



IDAHO STATE BOARD OF MEDICINE

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS – COVID-19

Licensing

Out of state practitioners

- During the public health state of emergency, MDs, DOs, PAs, and RTs holding a license in good standing from another state or country are permitted to treat patients in Idaho without an Idaho license. This is permitted until the Governor declares that the public health emergency is over. Out-of-state practitioners treating Idaho patients are encouraged to notify the Board of their intent to practice in Idaho.

Retired or Inactive practitioners

- Retired or inactive practitioners whose license was in good standing when they retired or went inactive, AND who retired or went inactive less than 5 years ago, may apply for a temporary license to practice in Idaho. Such licensure will be valid for 120 days, unless extended by the Board. Applications for temporary licensure can be found on the Board's website. Applications for temporary license for MDs, DOs, PAs, and RTs will receive expedited processing.

Regular licensing

- Regular licensing will proceed as normal, although processing times may vary depending on office staffing and/or potential reduced hours of operation.

Renewals

2020 spring license renewal

- The Board of Medicine is delaying all license renewals and supervisory registrations set to expire on June 30, 2020 in Idaho to October 31st, 2020.

Supervising PAs

Waiver of registration requirement

- Physicians wishing to supervise PAs during the COVID-19 response, who are not currently registered with the Board as a supervising physician may supervise PAs without registering with the Board. The Board recommends they complete the COVID-19 Modified Supervising Physician Attestation and file it on site. The attestation form is available on the Board's website.
- Physicians who are new to supervising should consult the Board's rules and the Board's website regarding the duties and responsibilities of supervising physicians.

Waiver of limit on PAs supervised

- During the COVID-19 response period, the Board has waived the requirement that physicians file a waiver request to supervise more than 4 PAs. This will be in effect for 120 days, unless that period is extended by the Board, as indicated on the website.

COVID-19 Modified DOS

- During the COVID-19 response, supervising physicians are not required to submit the normal DOS form to the Board for approval. Rather, changes or additions to a supervising physician's supervising relationships may be documented on the COVID-19 Modified DOS

form (available on the Board's website), which is simply be kept up to date and on site at the supervising physician's practice location.

PA practice

COVID-19 Modified DOS

- To facilitate responsiveness and flexibility in practice during the COVID-19 response, PA's do not need to submit the Board's regular DOS form to document changes in their practice or supervision. Rather, PAs may be listed on the COVID-19 Modified DOS form maintained by their supervising physician. This Modified DOS form is available on the Board's website.

Unsupervised practice

- In responding to the need created by a public health emergency, Board rules allow PAs to render patient services without supervision if necessary, or with what supervision is available. Please see the Board website and the Board's administrative rules for PAs for more information.

Regular DOS Form

- PAs filing applications for work that is not urgently responsive to COVID-19 should file the standard DOS form. Please note that processing times may vary based on Board staffing concerns.

Telehealth

Out-of-state practice of telemedicine

- Pursuant to the Board's Proclamation, issued March 18, 2020, out-of-state physicians and physician assistants with a license in good standing in another state will not need an Idaho license to provide telehealth to patients located in Idaho during the response to COVID-19.

Out-of-state supervision of PAs

- Out-of-state physicians wishing to supervise PA practice in Idaho may do so. They simply complete the COVID-19 Modified Supervising Physician Attestation form found on the Board website and maintain the form along with COVID-19 Modified DOS form at their place of practice.

Prescribing controlled substances

- Prescribing controlled substances via telehealth must always comply with Federal law and HHS guidance related to COVID-19.

Telehealth Access Act and Rules

- Any physician or PA who is practicing telemedicine for Idaho patients must follow the [Idaho Telehealth Access Act](#) and [rules](#) except for any provisions suspended for the COVID-19 crisis.

Complaints

Investigation times

- Although the Board will continue to process and investigate complaints against our licensees at this time, please be advised that processing times may vary due to staffing concerns and in light of public safety.

Complaints re: testing

- The Board will not investigate complaints against individual practitioners for failure to recommend a COVID-19 test, as the guidelines for all COVID-19 testing are determined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and State and local health official guidelines.

Prelitigation

Filing a Request

- Members of the public may continue to request a prelitigation screening panel in anticipation of filing a medical malpractice lawsuit. Filing the request with the Board tolls the relevant statute of limitations for medical malpractice as of the date the request is received by the Board.

Processing claims and Hearings

- Effective immediately, the Board will cease holding prelitigation screening panels at its office; such panels may be held by teleconference or at a location to be determined by the parties and the Panel Chairman. Processing times for prelitigation screening panel requests may vary due to staffing concerns. Board staff is empowered to grant an extension of jurisdiction as necessary if a prelitigation screening panel cannot be convened within 90 days.

CME's

Waiver of CME requirements

- During the COVID-19 response, the Board may waive or extend the time to complete CME credits required for licensure renewal.