

Georgia Composite Medical Board

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STATEMENT REGARDING PRIMARY SOURCE VERIFICATION OF CREDENTIALS AND LICENSE INFORMATION

The Georgia Composite Medical Board obtains primary source verification of credentials required for licensure for all professions. Below is a list of items for which the Board obtains verification directly from the issuing entity during the initial licensing process.

1. **Qualifying degree** (from the medical school, physician assistant program, respiratory therapy program, orthotist/prosthetist program, etc.)
2. **Postgraduate training** (from the residency training program)
3. **License history in other states** (from the board or agency that issued the license)
4. **Score report or similar evidence of passing a qualifying examination** (from the entity that administers the examination, e.g., USMLE, COMLEX, FLEX, NCCPA, NCCAA, NBRC, NCCAOM, etc.)

INFORMATION PROVIDED ON THE BOARD'S LICENSEE SEARCH PAGE (updated in real time)

The following data elements on the Board's website should be considered as primary source verification:

1. **License number**
2. **License status**
3. **Issue date**
4. **Expiration date**
5. **Public disciplinary actions**

The following data elements on the Board's website should not be construed as primary source verification:

1. **Specialty board certification**, as this is not a requirement for licensure in Georgia
2. **Specialty**, because the Board licenses physicians to practice medicine and surgery, rather than to practice a specific specialty. (Though, the Board may limit a licensee's practice through a consent order.)
3. **Practice address**, because the Board regulates the practice of medicine through licensing the individual rather than the practice site
4. **Information listed in the physician profile**, which is provided directly by the physician to the public, as required by the Patient Right to Know Act

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