IDFPR
Illinois Department of
Financial and Professional Regulation
Division of Professional Regulation

Qualifications for Licensure:

Physician and Surgeon License (036)

Effective: 09/2025
Revised:

READ ME FIRST

Important:

- The qualifications for an Illinois physician and surgeon license are provided in 68 Illinois Administrative Code 1285.70 and 1285.80. Part 1285 may be referred to as the medical rules. Links to the act and rules are available online at https://idfpr.illinois.gov/profs/physicians.html under Laws and Rules.

LICENSE QUALIFICATIONS

- Graduation from an educational program in the United States accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) or the American Osteopathic Association (AOA).

- Graduation from a medical education program offered by a college located outside the United States that is: (1) officially recognized by the jurisdiction where the college is located; and (2) authorized to offer a medical education program that qualifies graduates to practice medicine in that jurisdiction.

- For international medical graduates, proof of 2 years of undergraduate education in a college or university and proof of valid certification issued by the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) or proof of completion of a Fifth Pathway Program.

- Successful completion of: (1) Part I, Part II, and Part III of the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE); or (2) Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 of the Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examination (COMLEX); or (3) all parts of the examination required to qualify for a Licentiate of the Medical Council of Canada (LMCC) as determined by the Medical Council of Canada (MCC); or (4) one of their predecessor examinations approved in accordance with 68 IAC 1285.60.

- Completion of 24 months of postgraduate clinical training approved in accordance with 68 IAC 1285.40.

- Professional capacity as evidenced by one of the following: (1) the licensed practice of medicine during the 2 years preceding application; (2) being engaged as a student in an accredited medical education program or an approved postgraduate clinical training program during the 2 years preceding application; or (3) other proof of a present capacity to practice medicine with reasonable judgment, skill and safety. Other proof may include specialized training or education, publications of original work in learned medical journals, federal clinical research, or other professional clinical activities related to the practice of medicine.

- Individuals applying for a license by endorsement must be actively licensed to practice medicine in another state or jurisdiction of the United States or in another foreign country.

Please apply for licensure with the Division of Professional Regulation using the CORE licensing system online at https://idfpr.illinois.gov/core.html.