

*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.*



BOARD OF PHYSICIANS
Maryland Department of Health

NEWSLETTER

Spring
2025

Legislative Update

The Maryland General Assembly's 2025 legislative session concluded on April 7, 2025. Legislation that successfully passed includes:

- **Senate Bill 423 / House Bill 776 — Maryland Medical Practice Act and Maryland Physician Assistants Act — Revisions**, effective October 1, 2025. This bill standardizes language, codifies Board practices, removes duplicative, unclear, or outdated language, corrects errors, and authorizes certain substantial changes within the Maryland Medical Practice Act and the Maryland Physician Assistants Act.
- **Senate Bill 72 / House Bill 367 — Health Occupations Boards — English Proficiency Requirements and Licensure by Endorsement for Nursing**, effective October 1, 2025. This bill prohibits a health occupations board from requiring additional evidence of English proficiency for licensure, certification, or registration if the applicant holds a license, certificate, or registration in another state requiring English proficiency.
- **House Bill 783 — Health Occupations — Implicit Bias and Structural Racism Training**, effective October 1, 2025. This bill requires applicants for license renewal to attest to the completion of structural racism training approved by the Cultural and Linguistic Health Care Professional Competency Program.
- **House Bill 1510 — Medical Records — Notice of Destruction — Method**, effective October 1, 2025, requires that notice of destruction of medical records be provided by first-class mail or email rather than by both means.
- **Senate Bill 67 — Health Occupations Boards — Notation of Veteran Status and Eligibility for Benefits**, effective October 1, 2025. This bill authorizes a health occupations board to notate a veteran's status on a license, registration, certificate, or public profile.

Continuing Medical Education Requirements and Regulatory Changes

Physicians should be aware of continuing medical education (CME) regulatory changes that went into effect on October 1, 2024:

1. Category II credit hours that meet all requirements are now accepted.
2. Certain active, time-limited Board certifications will be accepted as documentation of meeting CME requirements.
3. Other alternative options to earn CME credits have been removed.

FEATURED

- Legislative Update
- Continuing Medical Education Requirements and Regulatory Changes
- Important Reminders
- Clarifications for Physician

For more information, review the regulation ([COMAR 10.32.01.10](#)).

Important Reminders

Death Certificates

Maryland law mandates that physicians and physician assistants complete a medical certification within 24 hours after receiving a death certificate. [Section 4-212\(b\)\(4\) of the Health-General Article, Annotated Code of Maryland](#), states: "The medical certification shall be completed within 24 hours after receipt of the death certificate by the physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner in charge of the patient's care for the illness or condition which resulted in death, except when inquiry is required by the medical examiner." Physicians and physician assistants with questions about completing the death certificate may wish to utilize the following resources:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): [Physicians Handbook on Medical Certification of Death](#) and [Instructions for Completing the Cause-of-Death Section of the Death Certification](#).
- Office of the Chief Medical Examiner: 410-333-3271 (available 24 hours)
- Vital Statistics Administration (Maryland Electronic Death Registration System): Email adrs.help@maryland.gov

Keep Your Address Updated

All licensees are reminded to maintain a current address. Having the correct address on file is essential for licensees to receive important notifications from the Board. To update your address, log into your [Practitioner Profile](#).

Medical Practice Closure and Medical Records

A licensee who closes their practice is required to notify the Board in writing of the custodian and maintenance of the remaining medical records in accordance with State law ([Health General, §4-403](#)). Medical records must be maintained by another healthcare provider, the administrator of your estate, or a designee who has agreed to maintain the records. More information can be found on the Board's website ([Medical Records Retention & Fees FAQs](#)).

Implicit Bias Training

It is important that all licensees are familiar with the continuing education requirements. This includes a one-time 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 that meets requirements ([Health Occupations Article §1-225](#)). Please visit the [Maryland Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities website](#) for more information.

Medical Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment (MOLST) Form

The MOLST form is a portable medical order form signed by a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant that contains orders about life-sustaining treatments. Practitioners are reminded that a MOLST form must be completed for (1) all individuals admitted to nursing homes, assisted living programs, hospices, home health agencies, and dialysis centers, (2) for certain hospital inpatients being discharged to another hospital, and (3) if requested by any individual who has the capacity to make decisions. For more information and resources, visit the [Maryland MOLST website](#).

Assistants: Collaboration Agreements

- Mental Health Resources for Practitioners

ALSO THIS MONTH

Upcoming Renewals

Physician assistant licenses will expire on June 30, 2025.

Athletic trainer licenses will expire on September 30, 2025.

Licenses for Physicians with a last name starting with M-Z will expire on September 30, 2025.

New Online Applications

The Board no longer accepts paper initial licensure applications for radiographers and respiratory care practitioners or reinstatement applications for allied health practitioners. The initial online applications and online reinstatement applications are available [here](#). The Board is transitioning the remaining allied health practitioners' paper initial licensure applications to online applications.

Scam Alert

According to recent alerts provided to the Board, scammers are posing as medical board investigators, contacting licensees via telephone, in writing, and e-mail. Scammers will claim the licensee's license is at risk unless they send money, and/or that individuals will receive an application notification stating that their application has been received

Clarifications for Physician Assistants: Collaboration Agreements

Physician assistants (PAs) should be aware that:

- PAs desiring to execute a collaboration agreement (CA) must:
 - First, execute the CA with the patient care team physician(s);
 - Then, notify the Board of the executed CA via their [Practitioner Profile](#) on the Board's website.
- PAs with delegation agreements (DAs) on file are not required to execute and notify the Board of a newly executed CA unless they change the DA on file.
- If a PA with a DA on file needs to make a change to the agreement, the PA must, in this order:
 - First, execute a CA with the patient care team physician(s), *including the new information that they could not update the DA with.*
 - Second, notify the Board of the executed CA via their [Practitioner Profile](#) on the Board's website.
 - Third, terminate the DA that they could not update.
- PAs cannot have a CA and a DA with the same employer/patient care team physicians.
- Effective January 1, 2025, PAs must submit a \$100 fee with the Collaboration Agreement Addendum for Advanced Duties. The Board will not process addendums without the fee, which is non-refundable.
- If a PA is working at an exempt facility, they are not required to receive approval from the Board to perform advanced duties ([Health Occupations, §15-302.1](#)). The Board will not process Collaboration Agreement Addendums for Advanced Duties from PAs approved to perform the requested advanced duties in an exempt facility, such as a hospital.

Mental Health Resources for Practitioners

The Board recognizes that licensees encounter health conditions, including those involving career fatigue, burnout, mental health, and substance use disorder, just as their patients and other healthcare providers do. If a licensee is experiencing mental health challenges, they should be aware that there are resources available to them, including:

1. Voluntarily self-referring to the [Maryland Physician Health Program \(MPHP\)](#), a program that assists individuals licensed by the Board, or the [Maryland Healthcare Professionals Program \(MHPP\)](#), a program that assists other licensed healthcare professionals dealing with potentially impairing conditions in a private, non-disciplinary setting while protecting both the confidentiality of the participant and the safety of the public.
2. 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline will offer immediate support via phone call or text message for any individual experiencing mental health or substance use challenges. More information is available in the [Maryland 988 Toolkit](#), [SAMHSA 988 Toolkit](#), or by viewing the Maryland [988 Promotional Videos and Ad Reel](#).

and prompt them to click a link. If you receive any communication by phone, letter, or e-mail that demands immediate payment, MBP advises you NOT to provide personal or financial information to the individual or individuals requesting it. In addition, the MBP advises licensees to be cautious of links in e-mails. The Federal Trade Commission has [provided tips on how to avoid a scam](#).

CME Opportunity!

Are you interested in learning more about mental health and wellness while earning free continuing medical education (CME) credits? If so, consider attending the Zoom webinar presented by MedChi, *Maryland Physician Health Program, Lemons to Lemonade Series, Topic: Pain*. Attendees will hear from Dr. Greg Hobelmann, which will occur virtually on June 12, 2025, at 6 pm. More information is available on [MedChi's website](#).

Colorectal Cancer (CRC) Screening Test

The Maryland Cancer Collaborative (MCC) has created the [2025 CRC Screening Letter](#). Recognizing that colonoscopy wait times are currently extended in some regions of Maryland, the MCC encourages the use of non-invasive CRC screening tests for average-risk patients. This strategy aims to improve timely access to colonoscopies for individuals at increased risk and those who require diagnostic procedures



Board Email Addresses

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

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

Links of Interest

[Practitioner Profiles](#)

[Laws and Regulations](#)

[Board Actions](#)

[Applications / Forms](#)

[Board Members](#)