

Eligibility Checklist Physician Licensure

This checklist is meant to assist you in determining your eligibility for licensure in Texas. It is not a guarantee that you are eligible for licensure, nor is it an exhaustive list of ALL licensure requirements.

1. Pre-Medical Education
<input type="checkbox"/> 60 hours of pre-medical education or <input type="checkbox"/> Completion of required pre-medical education of the country in which your medical school is located
2. Medical Education
<i>School of Graduation</i>
<i>US/Canadian Medical Graduate</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Graduation from a U.S. or Canadian medical school that was LCME or AOA accredited at the time of graduation.
<i>International Medical Graduate</i>
Graduation from a medical school or college located outside the United States or Canada and: <input type="checkbox"/> (1) the applicant is specialty board certified by a board approved by the ABMS or BOS or <input type="checkbox"/> (2) the medical school or college: (a) provided medical education to the graduate that is <u>substantially equivalent</u> to a Texas medical school; and (b) has not been disapproved by another state physician licensing board unless the applicant can provide evidence that the disapproval was unfounded
<i>Fifth Pathway Applicant</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Completion of a Fifth Pathway program in lieu of graduation from medical school
3. Medical Education
<i>Medical Education Performed in the United States – All Applicants (applies to clerkships and other medical education <u>prior</u> to graduation from medical school)</i>
Applicants who receive any medical or osteopathic medical education in the United States (not postgraduate medical education or training) must: <input type="checkbox"/> have obtained such education while enrolled as a full-time or visiting student at a medical school that is LCME or AOA accredited or <input type="checkbox"/> have received such medical education in a hospital or teaching institution sponsoring or participating in a program of graduate medical education accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, the American Osteopathic Association, or the board <u>in the same subject</u> (i.e., same subspecialty) as the medical or osteopathic medical education if the hospital or teaching institution has an agreement with the applicant's school or <input type="checkbox"/> be specialty board certified by a board approved by the ABMS or BOS.

4. Postgraduate Training

US/Canadian Medical Graduate

- ___ One year of continuous graduate medical training in the United States or Canada in an ACGME or AOA accredited program, or a board approved fellowship

International Medical Graduate or Fifth Pathway Applicant

- ___ Two years of continuous and progressive graduate medical training in the United States or Canada in an ACGME or AOA accredited program, or a board approved fellowship

5. Examinations

Acceptable Licensing Examination

- ___ Passage of a licensure examination acceptable to the Board.
Most common examinations are USMLE and COMLEX. Refer to Board Rule for others, including combinations.

6. Examinations

Licensing Examination Attempt Limits (Also see Exam Attempts [Examples](#))

- ___ 1. Passage of each part of the examination within three attempts.
or
2. If you:
- ___ held, or had a pending application for, a Texas Physician in Training permit on 9/1/05:
 - ___ a fourth attempt allowed on one part only
or
 - ___ a fifth or sixth attempt allowed on one part only, **if**:
 - (i) the applicant is specialty board certified by an A.B.M.S. or A.O.A. member board, **and**
 - (ii) completes, in Texas, an additional two years of postgraduate medical training beyond what is required (i.e., 3 years for US/Canadian graduates, 5 years for IMGs).
 - or
 - ___ have been licensed in good standing in another state for at least 5 years, and have no restrictions, orders, or probation on any other state medical licenses:
 - ___ a fourth attempt allowed on one part only
or
 - ___ a fifth or sixth attempt allowed on one part only, **if**:
 - (i) the applicant is specialty board certified by an A.B.M.S. or A.O.A. member board, **and**
 - (ii) completes, in Texas, an additional two years of postgraduate medical training beyond what is required (i.e., 3 years for US/Canadian graduates, 5 years for IMGs).

7. Examinations

Time Frame for Passage of All Licensing Examination Steps

Single Degree Applicants

- ___ The time between the first step that was passed and the last step does not exceed 7 years.
or
- ___ The time frame for passage of all parts of the examination does not exceed 10 years if the applicant:
 - (a) is specialty board certified by an ABMS or BOS board, or,
 - (b) has practiced under a faculty temporary license issued by the board for at least 12 months and is recommended by the institution.

Dual Degree Applicants (combined MD/Ph.D. or DO/Ph.D. programs)

- ___ All exam steps must be passed no later than two years after completion of the required postgraduate training (currently one year for US/Canadian graduates and 2 years for international medical graduates).
or
- ___ The time frame for passage of all parts of the examination may be extended to no more than 10 years after completion of the required postgraduate training (currently one year for US/Canadian graduates and 2 years for international medical graduates) if the applicant:
 - (a) is specialty board certified by an ABMS or BOS board, or,
 - (b) has practiced under a faculty temporary license issued by the board for at least 12 months and is recommended by the institution.

8. Examinations

Texas Medical Jurisprudence Examination

- ___ Passage of the examination with a score of 75 or better within three attempts.

9. Professional Character

Must not be in violation of or have committed any act described in the [Medical Practice Act, Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §§164.051-.053](#).

- a) §164.051 - Grounds for Denial or Disciplinary Action
- b) §164.052 - Prohibited Practices by Physician or License Applicant
- c) §164.053 - Unprofessional or Dishonorable Conduct

10. Demonstration of Current Competence

Active Practice of Medicine

— Must have actively practiced medicine full-time for one of the two years preceding the date of application. The term "full-time basis," for purposes of this section, shall mean at least 20 hours per week for 40 weeks duration during a given year.

OR

— Have current certification or recertification by the American Board of Medical Specialties, Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists, or the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery obtained by passing a monitored specialty certification or recertification examination or formal evaluation within the two years prior to date of applying for licensure.

Applicants who do not meet the requirements may, in the discretion of the executive director or board, be eligible for an unrestricted license or a restricted license subject to one or more of the following conditions or restrictions:

- a. limitation of the practice of the applicant to specified activities of medicine and/or exclusion of specified activities of medicine;
- b. remedial education, including but not limited to a mini-residency, fellowship or other structured program;
- c. such other remedial or restrictive conditions or requirements that, in the discretion of the board are necessary to ensure protection of the public and minimal competency of the applicant to safely practice medicine.

11. Demonstration of Current Competence

"Ten Year" Rule

— Passed a monitored examination within 10 years preceding date of application. Licensing examinations, specialty board examinations, and monitored recertification examinations accepted.

or

— Passed the [SPEX](#) examination within 10 years preceding date of application within 3 attempts.

or

— Obtain through extraordinary circumstances, unique training equal to the training required for specialty certification as determined by a committee of the board and approved by the board, including but not limited to participation for at least six months in a training program approved by the board within twelve months prior to the application for licensure.