# **GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LaSharn Hughes, MBA



BOARD CHAIRPERSON Richard Weil, MD

2 Peachtree Street, N.W., 36<sup>th</sup> Floor • Atlanta, Georgia 30303 • Tel: 404.656.3923 • http://www.medicalboard.georgia.gov E-Mail: medbd@dch.ga.gov

# GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD NOTICE OF INTENT TO AMEND AND ADOPT RULES

#### TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given by the Georgia Composite Medical Board that it intends to amend Rule 360-2-.05 "Renewal Applications" and Rule 360-2-.10 "Renewal of Temporary Postgraduate Training Permits." An exact copy of the proposed rule is attached to this Notice.

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed rules and a synopsis of the proposed rules are being emailed to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on the mailing list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the proposed rules and a synopsis of the proposed rules may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the office of the Georgia Composite Medical Board, 2 Peachtree Street, N.W., 36<sup>th</sup> Floor, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

Any interested person who will be affected by these rules may present his or her comments to the Board no later than **December 20, 2013** or make comments at the public hearing. Comments may be directed to LaSharn Hughes, Georgia Composite Medical Board, 2 Peachtree Street, N.W., 36<sup>th</sup> Floor, Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3465 or may be received by the Board by e-mail at <a href="mailto:lhughes@dch.ga.gov">lhughes@dch.ga.gov</a>.

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. on January 9, 2014 at the 36th Floor Board Room, 2 Peachtree Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303, to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed rules.

The Board voted to adopt this Notice of Intent on November 8, 2013 meeting. The Board will consider at its meeting on January 9, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. the comments from the public hearing whether the formulation and adoption of these proposed rule amendments imposes excessive regulatory costs on any license or entity and whether any cost to comply with the proposed rule amendments could be reduced by a less expensive alternative that accomplishes the objectives of the statutes which are the basis of the proposed rule. Additionally at its meeting on January 9, 2014, the Board will consider whether it is legal or feasible in meeting the objectives of the applicable laws to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(3)(A)(B)(C)(D).

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The authority for promulgation of these rules is O.C.G.A. Secs43-1-19, 43-1-25, 43-34-5, 43-34-63, 43-34-64, 43-34-66, 43-34-70, 43-34-72, 43-39-5 and the specific statutes cited in the proposed rules.

This Notice is adopted and posted in compliance with O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4 of the Georgia Administrative Procedures Act. A synopsis of the proposed rules and an economic impact statement are attached to this Notice.

Date:

Signed:

LaSharn Hughes, MBA

**Executive Director** 

Georgia Composite Medical Board

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## ECONOMIC IMPACT AND SYNOPSIS FOR AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 360-2 LICENSING REQUIREMENTS

#### **ECONOMIC IMPACT:**

The attached rules are promulgated under the authority of the Medical Practice Act, Title 43, Chapter 34. The Georgia Composite Medical Board licenses and regulates nine professions. The formulation and adoption of this rule does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of Article 2 of Chapter 34 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated. Additionally, it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of the Article 2 of Chapter 34 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses listed at O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D).

#### **RULE SYNOPSIS**

#### 360-2-.05 "Renewal Applications"

<u>Purpose/Main Feature:</u> The purpose of the proposed rule is to include language for verification of citizenship.

#### 360-2-.10 "Renewal of Temporary Postgraduate Training Permits"

<u>Purpose/Main Feature:</u> The purpose of the proposed rule is to include language for verification of citizenship.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 43-1-4, 43-1-7, 43-1-19, 43-1-25, 43-1-31, 43-34-3, 43-34-5, 43-34-6, 43-34-8, 43-34-24, 43-34-24.1, 43-34-32, 43-34-37, and 43-34-47

#### 360-2-.05 Renewal Applications.

- (1) Each licensee shall notify the Board within thirty (30) days, in writing, of all changes of address. Any mailing or notice from the Board shall be considered to be served on the licensee when sent to the licensee's last address on file with the Board.
- (2) All active licenses must be renewed every two years. This may be done via the internet or through mail. A medical licensee may not practice medicine after the expiration date of the license. A license must be renewed biennially by the last day of the month in which the applicant's birthday falls, and the licensee must establish satisfaction of Board-approved continuing education requirements to be eligible for renewal.
- (3) Licensees have the right to obtain a late renewal of their licenses during the three (3) month period immediately following the expiration date. During this period, the penalty for late renewal applies. A physician may not practice medicine after the expiration date of his or her license.
- (4) The Board shall administratively revoke any license not renewed prior to the expiration of the late renewal period. Such revocation removes all rights and privileges to practice medicine and surgery in this State. A practitioner who is so revoked must apply for reinstatement. Revocation for failure to renew may be reported to the public and to other state licensing boards, and will be reported as a revocation for failure to renew. Revocation for failure to renew is not considered a disciplinary revocation. However, the license may only be reinstated through application.
- (5) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (4) of this rule, any service member as defined in O.C.G.A. § 15-12-1 whose license to practice medicine expired while on active duty outside the state shall be permitted to practice in accordance with the expired license and shall not be charged with a violation relating to such practice on an expired license for a period of six (6) months from the date of his or her discharge from active duty or reassignment to a location within the state. Such service member shall be entitled to renew such expired license without penalty within six (6) months after the date of his or her discharge from active duty or reassignment to a location within this state. The service member must present to the Board a copy of the official military orders or a written verification signed by the service member's commanding officer to waive any charges.
- (6) The fee for renewals and late renewals shall be designated in the fee schedule.
- (7) All applicants must provide an affidavit and a secure and verifiable document in accordance with O.C.G.A. 50-36-1(f). If the applicant has previously provided a secure and verifiable document and affidavit of United States citizenship, no additional documentation of citizenship is required for renewal. If the applicant for renewal is not a United States citizen, he/she must submit documentation that will determine his/her qualified alien status. The Board participates in the DHS-USCIS SAVE (Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements or "SAVE") program for purpose of verifying citizenship and immigration status information of non-U.S. citizens. If the applicant for renewal is a qualified alien or non-immigrant under the Federal Immigration and Nationality Act, he/she must provide the alien number issued by the Department of Homeland Security or other federal agency.

#### 360-2-.10 Renewal of Temporary Postgraduate Training Permits.

- (1) Each permit holder shall notify the Board within thirty (30) days of all changes of address. Any mailing or notice from the Board shall be considered to be served on the permit holder when sent to the permit holder's last address on file with the Board.
- (2) All temporary postgraduate training permits shall expire annually on June 30th, but may, in the discretion of the Board and upon application duly made and payment of the renewal fee required by the Board, be renewed annually for the duration of the postgraduate training program for a period not to exceed seven (7) years.
- (3) Deposit of the renewal fee by the Board does not indicate acceptance of the renewal application or that any permit requirements have been fulfilled.
- (4) To be eligible for renewal, the permit holder must furnish satisfactory evidence that he or she continues to participate in the postgraduate training program indicated on the completed program director's certification form as required in Rule 360-2-.09(3)(d).
- (5) Failure to renew a postgraduate training permit by the designated expiration date shall result in a penalty for late renewal as required by the Board. Postgraduate training permits that are not renewed within one month of expiration shall be revoked for failure to renew and a new application with the appropriate fee shall be required.
- (6) A permit holder shall not participate in postgraduate training in this State after the expiration of a postgraduate training permit.
- (7) All renewal applicants must provide an affidavit and a secure and verifiable document in accordance with O.C.G.A. 50-36-1(f). If the applicant has previously provided a secure and verifiable document and affidavit of United States citizenship, no additional documentation of citizenship is required for renewal. If the applicant for renewal is not a United States citizen, he/she must submit documentation that will determine his/her qualified alien status. The Board participates in the DHS-USCIS SAVE (Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements or "SAVE") program for purpose of verifying citizenship and immigration status information of non-U.S. citizens. If the applicant for renewal is a qualified alien or non-immigrant under the Federal Immigration and Nationality Act, he/she must provide the alien number issued by the Department of Homeland Security or other federal agency.