



Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (IMLC)

BACKGROUND ON INTERSTATE COMPACTS

Interstate compacts are contracts between two or more states that are in agreement on an issue. States use compacts as a legal relationship to address an issue. Indiana currently participates in 37 interstate compacts.



Multi-state License

Professionals obtain a single license in their home state that enables them to practice in all Compact-participating states without additional action.

Ex: Nurse Licensure Compact



Privilege-to-Practice

Professionals obtain a single license in their home state then apply for privilege to practice to practice in other Compact-participating states.

Ex: Emergency Medical Services Compact



Expedited License Review

Professionals wishing to participate in this Compact would undergo an expedited process for license application/renewal but would be required to obtain separate licenses in all states where they will practice.

Ex: Interstate Medical Licensure Compact

HOW DOES THE INTERSTATE MEDICAL LICENSURE COMPACT (IMLC) WORK?

IMCL = Expedited License Review



The Medical Licensure Compact is an “expedited license review” compact. The IMLC is an agreement between states on medical licensure eligibility which offers expedited licensure for qualified physicians. Expedited licensure eligibility is determined by the physicians state of principal license (see note for definition). Physicians determined to be eligible for expedited licensure by their principal license state register with the IMLC Commission and pay fees (compact fee and licensure fees for each state they wish to obtain expedited licensure). Participating states agree to issue an expedited license to qualifying physicians upon receipt of verification of eligibility and fees. The physician receives a separate expedited license from each state.

Important Notes: The Compact Commission does not issue a “Compact license” nor is there a nationally recognized medical license for physicians. This compact provides an expedited licensure process for qualified physicians within compact states.

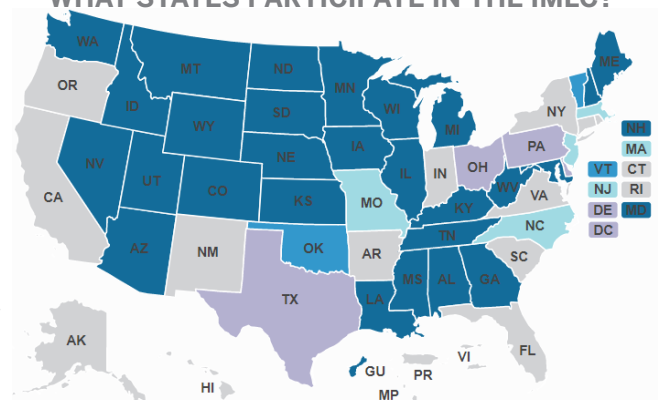
Key Definitions and Abbreviations

State of Principal License (SPL): A member state where a physician holds a license to practice medicine, and which has been designated as such by the physician for purposes of registration and participation in the Compact. The SPL is also sometimes called a “home state” or “primary state of licensure.”

Compact Member State: A state other than SPL that participates in the Medical Licensure Compact, and where physician can apply for and have Compact Privilege to practice. . The SPL is also sometimes called a “remote state.”

- = Compact Legislation Introduced
 - = IMLC Member State serving as SPL processing applications and issuing licenses*
 - = IMLC Member State non-SPL issuing licenses*
 - = IMLC Passed; Implementation in Process of Delayed
- Map as of December 28th, 2021*

WHAT STATES PARTICIPATE IN THE IMLC?

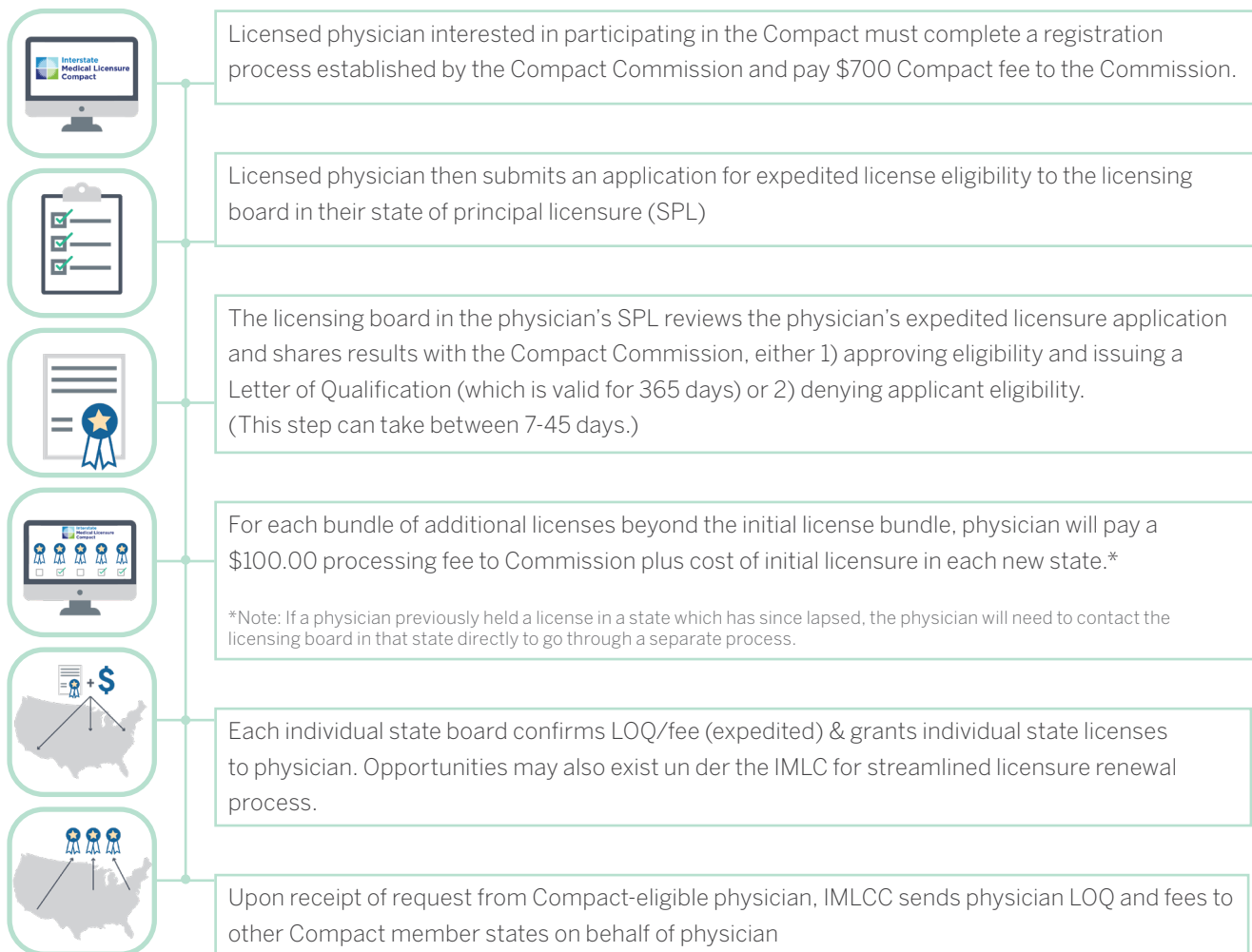


What qualifies as a State of Principal Licensure?

In order to qualify as an SPL, the following must apply:

- The physician's primary residence is in the SPL
- At least 25% of the physician's practice of medicine occurs in the SPL
- The physician is employed to practice medicine by a person, business or organization located in the SPL
- The physician uses the SPL as his or her state of residence for U.S. Federal Income Tax purposes.

Physicians must submit proof of the above requirements during the Compact application process.



POTENTIAL BENEFITS ASSOCIATED WITH PARTICIPATING IN THE IMCL COMPACT?



Reduced administrative burden on physicians: Qualified physicians may easily obtain an expedited license in other compact-member states without having to submit separate licensure applications to each state.

Not prohibitive to non-compact Physicians: Indiana physicians who do not wish to obtain an expedited license in other states would be unaffected by the Compact.

Addressing Workforce Shortages: Decreasing the regulatory burden for physicians to practice in Indiana could open the door for physicians, particularly in Indiana's contiguous states, to provide services in Indiana where there are documented physician workforce shortages.

No loss of state revenue: Any physician interested in practicing in Indiana must pay the full license fee.

POTENTIAL CHALLENGES ASSOCIATED WITH PARTICIPATING IN THE IMCL COMPACT?



Workforce data & tracking: It is unknown whether physicians receiving an expedited license through the Compact would be required to provide information about their practice characteristics under [IC 25-1-2-10](#).

Potential administrative burden on state licensing board: In addition to reviewing initial license applications, the board will be responsible for providing a Letter of Qualification for physicians who designated Indiana as their SPL. Additionally, if the Compact is enacted, it is expected that the number of expedited license requests would greatly increase creating additional administrative burden.

Increased cost burden on physicians: Although the Compact's impact on state revenue is likely nominal, physicians seeking to leverage the Compact will incur additional fees. Physicians must pay an initial Compact fee of \$700 and an additional \$100 any time they wish to create a request for additional state licenses (of one or more states).

Compact contact information for follow-up or more specific information:

Visit the IMLC website at <https://www.imlcc.org/>; or email the Medical Licensure Compact for additional information (inquiry@imlcc.net)

Sources:

This brief was prepared by the Bowen Center for Health Workforce Research & Policy to objectively inform decisionmakers on the generalities and specificities within a licensure compact, while wearing an Indiana "lens." This brief was not prepared on behalf of the IMLC. Any questions on the IMLC may be directed to the Compact at inquiry@imlcc.net. Any questions on the content of the brief may be directed to the Bowen Center team (bowenctr@iu.edu).