

REFERENCE TITLE: international medical licensees; provisional licensure

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-seventh Legislature
First Regular Session
2025

SB 1108

Introduced by
Senators Shamp: Angius, Carroll, Gowan, Payne, Shope; Representatives
Blackman, Bliss, Carbone, Diaz, Griffin

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 32, CHAPTER 13, ARTICLE 2, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY
ADDING SECTION 32-1440; RELATING TO MEDICAL LICENSURE.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Title 32, chapter 13, article 2, Arizona Revised
3 Statutes, is amended by adding section 32-1440, to read:

4 32-1440. International medical licensees; provisional
5 licensure; fees; renewal; rules; conversion to
6 full licensure; disciplinary actions; definitions

7 A. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LAW, THE BOARD MAY GRANT A PROVISIONAL
8 LICENSE TO ENGAGE IN THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE IN THIS STATE TO ANY
9 INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL LICENSEE WHO MEETS ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

10 1. HAS AN OFFER FOR EMPLOYMENT AS A PHYSICIAN AT ANY HEALTH CARE
11 PROVIDER THAT OPERATES IN A COUNTY WITH A POPULATION OF LESS THAN ONE
12 MILLION PERSONS.

13 2. HAS A FEDERAL IMMIGRATION STATUS THAT ALLOWS THE PERSON TO WORK
14 AS A PHYSICIAN IN THE UNITED STATES.

15 3. MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE PRESCRIBED IN EITHER:

16 (a) SECTION 32-1422, EXCEPT FOR SECTION 32-1422, SUBSECTION A,
17 PARAGRAPH 2, AND, IF APPLICABLE, SECTION 32-1423, PARAGRAPHS 1 AND 2.

18 (b) SECTION 32-1822, EXCEPT FOR SECTION 32-1822, SUBSECTION A,
19 PARAGRAPHS 3 AND 4.

20 B. THE BOARD BY RULE MAY ESTABLISH LICENSING AND RENEWAL FEES FOR
21 PROVISIONAL LICENSEES. A PROVISIONAL LICENSE SHALL BE RENEWED ANNUALLY.

22 C. EACH PROVISIONAL LICENSEE SHALL DO BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING:

23 1. WHILE LICENSED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION, WORK UNDER THE
24 SUPERVISION OF A PHYSICIAN WHO IS LICENSED PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 13 OR 17 OF
25 THIS TITLE. THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT RULES RELATING TO THIS SUPERVISION
26 REQUIREMENT, INCLUDING REQUIREMENTS FOR PROVISIONAL LICENSEES TO SUBMIT
27 THE SUPERVISION AGREEMENT TO THE BOARD, TO REPORT TO THE BOARD AND TO
28 OBTAIN MEDICAL MALPRACTICE LIABILITY INSURANCE AND REQUIREMENTS REGARDING
29 HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE AND PROCEDURES FOR FAILING TO ADHERE TO THE
30 TERMS OF THE SUPERVISION AGREEMENT.

31 2. COMPLY WITH THE CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS REQUIRED UNDER
32 THIS CHAPTER AND THE RULES ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THIS CHAPTER.

33 D. THE PROVISIONAL LICENSEE'S EMPLOYER SHALL NOTIFY THE BOARD IF
34 THE PROVISIONAL LICENSEE IS TERMINATED OR LEAVES EMPLOYMENT FOR ANY
35 REASON. WITHIN FIVE DAYS AFTER RECEIVING THE NOTIFICATION FROM THE
36 EMPLOYER, THE BOARD SHALL TERMINATE THE PROVISIONAL LICENSE UNLESS THE
37 INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL LICENSEE NOTIFIES THE BOARD THAT THE INTERNATIONAL
38 MEDICAL LICENSEE IS WORKING FOR ANOTHER EMPLOYER IN A COUNTY WITH A
39 POPULATION OF LESS THAN ONE MILLION PERSONS AND THE NEW EMPLOYER NOTIFIES
40 THE BOARD THAT THE INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL LICENSEE HAS ACCEPTED AN OFFER OF
41 EMPLOYMENT. THE NEW EMPLOYER SHALL COMPLY WITH BOARD RULES RELATED TO
42 ISSUING A NEW SUPERVISION AGREEMENT.

1 E. THE EMPLOYER OF A PROVISIONAL LICENSEE MAY REQUIRE THE
2 PROVISIONAL LICENSEE TO TAKE A COMPETENCY TEST AT ANYTIME DURING
3 EMPLOYMENT.

4 F. THE BOARD MAY DISCIPLINE A PROVISIONAL LICENSEE OR REVOKE A
5 PROVISIONAL LICENSE GRANTED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION BASED ON CLEAR AND
6 CONVINCING EVIDENCE AFTER AN INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO SECTION
7 32-1451. AN INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL LICENSEE MAY APPEAL THE REVOCATION OF
8 THE PROVISIONAL LICENSE TO THE SUPERIOR COURT IN MARICOPA COUNTY PURSUANT
9 TO TITLE 12, CHAPTER 7, ARTICLE 6. THE COURT SHALL REINSTATE THE
10 PROVISIONAL LICENSE IF THE COURT FINDS THAT THE BOARD'S ACTIONS DID NOT
11 MEET THE STANDARDS PRESCRIBED IN THIS SUBSECTION.

12 G. A PROVISIONAL LICENSE SHALL AUTOMATICALLY BE CONVERTED TO A FULL
13 LICENSE TO PRACTICE MEDICINE IN THIS STATE AFTER FOUR YEARS IF ALL OF THE
14 FOLLOWING ARE MET:

15 1. THE PROVISIONAL LICENSEE ENGAGES IN THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE IN
16 THIS STATE FOR FOUR YEARS IN A COUNTY WITH A POPULATION OF LESS THAN ONE
17 MILLION PERSONS.

18 2. THE PROVISIONAL LICENSEE IS NOT DISCIPLINED BY THE BOARD DURING
19 THAT FOUR-YEAR PERIOD OF THE PROVISIONAL LICENSE.

20 3. THE SUPERVISING PHYSICIAN WITH WHOM THE PROVISIONAL LICENSEE HAS
21 A SUPERVISION AGREEMENT SUBMITS A SIGNED ATTESTATION TO THE BOARD
22 CERTIFYING THAT IT IS THE SUPERVISING PHYSICIAN'S PROFESSIONAL OPINION
23 THAT THE PROVISIONAL LICENSEE MEETS THIS STATE'S STANDARDS FOR PROVIDING
24 MEDICAL CARE. THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT RULES RELATED TO THE FORMAT AND
25 SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS ATTESTATION DOCUMENT.

26 H. THIS SECTION DOES NOT REQUIRE THE BOARD TO GRANT A PROVISIONAL
27 LICENSE TO AN INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL LICENSEE WHO DOES NOT PROVIDE ALL OF
28 THE FOLLOWING:

29 1. EVIDENCE OF SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR MEDICAL TRAINING AS THAT
30 REQUIRED BY THIS STATE.

31 2. EVIDENCE OF SATISFACTORY PASSAGE OF EXAMS.

32 3. A COMPLETE LICENSE APPLICATION.

33 4. PAYMENT OF ALL REQUIRED LICENSING FEES.

34 5. SATISFACTORY PROOF OF A FEDERAL IMMIGRATION STATUS THAT ALLOWS
35 THE INDIVIDUAL TO WORK AS A PHYSICIAN IN THE UNITED STATES.

36 I. THE BOARD MAY REQUIRE AN APPLICANT INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL
37 LICENSEE TO SUBMIT EITHER OF THE FOLLOWING:

38 1. ANY SUPPORTING APPLICATION MATERIALS NECESSARY FOR THE BOARD TO
39 PROPERLY EVALUATE THE APPLICANT FOR LICENSURE.

40 2. AT THE APPLICANT'S EXPENSE, MEDICAL EDUCATION INFORMATION
41 THROUGH THE EDUCATIONAL COMMISSION FOR FOREIGN MEDICAL GRADUATES OR
42 ANOTHER THIRD-PARTY RECORDS SERVICE.

1 J. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION:

2 1. "BOARD" MEANS THE ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD OR THE ARIZONA BOARD OF
3 OSTEOPATHIC EXAMINERS IN MEDICINE AND SURGERY, AS APPLICABLE.

4 2. "HEALTH CARE PROVIDER":

5 (a) MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL, ENTITY, CORPORATION, PERSON OR
6 ORGANIZATION, WHETHER FOR-PROFIT OR NONPROFIT, THAT FURNISHES, BILLS FOR
7 OR IS PAID FOR HEALTH CARE PROCEDURES OR SERVICE DELIVERY IN THE NORMAL
8 COURSE OF BUSINESS.

9 (b) INCLUDES HEALTH SYSTEMS, HOSPITALS, HOSPITAL-BASED FACILITIES,
10 FREESTANDING EMERGENCY FACILITIES AND URGENT CARE CLINICS.

11 3. "INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL LICENSEE" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO MEETS
12 ALL OF THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

13 (a) HAS BEEN GRANTED A MEDICAL DOCTORATE OR A SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR
14 DEGREE BY AN INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL PROGRAM OF GOOD STANDING.

15 (b) HAS COMPLETED A RESIDENCY OR SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR POSTGRADUATE
16 MEDICAL TRAINING RECOGNIZED BY THE LICENSING BODY OF THE COUNTRY WHERE THE
17 INDIVIDUAL IS LICENSED.

18 (c) POSSESSES BASIC FLUENCY IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE AT A LEVEL
19 SUFFICIENT TO COMMUNICATE WITH PATIENTS ABOUT MEDICAL CONDITIONS AND
20 TREATMENTS.

21 (d) HAS BEEN LICENSED TO PRACTICE MEDICINE WITHIN THE PRECEDING
22 FIVE YEARS IN ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING:

23 (i) AUSTRALIA.

24 (ii) CANADA.

25 (iii) HONG KONG.

26 (iv) IRELAND.

27 (v) ISRAEL.

28 (vi) NEW ZEALAND.

29 (vii) SINGAPORE.

30 (viii) SOUTH AFRICA.

31 (ix) SWITZERLAND.

32 (x) THE UNITED KINGDOM.

33 (xi) ANY ADDITIONAL COUNTRY ADDED BY THE BOARD.

34 (e) HAS PRACTICED MEDICINE IN THE LICENSING COUNTRY FOR AT LEAST
35 FIVE YEARS AFTER COMPLETING THE POSTGRADUATE TRAINING REQUIRED IN
36 SUBDIVISION (b) OF THIS PARAGRAPH.

37 4. "INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL PROGRAM" MEANS ANY MEDICAL SCHOOL,
38 RESIDENCY PROGRAM, MEDICAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM OR ENTITY THAT PROVIDES
39 PHYSICIANS WITH A MEDICAL EDUCATION OR TRAINING THAT IS SUBSTANTIALLY
40 SIMILAR TO THAT REQUIRED TO PRACTICE AS A PHYSICIAN IN THIS STATE.

41 5. "PHYSICIAN" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS OBTAINED A MEDICAL
42 DOCTORATE OR A SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR DEGREE AND WHO HAS COMPLETED A
43 RESIDENCY PROGRAM OR SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL TRAINING.

44 6. "PROVISIONAL LICENSEE" MEANS AN INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL LICENSEE
45 WHO HAS BEEN GRANTED A PROVISIONAL LICENSE PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

1 Sec. 2. Exemption from rulemaking

2 Notwithstanding any other law, for the purposes of this act, the
3 Arizona medical board and the Arizona board of osteopathic examiners in
4 medicine and surgery are exempt from the rulemaking requirements of title
5 41, chapter 6, Arizona Revised Statutes, for one year after the effective
6 date of this act.

7 Sec. 3. Effective date

8 Section 32-1440, Arizona Revised Statutes, as added by this act, is
9 effective from and after December 31, 2025.