

NOTICE OF PUBLIC RULE HEARING

Public Notice: The New Mexico Medical Board (NMMB) has filed an amendment to NMAC rule 16.10.2.10. This action adds additional language to the existing rule regarding accepted applications for expedited licensure.

Topic: Public Rule Hearing

Date: June 24, 2026

Time: 04:00 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

Place: New Mexico Medical Board

2055 S. Pacheco Street, Bldg. 400

Santa Fe, NM 87505

Purpose: At the New Mexico Medical Board's (NMMB) regular Board Meetings held on November 6-7, 2025, and February 5-6, 2026, the Board discussed the addition of language to the existing NMAC rule 16.10.2.10 to include detailed information on the types of applications that the NMMB would accept for expedited licensure. The language was added to clarify all applicable types of applications that will be accepted for expedited licensure effective July 1, 2026. The Board voted on the final additional language at the April 1, 2026, Interim Board Meeting.

No technical information serves as a basis for this proposed rule amendment.

Public comment: Interested parties may provide comment on the proposed amendments of this state rule at the public hearing or may submit written comments to Monique Parks, New Mexico Medical Board, 2055 South Pacheco Street, Bldg. 400, Santa Fe, NM 87505, or by electronic mail to MoniqueM.Parks@nmmb.nm.gov. All written comments must be received no later than 3:00 p.m. (MDT) on June 17, 2026. All written comments will be posted to the agency website within (3) three business days.

Copies of proposed rules: Copies of the proposed rules may be accessed through the New Mexico Medical Board's website at www.nmmb.state.nm.us or may be obtained from the Board office by calling (505) 476-7220 or via email at MoniqueM.Parks@nmmb.nm.gov or at Natalie.Padilla@nmmb.nm.gov.

Individuals with disabilities who require the above information in an alternative format, or who need any form of auxiliary aid to attend or participate in the public hearing are asked to contact Monique Parks or Elishia Lucero at (505) 476-7220 or via email at MoniqueM.Parks@nmmb.nm.gov or Natalie.Padilla@nmmb.nm.gov. The New Mexico Medical Board requires at least ten (10) calendar days advance notice to provide any special accommodations requested.

Summary of proposed changes: The Board summarizes its proposed changes to its administrative rules as follows:

16.10.2.10 EXPEDITED LICENSURE:

A. Prerequisites for expedited licensure: Each applicant for a license to practice as a physician in New Mexico must be of good moral character, hold a full and unrestricted license to practice medicine in another state, and possess the following qualifications:

(1) have practiced medicine in the United States or Canada immediately preceding the application for at least three years;

(2) be free of disciplinary history, license restrictions, or pending investigations in all jurisdictions where a medical license is or has been held;

(3) graduated from a board approved school or hold current ECFMG certification; and

(4) current certification from a medical specialty board recognized by the ABMS or the

AOA-BOS.

B. Required documentation for all applicants: Each applicant for a license must submit the required fees as specified in 16.10.9.8 NMAC and the following documentation:

(1) a completed signed application that has been verified as including all required documentation with a passport-quality photo taken within the previous six months; applications are valid for one year from the date of receipt by the board;

(2) verification of licensure in all states or territories where the applicant holds or has held a license to practice medicine, or other health care profession; verification must attest to the status, issue date, license number, and other information requested and contained on the form;

(3) two recommendation forms from physicians, chiefs of staff or department chairs or equivalent with whom the applicant has worked and who have personal knowledge of the applicant's character and competence to practice medicine; the recommending physician(s) must have personally known the applicant and have had the opportunity to personally observe the applicant's ability and performance; forms must be sent directly to the board from the recommending physician(s), chief(s) of staff, department chair(s) or equivalent(s). This information will be provided by HSC or another board-approved credentials verification service for applicants using that service, or directly to the New Mexico medical board;

(4) verification of all work experience and hospital affiliations in the last three years; if more than one work experience and hospital affiliation, provide at least three verifications of all work and hospital affiliations during the past three years, if applicable, not to include postgraduate training; this information will be provided by HSC or another board-approved credentials verification service for applicants using that service, or directly to the New Mexico medical board;

(5) a copy of all ABMS or AOA-BOS specialty board certifications, if applicable; this information will be provided by HSC or another board-approved credentials verification service for applicants using that service, or directly to the New Mexico medical board; and

(6) the board may request that applicants be investigated by the biographical section of the AMA, the DEA, the FSMB, the NPDB, and other sources as may be deemed appropriate by the board. The board shall require fingerprints and, in its discretion, a state and national background check.

C. Expedited licensure process: Upon receipt of a completed application, required fees, and verification of licensure in all states or territories where the applicant actively holds a license to practice medicine, the board shall issue an expedited license to a qualified applicant within 30 days from the date the completed application was received unless the board may have other cause to deny the application pursuant to Section 61-6-15 NMSA 1978.

D. Expedited license expiration: Expedited licenses shall be valid for no more than 12 months from the date of issuance.

E. Procedure for incomplete application. If an incomplete application for an expedited license is received, the board shall notify the applicant in writing within 30 days from the date the incomplete application was received by the board. The written notification shall include how the application is incomplete and what is needed to complete the application; this written notification shall be titled "notice to cure." After receipt of the notice to cure, the applicant must submit a completed application within 30 days of the receipt of the notice to cure. An extension may be granted, at the board's discretion and based on good cause, for submission beyond 30 days after receipt of the notice to cure.

F. Accepted applications for expedited licensure: The NMMB will accept an application for expedited licensure from any individual who holds an active medical license in all 50 states of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and all other territories or dependencies of the United States. The NMMB will also accept an application for expedited licensure from individuals licensed to practice medicine in Canada, provided they meet the requirements outlined in 16.10.2.10 NMAC. Licensees from all other foreign countries are not eligible for expedited licensure, as their accreditation standards have not been verified as equivalent to those of the United States.