

House Engrossed Senate Bill
international medical licensees; provisional licensure

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

SENATE BILL 1108

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; report;
7 definitions

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

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

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

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

17 (a) SECTION 32-1422, EXCEPT FOR SECTION 32-1422, SUBSECTION A,
18 PARAGRAPH 2, AND, IF APPLICABLE, SECTION 32-1423, PARAGRAPHS 1 AND 2. THE
19 BOARD'S INABILITY TO OBTAIN RECORDS PURSUANT TO SECTION 32-1422,
20 SUBSECTION A, PARAGRAPH 4 MAY NOT BE USED AS THE SOLE PURPOSE FOR
21 LICENSURE DENIAL.

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

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

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

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

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

37 D. THE PROVISIONAL LICENSEE'S EMPLOYER SHALL NOTIFY THE BOARD IF
38 THE PROVISIONAL LICENSEE IS TERMINATED OR LEAVES EMPLOYMENT FOR ANY
39 REASON. WITHIN FIVE DAYS AFTER RECEIVING THE NOTIFICATION FROM THE
40 EMPLOYER, THE BOARD SHALL TERMINATE THE PROVISIONAL LICENSE UNLESS THE
41 INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL LICENSEE NOTIFIES THE BOARD THAT THE INTERNATIONAL
42 MEDICAL LICENSEE IS WORKING FOR ANOTHER EMPLOYER IN A COUNTY WITH A
43 POPULATION OF LESS THAN ONE MILLION PERSONS AND THE NEW EMPLOYER NOTIFIES
44 THE BOARD THAT THE INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL LICENSEE HAS ACCEPTED AN OFFER OF
45 EMPLOYMENT. THE NEW EMPLOYER SHALL COMPLY WITH BOARD RULES RELATED TO
46 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 AFTER AN
6 INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 32-1451. AN INTERNATIONAL
7 MEDICAL LICENSEE MAY APPEAL THE REVOCATION OF THE PROVISIONAL LICENSE TO
8 THE SUPERIOR COURT IN MARICOPA COUNTY PURSUANT TO TITLE 12, CHAPTER 7,
9 ARTICLE 6. THE COURT SHALL REINSTATE THE PROVISIONAL LICENSE IF THE COURT
10 FINDS THAT THE BOARD'S ACTIONS DID NOT MEET THE STANDARDS PRESCRIBED IN
11 SECTION 32-1451.04.

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 THAT THE
30 BOARD DEEMS TO BE OF EQUIVALENT QUALITY.

31 2. EVIDENCE OF SATISFACTORY PASSAGE OF EXAMS AS DETERMINED BY THE
32 BOARD.

33 3. PROOF OF CERTIFICATION BY THE EDUCATIONAL COMMISSION FOR FOREIGN
34 MEDICAL GRADUATES.

35 4. A COMPLETE LICENSE APPLICATION.

36 5. PAYMENT OF ALL REQUIRED LICENSING FEES.

37 6. SATISFACTORY PROOF OF A FEDERAL IMMIGRATION STATUS THAT ALLOWS
38 THE INDIVIDUAL TO WORK AS A PHYSICIAN IN THE UNITED STATES.

39 I. THE BOARD MAY REQUIRE AN APPLICANT INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL
40 LICENSEE TO SUBMIT EITHER OR BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING:

41 1. ANY SUPPORTING APPLICATION MATERIALS NECESSARY FOR THE BOARD TO
42 PROPERLY EVALUATE THE APPLICANT FOR LICENSURE.

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

1 J. ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2033, THE BOARD SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO
2 THE GOVERNOR AND THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEES, OR THEIR
3 SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, IN THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND
4 SHALL PROVIDE A COPY OF THE REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE, THAT
5 INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

6 1. THE NUMBER OF LICENSE APPLICATIONS THE BOARD HAS RECEIVED,
7 APPROVED AND DENIED, INCLUDING THE REASONS FOR THE DENIALS, PURSUANT TO
8 THIS SECTION.

9 2. THE NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED AGAINST PROVISIONAL LICENSEES
10 AND THE NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS THAT WERE SUSTAINED, INCLUDING THE
11 DISCIPLINARY AND NONDISCIPLINARY ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE BOARD.

12 3. THE GEOGRAPHIC LOCATIONS WHERE THE PROVISIONAL LICENSEES ARE
13 PRACTICING OR HAVE PRACTICED IN THIS STATE.

14 4. THE MEDICAL SPECIALTY OR SPECIALTIES PRACTICED BY EACH
15 PROVISIONAL LICENSEE.

16 5. THE NUMBER OF PROVISIONAL LICENSES THAT HAVE BEEN CONVERTED TO A
17 FULL LICENSE TO PRACTICE IN THIS STATE AND WHETHER THOSE LICENSEES HAVE
18 CONTINUED TO PRACTICE IN THIS STATE.

19 K. THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEES, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR
20 COMMITTEES, IN THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SHALL:

21 1. REVIEW THE REPORT SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION J OF THIS
22 SECTION AND THE DATA COLLECTED, INCLUDING APPLICATION OUTCOMES, COMPLAINT
23 RECORDS, GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION AND CONVERSION RATES TO FULL LICENSURE.
24 THE REVIEW PROCESS SHALL CONSIDER WHETHER THE LICENSING FRAMEWORK SUPPORTS
25 PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY, MAINTAINS PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND EFFECTIVELY
26 ADDRESSES WORKFORCE NEEDS IN THIS STATE.

27 2. DETERMINE WHETHER PROVISIONAL LICENSURE SHOULD BE CONTINUED,
28 MODIFIED OR DISCONTINUED.

29 L. THE BOARD MAY NOT ACCEPT APPLICATIONS UNDER THIS SECTION FROM
30 AND AFTER DECEMBER 31, 2033.

31 M. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION:

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

34 2. "HEALTH CARE PROVIDER":

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

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

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

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

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

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

7 (d) HAS BEEN LICENSED TO PRACTICE MEDICINE AND HAS PRACTICED
8 MEDICINE FOR AT LEAST SIXTY MONTHS WITHIN THE PRECEDING SIX YEARS IN ONE
9 OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING:

10 (i) AUSTRALIA.

11 (ii) CANADA.

12 (iii) HONG KONG.

13 (iv) IRELAND.

14 (v) ISRAEL.

15 (vi) NEW ZEALAND.

16 (vii) SINGAPORE.

17 (viii) SOUTH AFRICA.

18 (ix) SWITZERLAND.

19 (x) THE UNITED KINGDOM.

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

21 (e) HAS BEEN LICENSED TO PRACTICE MEDICINE AND HAS PRACTICED
22 MEDICINE IN THE LICENSING COUNTRY FOR AT LEAST SIXTY MONTHS WITHIN THE
23 PRECEDING SIX YEARS AFTER COMPLETING THE POSTGRADUATE TRAINING REQUIRED IN
24 SUBDIVISION (b) OF THIS PARAGRAPH.

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

29 5. "PHYSICIAN" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS OBTAINED A MEDICAL
30 DOCTORATE OR A SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR DEGREE AND WHO HAS COMPLETED A
31 RESIDENCY PROGRAM OR SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL TRAINING.

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

34 Sec. 2. Exemption from rulemaking

35 Notwithstanding any other law, for the purposes of this act, the
36 Arizona medical board and the Arizona board of osteopathic examiners in
37 medicine and surgery are exempt from the rulemaking requirements of title
38 41, chapter 6, Arizona Revised Statutes, for one year after the effective
39 date of this act.

40 Sec. 3. Effective date

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