory Committees

ALSO THIS MONTH



Notices for Renewing Physicians

1. Upcoming renewals

The license renewal period will begin on July 15, 2024, and continue through September 30, 2024, for physicians whose last names start with the letter A-L.

2. Implicit Bias Training

Licensees applying to renew their license after receiving their initial license or reinstating it for the first time after April 1, 2022, must attest to completing an implicit bias training program course. ([Health Occupations Article §1-225](#)). This is a **one-time** requirement. The training program must be accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) or recognized by a health occupation board. The Maryland Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities has provided a list of implicit bias training resources on its [website](#). Licensees are not required to submit proof of course

Legislative Update



The Maryland General Assembly's 2024 legislative session concluded on April 8, 2024. Unless otherwise noted, all legislative updates are effective October 1, 2024.

- **Physician Assistant Modernization Act of 2024**
 - This legislation introduces new practice standards and several major changes, including (1) the delegation agreement will be replaced with a new collaboration agreement, (2) core duty collaboration agreements will no longer require Board approval, (3) collaboration agreements can now include multiple supervising physicians, and (4) several updates to advanced duty requirements.
- **New Unlicensed Health Care Professions**
 - **Effective immediately** - *Supervised Medical Graduates (SMGs)* are authorized to work under the supervision of a licensed physician to perform certain delegated duties. Supervising physicians must be in the same medical office as the SMG and immediately available to provide assistance and guidance to the SMG for the duration of the delegated duty.
 - **Effective January 1, 2025** - Individuals who meet the criteria and register with the Board as a *Limited X-Ray Machine Operator*

completion to the Board. However, the Board recommends that licensees keep their certificate of completion, proof of registration, or a screenshot of completion for courses that will be used to fulfill continuing education credits required for renewal.

3. Physicians licensed through the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (Compact)

For Maryland license holders, there is a two-step process for renewing your Maryland-issued Compact medical license:

- I. First, you must submit a renewal application with the [Compact](#) and pay the renewal fee of \$486.00. Please be aware that the Compact may charge an additional processing fee.
- II. Second, you must complete the Board's application for physician license renewal on the [Renew My Physician License](#) page of the Board's website.

Your Maryland license will expire on October 1st if both steps 1 and 2 are not completed by 11:59 pm (EST) on September 30, 2024.

Please check the licensure pathway listed on your [practitioner profile](#) to clarify whether this applies to you. Your profile will show "Compact" as the licensure pathway.



[Initial Applications Now Online: Physician Assistants \(PAs\), Nuclear Medicine Technologists \(NMTs\), and Radiation Therapists \(RTs\)](#)

The Board no longer accepts paper initial licensure applications for PAs, NMTs, or RTs. The initial online PA, NMT, and RT applications are available [here](#). The Board is in the process of transitioning all allied health practitioner's paper applications to online applications.

(LXMO) will be authorized to perform certain X-ray examinations while under the supervision of a licensed physician or radiologic technologist.

• Medical Records Requirement Changes

- Medical records, laboratory, and X-ray reports must be maintained for seven years after making the record or report.
- A notice of destruction must be sent to the patient or the parent/guardian of the minor patient by first-class mail to the last known address and by email to the last known email address.
- The notification must be made 60 days prior to destruction.
- Physicians are prohibited from charging patients a fee for providing an attorney representing the patient with medical records that will be used to file a claim regarding Social Security disability or benefits.

• Legally Protected Health Care - Gender-Affirming Treatment

- This legislation alters the definition of "legally protected health care" to include certain gender-affirming treatments. A health occupations board may not revoke, suspend, discipline, take adverse action against, or refuse to issue or renew a license, certification, or other authorization to practice or take reciprocal disciplinary action with another State's health occupation board if the health care practitioner provided and/or supported legally protected health care in accordance with the standard of care and in accordance with Maryland's laws.

• Right to Try Act - Individualized Investigational Treatments

- This legislation authorizes patients with life-threatening or severely debilitating illnesses who meet the criteria to be eligible to access individualized investigational treatments.



"Applications" as Complaints of Unlicensed Practice

The Board investigates each complaint it receives if it falls within its jurisdiction. A complaint can come from whatever source warrants investigation, including statements on applications for licensure, renewal, and reinstatement. If an application for licensure indicates that the applicant may have engaged in unlicensed practice before licensure, the Board has the authority to investigate.

Notice: Mammograms Do Not Require a Physician Referral

Accessible mammograms are important for breast cancer screening efforts. The procedure does not require a prior physician referral to be performed.

BOARD EMAIL ADDRESSES

General Inquiries | Policy Questions
| Licensure Inquiries:
mbpmail@rcn.com

Matters regarding Maryland
licensure through the Interstate
Medical Licensure Compact:
mbp_compact@maryland.gov

Physician Drug Dispensing Permits:
mdh.mbpdrugdispense@maryland.gov

Physician Assistant Drug Dispensing:
mdh.mbpPAdispense@maryland.gov

BOARD LINKS OF INTEREST

Coming Soon Limited X-Ray Machine Operator (LXMO)

The Board will be implementing a registration for Limited X-Ray Machine Operators (LXMOs). Individuals who meet the qualifications and register with the Board will be authorized to perform certain X-ray examinations of the chest, spine, lower extremities, and upper extremities under the supervision of a Maryland-licensed physician or radiologic technologist. A supervising physician or radiologic technologist must be on-site or able to provide immediately available supervision. Check the Board's website periodically for updates.

Physician Assistant Advanced Duties Workgroup

As a result of the Physician Assistant Modernization Act of 2024, which will go into effect on October 1, 2024, the Board is tentatively planning to hold a workgroup meeting in November to review and update the [list of advanced duties for physician assistants \(Appendix B\)](#). The workgroup will include Board staff, Maryland Academy of Physician Assistants representatives, the Physician Assistant Education Association, and the State's physician assistant education programs.

The Board is requesting public comments on the list of advanced duties in preparation for the workgroup meeting. Please send any comments related to specific advanced duties or requests for a review of specific advanced duties that you would like considered to Michael.Tran@Maryland.Gov by July 1, 2024. The comments and information the Board receives will be considered during the workgroup meeting.

The Role and Responsibilities of Allied Health (AH) Advisory Committees

[Practitioner Profiles](#)
[Laws and Regulations](#)
[Recent Board Actions | Sanctions](#)
[Applications | Forms](#)
[Board Members](#)



AH Advisory Committees are created by law and consist of volunteer members appointed by the Board. One role of the AH Advisory Committees is to support the Board in its mission to protect the public, operate objectively, and not focus on private interests. An AH Committee may recommend regulations, licensure requirements, standards of care, and continuing education requirements to the Board. However, the Board is the final decision-maker.
