



MEDICAL MINUTE *with* **IDFPR**

Quarterly Newsletter

Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation



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MEET THE ILLINOIS STATE MEDICAL BOARD'S NEW CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Page 3

ALSO INSIDE:

**SEASONAL
IMMUNIZATIONS**

Page 4

LICENSE RENEWAL UPDATE

Page 5

IDFPR ENFORCEMENT REPORTS

Page 6

CONTENTS

MEET THE ILLINOIS STATE MEDICAL BOARD'S NEW CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR	3
SEASONAL IMMUNIZATIONS	4
LICENSE RENEWAL UPDATE	5
ILLINOIS INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL GRADUATE PATHWAY	5
IDFPR ENFORCEMENT REPORTS	6

MEET THE ILLINOIS STATE MEDICAL BOARD'S NEW CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR



Dr. James G MacKenzie, DO, serves as the Director of Clinical Education and Relations at Midwestern University and is the Director of the Center for Collaborative Behavioral Health Care at Advocate Children's Hospital. He completed medical school at Kansas City University, general psychiatry residency at Loyola University Medical Center, and fellowship in child and adolescent psychiatry at Northwestern University/Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago.



As a former president of the Illinois Psychiatric Society, he proudly helped lead development of Illinois legislation to include reimbursement to primary care providers when collaborating with psychiatrists-- the first law in the nation to include public insurance alongside private coverage for this model of behavioral health care.

Dr. Mary Huffman, DC, is a board certified Chiropractic Physician who earned her Doctorate of Chiropractic Medicine from National University of Health Sciences (2004). She's the founder/president of ChiroMedica, an evidence-based, chiropractic and rehabilitation clinic in downtown Chicago focused on integrative, conservative musculoskeletal medicine. She holds advanced degrees/credentials as a Diplomate of Academy of Chiropractic Orthopedists (DACO/DIANM), Certified Chiropractic Sports Physician from the American Chiropractic Board of Sports Physicians and is a Functional Rehabilitation Diplomate candidate. She's served on the Illinois Chiropractic board of directors for a decade and, in most recent years, as the President of Chicago/Chicagoland and was selected as the 2023 President's Award recipient. She's been a routine lecturer and presenter for Feinberg School of Medicine's pain fellows and for Northwestern's Multi-specialty Spine Conferences along with many others.



As a life-long learner and educator, Dr. Huffman teaches continuing medical education on topics of orthopedics, sports medicine, athlete training and non-surgical pain management. She's been actively involved in the Federal Chiropractic Licensing Board (FCLB) and the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners (NBCE) and is a test developer and examiner for national board chiropractic certification.

Appointed to the Illinois State Medical Board by Governor Pritzker in 2023, Dr. Huffman has been honored to serve the board as a member and currently as Vice-Chair of the State Medical Board.



SEASONAL IMMUNIZATIONS

The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) is urging residents to take precautions against the spread of influenza (flu) and other seasonal respiratory illnesses, as rates continue to climb across the state. Flu activity in the state has climbed to “Very High” in recent days, the most severe of five categories of respiratory illness activity, as defined by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). In addition, COVID-19 rates have climbed to “Moderate” levels in Illinois. These trends are similar to what is being seen across the nation.

The Department offers the following tips to help reduce your risk of getting or spreading seasonal respiratory illness:

- Get immunized. With flu season usually peaking between December and February, and lasting until May, it's not too late to get your flu shot and other immunizations, such as for COVID-19 and RSV (for those who are eligible). For more information on respiratory illness vaccines, view IDPH's immunization guidelines.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water - it is one of the most effective ways to reduce spread of illness. Alcohol-based hand sanitizers are also effective if soap and water are not available.
- Stay home when you are ill, if able, and wear a mask if not.
- Cover coughs and sneezes. Wearing a mask when ill will further help prevent viral spread. An N95 or comparable mask offers the best protection.
- Minimize close contact with sick people.
- Antiviral treatments can minimize symptoms and speed up recovery when started quickly after symptoms emerge. Antiviral treatments for flu are most effective when given within 48 hours of starting to feel ill. For COVID-19, treatment must be started within 5 to 7 days after symptoms appear. Older adults, young children and those who are pregnant or have certain underlying conditions are at risk for complications and should contact a healthcare provider to be assessed for the need for treatment as soon as possible.

LICENSE RENEWAL UPDATE

**TIME TO
RENEW**



Renewals are required to be submitted by July 31, 2026. The Department will provide more information on how to complete the process.

Please note, in submitting your renewal, you will need to pay the renewal fee of \$543 and attest that you have completed 150 hours of continuing medical education.

If you have any questions, please email fpf.lmu@illinois.gov with the subject line "LICENSE RENEWAL ASSISTANCE"

FIRST LICENSE ISSUED UNDER ILLINOIS' INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL GRADUATE PATHWAY

The Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation has granted its first license under the new pathway for internationally trained physicians. This program allows such physicians to practice medicine and work towards meeting the eligibility requirements to apply for a full Illinois medical license, marking a significant step toward expanding opportunities for international medical graduates in the state.

The International Medical Graduate Limited License is valid for two years, during which the IMG must practice under the supervision of a fully licensed physician at an approved sponsoring institution. IMGs may then apply for an International Medical Graduate Restricted License upon successful completion of the two-year supervised practice. This license allows for more independent practice within designated health professional shortage areas and populations. IMGs are then eligible to apply for a full Illinois medical license after two years of practicing under the International Medical Graduate Restricted License.

Find the full press release online: <https://idfpr.illinois.gov/news/2026/march-2026-licensure-press-release.html>

IDFPR ENFORCEMENT REPORTS



Find the disciplinary actions IDFPR takes each month in our enforcement reports available online:
<https://idfpr.illinois.gov/news/disciplines/discreportsdefault.html>

In addition, you may check if IDFPR has disciplined a particular licensee by using the Department's License Lookup Tool: <https://online-dfpr.micropact.com/lookup/licenselookup.aspx>



IDFPR

Illinois Department of
Financial and Professional Regulation

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State of Illinois

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