pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

March 20, 2020

Medical Doctors' Two-Facility Institutional License Limit Suspended During Coronavirus Emergency

In order to increase the number of practitioners available to respond to COVID-19, Governor Wolf granted the Department of State's request to suspend the limitations on the number of institutions with which a medical doctor can be affiliated and the requirement to report those affiliations to the Board of Medicine for the duration of the disaster declaration.

The Governor has **suspended** the institutional-license requirement that limits qualified medical doctors to practicing at no more than two (2) affiliated facilities.

Additional details for medical doctors and surgeons:

- For medical doctors holding Institutional Licenses from the State Board of Medicine, the Department requested that the requirements in the following portions of the institutional licensing code be temporarily suspended during the COVID-19 emergency. **This request was granted by the Governor.**
    - (a) Currently, an institutional license authorizes a qualified person to teach and practice medicine for a period of time specified by the Board, not exceeding 3 years, in one of the medical colleges, its affiliates, or community hospitals within the Commonwealth. To qualify for an institutional license, an applicant shall satisfy the requirements relating to general qualifications for licenses and certificates, and one of the following:
        - (1) Be a graduate of an unaccredited medical college who has attained through professional growth and teaching experience the status of teacher.
        - (2) Have achieved outstanding medical skills in a particular area of medicine and wish to practice, demonstrate or teach in that area, but not otherwise be licensed to do so.
- To allow medical doctors holding Institutional Licenses from the State Board of Medicine to practice to their full scope, the Department requested the following portion of the institutional licensing code be temporarily suspended during the COVID-19 emergency. **This request was granted by the Governor.**
    - (b) An institutional license only authorizes the licensee to teach and to practice in those areas of medicine and surgery for which the licensee is evaluated bythe Board to have achieved outstanding medical skills.
- To permit medical doctors holding institutional Licenses from the State Board of Medicine to practice at more than two (2) facilities and do so without having to submit a document of formal affiliation between facilities, the Department requested the following portion of the institutional licensing code be waived during the COVID-19 emergency. **This request was granted by the Governor.**
    - (d) An institutional license may be granted to authorize a qualified medical doctor to teach and practice at more than one facility, but at no more than two affiliated facilities. If a licensee desires to practice at two facilities, a document of formal affiliation between the two facilities shall be submitted to the Board.