Application to the Medical Board of California for Initial Medical Licensure

Step-by-Step Guide for Residents

NOTE: The following guide applies to U.S. and Canadian medical school graduates that have completed at least **one** year of ACGME training or International Medical Graduates that have completed at least **two** years of ACGME training.

California requires that graduates of medical schools in the United States and Canada complete one year of ACGME training to qualify for the CA medical license or international medical graduates complete two years of ACGME training to qualify for the CA medical license.

US/Canadian medical school graduates must be licensed by the first day of their third year of training. International medical graduates must be licensed by the first day of their fourth year of training.*

DO NOT DELAY!

- California does not issue a training permit or temporary license. The only physician (MD) license is a full, unrestricted license to practice medicine.
- Individuals may not train at Loma Linda programs using out of state medical licenses.
- You can only obtain a DEA certificate once your California Medical License is issued. The sooner your license is issued, the sooner you can obtain your DEA certificate, and the sooner you can write orders.

* Your third year of ACGME training does not necessarily equate to PGY III. For example, an individual completing 2 years of pediatric residency and then starting psychiatry as a PGY I will need a CA medical license.

STEP A

If you have not done so already, submit the following documents **directly to the MBC** as soon as possible:

A. Application Forms (L1A-L1F)

B. Live Scan Fingerprinting Form

C. Form L2 (from Medical School)

E. Official Medical School Transcript

F. Certified (by your medical school) Diploma

F. Form L3A-L3B

G. Form L4

H. Birth Month Request Form

I. Curriculum Vitae

Do not submit these documents to the GME office. As you have already completed one year of ACGME training, it is imperative that your application is submitted directly to the MBC as soon as possible.

The application forms, including detailed instructions, can be downloaded here: http://www.mbc.ca.gov/Forms/Applicants/application_us-canada.pdf

Submit the license fee of **$907.50** (payable to *Medical Board of California*) directly to the MBC by mail or online.

Forms L1A-L1F

Submit Application by Mail: Forms L1A-L1F can be downloaded **here**.

Submit Application Online: Register for BreEZe Online Services and you **must** mail a signed, notarized L1F form, with your photo attached, to the Board.

Please Note:

- Complete the forms on your PC and print the completed forms to ensure legibility.
- L1A #6: Your address is public record. As a safety precaution, please use your department's address—do **NOT** use your home address! Be sure to check the mail at your department address!
- L1A #8: Be sure to enter your email address.
- L1E #42-45: The MBC has access to "sealed" records. Best to disclose everything! **More info...**
- L1F requires a recent 2x2 inch passport size photo at the time of notarizing your license application.

Live Scan Fingerprints

The Live Scan fingerprinting form can be downloaded **here**.

Alternate locations can be found **online** at the Attorney General website.

The Live Scan Operator will complete the Live Scan form and keep one copy. Submit the second copy to the MBC along with your application. The third copy is for you to keep for your records.

Form L2/Transcript/Diploma

- **Form L2**: Complete the top portion of the form and mail, e-mail, or fax to your medical school.
- Request that your medical school send the completed form directly to the MBC along with an **official** copy of your transcript and a **certified** copy of your diploma.

Your medical school should be very familiar with this process. If you're not sure who to contact, start with their Registrar's Office.

Forms L3A/B and L4

- **Forms L3A/B** must be completed for each year of postgraduate training (internship, residency, and fellowship) completed, whether or not the entire residency was completed. Complete the personal data at the top of the form and mail/fax to your former training program(s). Request that they send the completed forms directly to the MBC.
- **Form L4** certifies that you are still in training at the time of application. Complete the personal data at the top of the form and submit to your current training program. Request that they send the completed form directly to the MBC.

STEP B

- Submit an **online request** to have your official USMLE scores (I, II, III) sent directly to the MBC.
- Wait until you have passed all 3 parts, then request the transcript, but…
- Do not wait to initiate the license application process. Apply now and send the scores later.

Application Status

You can check the status of your application **online** using the BreEZe Online Services.