

Senate Engrossed

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 BASED ON CLEAR AND  
6 CONVINCING EVIDENCE, EXCEPT FOR DISCIPLINARY MATTERS BROUGHT PURSUANT TO  
7 SECTION 32-1401, PARAGRAPH 27, SUBDIVISION (aa), AFTER AN INVESTIGATION  
8 CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 32-1451. AN INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL LICENSEE  
9 MAY APPEAL THE REVOCATION OF THE PROVISIONAL LICENSE TO THE SUPERIOR COURT  
10 IN MARICOPA COUNTY PURSUANT TO TITLE 12, CHAPTER 7, ARTICLE 6. THE COURT  
11 SHALL REINSTATE THE PROVISIONAL LICENSE IF THE COURT FINDS THAT THE  
12 BOARD'S ACTIONS DID NOT MEET THE STANDARDS PRESCRIBED IN THIS SUBSECTION.

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

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

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

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

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

30 1. EVIDENCE OF SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR MEDICAL TRAINING THAT THE  
31 BOARD DEEMS TO BE OF EQUIVALENT QUALITY.

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

34 3. A COMPLETE LICENSE APPLICATION.

35 4. PAYMENT OF ALL REQUIRED LICENSING FEES.

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

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

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

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

45 J. ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2033, THE BOARD SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO  
46 THE GOVERNOR AND THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEES, OR THEIR

1 SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, IN THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND  
2 SHALL PROVIDE A COPY OF THE REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE, THAT  
3 INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

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

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

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

12 4. THE MEDICAL SPECIALTY OR SPECIALTIES PRACTICED BY EACH  
13 PROVISIONAL LICENSEE.

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

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

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

25 2. DETERMINE WHETHER PROVISIONAL LICENSURE SHOULD BE CONTINUED,  
26 MODIFIED OR DISCONTINUED.

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

29 M. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION:

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

32 2. "HEALTH CARE PROVIDER":

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

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

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

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

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

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

4 (d) HAS BEEN LICENSED TO PRACTICE MEDICINE AND HAS PRACTICED  
5 MEDICINE FOR AT LEAST SIXTY MONTHS WITHIN THE PRECEDING TEN YEARS IN ONE  
6 OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING:

7 (i) AUSTRALIA.

8 (ii) CANADA.

9 (iii) HONG KONG.

10 (iv) IRELAND.

11 (v) ISRAEL.

12 (vi) NEW ZEALAND.

13 (vii) SINGAPORE.

14 (viii) SOUTH AFRICA.

15 (ix) SWITZERLAND.

16 (x) THE UNITED KINGDOM.

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

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

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

26 5. "PHYSICIAN" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS OBTAINED A MEDICAL  
27 DOCTORATE OR A SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR DEGREE AND WHO HAS COMPLETED A  
28 RESIDENCY PROGRAM OR SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL TRAINING.

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

31 Sec. 2. Exemption from rulemaking

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

37 Sec. 3. Effective date

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