The Iowa Board of Medicine licenses allopathic physicians (M.D.), osteopathic physicians (D.O.), and acupuncturists (L.Ac.).

The Iowa Board of Medicine website at [www.medicalboard.iowa.gov](http://www.medicalboard.iowa.gov) is the official website of the Board. The Board is responsible for maintaining all of the information on the website, including all data information related to license information and disciplinary action on physician licensees. The data displayed in the search results is real-time data from the board’s database. The information provided on the website is the same information provided through other means of verification, i.e. telephone or mail, and is accurate and complete to the best of our knowledge.

The Board considers that this site is appropriate for verification information, but is not responsible for determining appropriateness of the information compared to standards of other organizations or programs. The Board encourages organizations to use the online Find a Physician or Find an Acupuncturist in lieu of written verification requests, which are $15 per licensee. Utilizing the above mentioned systems allows our staff to concentrate on processing and reviewing applications.

**Permanent or Administrative Medicine** - The Board requires primary-source verification of a physician’s credentials prior to issuing a permanent or administrative medicine license by exam or endorsement. Medical schools are required to complete and submit an approved verification form directly to the board office, verifying the physician’s credentials. Verification of the physician’s post-graduate training is also primary-source verified by having those entities complete and submit an approved verification form directly to our office. The Board may also accept the verifications from the Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS). The Board only accepts FCVS physician profiles that have had the above information primary-source verified. The Board also verifies licenses held in other states. Hospital privileges held within the past five years may also be verified, upon request of the reviewer.

1. **Professional schooling** (non-M.D./D.O.) is not verified by the Board.
2. **Specialty Board Certification** is not primary-source verified.
3. **Education**: Applicant’s medical school education (M.D. / D.O.) is primary-source verified for domestic and foreign graduates.
4. **Education and Training**: Applicant’s U.S. and Canadian post-graduate training is primary-source verified.
5. **Licensure Exam**: The transcript of applicant’s licensure examination scores is primary-source verified.

**Exceptions:**

Interstate Medical Licensure Compact - Physicians issued a license via the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (IMLC) did not submit a licensure application to the Iowa Board of Medicine nor were any of their credentials verified by the board. IMLC applicants held a valid Letter of Qualification from their State of Principal Licensure (SPL) indicating they were eligible for Compact licensure. The SPL has verified that the physician meets the Compact Eligibility Requirements which can be found on the Commission’s website [www.imlcc.org](http://www.imlcc.org).
Expedited Endorsement - Expedited endorsement is a process where the board can issue a license based on the acceptance of an applicant’s core credentials that have been primary-source verified by another jurisdiction’s licensing board. Applicants who met the expedited endorsement criteria did not have their medical education, post-graduate training, or ECFMG status, if applicable, primary-source verified before a permanent or administrative medicine license was issued.

Physicians who were issued a license by expedited endorsement met the eligibility requirements for licensure in addition to the following criteria:

- Held at least one permanent/full U.S. state/jurisdiction or Canadian medical license.
- Held an unrestricted license in every jurisdiction where the applicant is licensed.
- Had no formal disciplinary actions, active or pending investigations by a board, licensing authority, medical society, professional society, hospital, medical school, federal agency, or institution staff sanctions in any state, country or jurisdiction.
- Held current specialty board certification by an ABMS or AOA specialty board. Lifetime certification is excluded.
- Were in continuous active practice within the past five years. Time spent in post-graduate training is not considered continuous active practice.

Resident License applicant’s education is not verified. The Board requires a copy of the medical diploma or letter from the medical school. An ECFMG certificate is required if the medical school is not approved by the board. If a resident license applicant has previous post-graduate training in the U.S. or Canada, that training is primary-source verified.

Temporary License applicant’s education and training is not verified. The Board requires a copy of the medical diploma and translation, if necessary.

Special License applicant’s education and post-graduate training is primary-source verified. Special license applicants do not qualify for expedited endorsement.

Acupuncture License applicants are required to complete a minimum 3-year post-secondary training program or 3-year acupuncture college program. An official transcript must be provided directly to the Board. Proof of NCCAOM certification is primary-source verified.

The expiration date of a permanent or administrative Iowa medical license is always the first day of the licensee’s birth month. The year the licensee was born determines whether a licensee will renew in odd or even years. Physicians may renew their license 60 days prior to the expiration date of their license. Licensees have a two-month grace period following the expiration date of their license within which they can renew the license. If a physician fails to renew their license prior to the expiration date of their license, they will be assessed a penalty fee(s) during this grace period. The license is still considered active/valid during the grace period. Once the license is renewed it is valid for two years.

Sincerely,

Natalie Sipes
Director of Licensure