



Fields of Opportunities

STATE OF IOWA

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IOWA BOARD OF MEDICINE
MARK BOWDEN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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For Immediate Release

Board uses alternate members for administrative hearings

DES MOINES, IA – The Iowa Board of Medicine has successfully engaged two new "alternate" members to serve on Board panels for administrative hearings.

Dana Shaffer, D.O., of Exira, and Allen Zagoren, D.O., of Clive, served on panels in March and May. A third alternate member, Blaine Houmes, M.D., of Cedar Rapids, is scheduled to serve on a panel in July. All three physicians previously served on the Board. Governor Culver appointed them to a pool of alternate members in March, and they can serve in the pool for up to nine years.

A law enacted in 2008 allows the Board to have a pool of up to 10 alternate members, including licensed physicians and members of the public, to substitute for regular board members who recuse themselves or become unavailable for any other reason for contested case hearings.

The law requires that a hearing panel containing alternate members must include six people, a majority of which must be regular Board members. A decision of a hearing panel containing alternate members is considered a final decision of the Board.

The 10-member Board of Medicine oversees the licensure and compliance of physicians and surgeons, osteopathic physicians and surgeons, and acupuncturists in Iowa. The Board conducts administrative hearings when licensees are contesting charges filed against them by the Board.

(For more information about the Iowa Board of Medicine – Alternate Members, see Chapter 148.2A of the Code of Iowa.)