

481—652.3(147,148) Eligibility for licensure.

652.3(1) Requirements. To be eligible for permanent or administrative medicine licensure, an applicant shall:

- a. Fulfill the application requirements specified in rule 481—652.4(147,148).
- b. Hold a medical degree from an educational institution approved by the board at the time the applicant graduated and was awarded the degree.

(1) Educational institutions approved by the board shall be fully accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the board as schools of instruction in medicine and surgery or osteopathic medicine and surgery and empowered to grant academic degrees in medicine.

(2) The accrediting bodies currently recognized by the board are:

1. LCME for the educational institutions granting degrees in medicine and surgery; and
2. AOA for educational institutions granting degrees in osteopathic medicine and surgery.

(3) If the applicant holds a medical degree from an educational institution not approved by the board at the time the applicant graduated and was awarded the degree, the applicant shall meet one of the following requirements:

1. Hold a valid certificate issued by ECFMG;
2. Pass the MCCEE;
3. Have successfully completed a fifth pathway program established in accordance with AMA criteria;
4. Have successfully passed either a basic science examination administered by a United States or Canadian medical licensing authority or SPEX; and have successfully completed three years of resident training in a program approved by the board; and have submitted evidence of five years of active practice without restriction as a licensee of any United States or Canadian jurisdiction; or
5. Have successfully passed either a basic science examination administered by a United States or Canadian medical licensing authority or SPEX; and hold board certification by a specialty board approved by ABMS or AOA; and submit evidence of five years of active practice without restriction as a licensee of any United States or Canadian jurisdiction.

c. Have successfully completed one year of resident training in a hospital-affiliated program approved by the board at the time the applicant was enrolled in the program. An applicant who is a graduate of an international medical school must have successfully completed 24 months of such training.

(1) For those required to have 12 months of training, the program shall have been 12 months of progressive training in not more than two specialties and in not more than two programs approved for resident training by the board. For those required to have 24 months of training, the program shall have been 24 continuous months of progressive training in not more than two specialties and in not more than two programs approved for resident training by the board.

(2) Resident training approved by the board must be accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the board for the purpose of accrediting resident training programs.

(3) The board approves resident training programs accredited by:

1. ACGME;
2. AOA;
3. RCPSC; and
4. CFPC.

(4) The board may accept resident training that is not accredited as specified in subparagraph 652.3(1) “c”(3) on a case-by-case basis. In making this determination, the board may consider any relevant factors, including but not limited to the following:

1. The length of time the program has been in existence;
2. The location of the program;
3. The institution or organization that administers the program;
4. The reason that the program is not accredited; and
5. Whether the program is accredited or recognized by any agency other than those listed in subparagraph 652.3(1) “c”(3).

(5) The board may accept each 12 months of practice as a special licensee as equivalent to one year of resident training in a hospital-affiliated program approved by the board.

(6) The board may accept a current, active ABMS or AOA board certification obtained through an alternate pathway as equivalent to resident training in a hospital-affiliated program approved by the board. The alternate pathway must be a minimum of 24 months completed at an institution with a program approved by the board as specified in subparagraph 652.3(1)“c”(3).

d. Pass one of the licensure examinations or combinations as prescribed in rule 481—652.7(147,148).

652.3(2) *Exceptions to the eligibility requirements.*

a. A military service applicant or a veteran may apply for credit for verified military education, training, or service toward any experience or educational requirement for permanent licensure under this subrule or may be eligible for permanent licensure through reciprocity as specified in 481—Chapter 7.

b. A physician who holds a valid Letter of Qualification asserting eligibility for licensure through the IMLC is eligible for a permanent Iowa medical license.

[ARC 9112C, IAB 4/16/25, effective 5/21/25; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 6/11/25]