



Fields of Opportunities

STATE OF IOWA

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IOWA BOARD OF MEDICINE
MARK BOWDEN, M.P.A., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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Iowa board director elected chair of medical licensure commission

DES MOINES, IA – Mark Bowden, executive director of the Iowa Board of Medicine, has been elected chairman of the national commission that oversees the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact. He succeeds Jon Thomas, M.D., of Minneapolis, MN.

Bowden, who was a drafter of the enabling legislation to expedite licensure of physicians in multiple states, served as vice chair of the commission for the past year, and as chair of the Bylaws and Rules Committee since the commission was established two years ago. He has been director of the Iowa Board for the past nine years.

Other new officers of the commission are Diana Shepard of West Virginia, vice president; Blake Maresh of Washington state, treasurer; and Marschall Smith of Colorado, secretary and executive director.

The compact is an agreement between 22 states and the 29 medical and osteopathic physician licensing boards in those states. Iowa was the 10th state to join the compact in 2015. The legislation is being considered by at least four other states this year.

Under this agreement licensed physicians can qualify to practice medicine across state lines within the compact if they meet the agreed upon eligibility requirements. Approximately 80 percent of the nation's licensed physicians meet the criteria for licensure through the compact.

Since the expedited licensure process commenced in April 2017, more than 400 medical licenses have been issued through the compact.

Iowa physicians interested in using the expedited process for licensure in other compact states should contact the Iowa Board by e-mail, compactsupport@iowa.gov, or by telephone, (515) 281-5172 or (515) 281-6641. To apply for expedited licensure or to find additional information about the compact, go to www.imlcc.org