



IDFPR

Illinois Department of
Financial and Professional Regulation

Division of Professional Regulation

QUALIFICATIONS FOR LICENSURE: PROFESSIONAL MIXED MARTIAL ARTS (MMA) CONTESTANT (002)

Effective Date: 01/2026

Revised Date: 01/2026

READ ME FIRST

The Division of Professional Regulation hopes that you will find the below useful in successfully applying for a license in the State of Illinois. Carefully review this information as it will assist you in applying for your license and eliminate any processing delays.

Important:

- An application is active until the expiration date of Athletics' licenses (every 9/30 of the odd numbered year) from the date of receipt by the Department.
- Before contacting the Department, please review our FAQs for answers to most questions. <http://www.idfpr.illinois.gov/About/FAQ.html>)
- If your question is not addressed in our FAQ's, please contact the Department at 1-800-560-6420 or at fpr.isac@illinois.gov.

LICENSE QUALIFICATIONS

Experience:

- Experience must comply with the requirements of Section 1370.460 of the Administrative Rules.

REQUIRED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

You must submit the following:

- 1) A copy of current government issued photo identification (e.g., driver's license, passport).
- 2) Proof of age (e.g., driver's license or copy of birth certificate).
- 3) Social Security Number or tax identification number, as appropriate.
- 4) Documentation of one year of mixed martial arts experience as a contestant, including the total number of bouts and a breakdown of wins and losses. The applicant shall have a minimum of 5 bouts or demonstrate exceptional fighting ability, as shown by the applicant's competition and training history, in combat sports, wrestling, grappling or martial arts, as determined by the Department.
- 5) A passport style photo.
- 6) The required fee set forth in Section 1370.30.
- 7) All applicants must submit proof of a complete physical examination by a physician. All physical exams and laboratory results submitted shall be dated no more than 6 months prior to the date of application. The examining physician shall

conduct examinations and tests necessary to attest to the fitness of the applicant to engage in contests. Physical examinations of female contestants shall also include a pelvic, abdominal and breast exam.

- 8) Each applicant shall provide medical test results to the Department dated no more than 6 months prior to the date of application, which shall include but not be limited to:
 - a) Complete, comprehensive physical examination certifying fitness for professional full contact martial arts competition on forms provided by the Department;
 - b) Any results of an MRI report and cerebral magnetic resonance angiography dated within the last 5 years;
 - c) A blood test that verifies the applicant is HIV negative (quantitative RNA);
 - d) A blood test that verifies the applicant is Hepatitis B (HBsAg) negative;
 - e) A blood test that verifies the applicant is Hepatitis C (HCVAb) negative;
 - f) An eye examination by an optometrist or a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches who specializes in ophthalmology with results of dilated eye exam on forms provided by the Department; and
 - g) Any other test the Department or event physician may require.
- 9) A contestant over age 35 who has not competed in a contest within the last 36 months, or as otherwise determined by the Department, may be required to appear before the Board to determine his or her fitness to participate in a contest.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ONCE LICENSED

- All Professional MMA Contestant licenses expire on September 30th of each odd-numbered year, regardless of issuance date.
- It is your responsibility to update your contact information including email address with the Department to ensure that you receive all courtesy renewal email reminders and other notifications.