COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN MEDICINE

POLICY 2020-08

INTERIM POLICY ON EMERGENCY TEMPORARY LICENSES FOR OUT-OF-STATE OR RECENTLY RETIRED PHYSICIANS PROVIDING SERVICES IN FIELD HOSPITALS

November 19, 2020

On March 10, 2020, Governor Baker declared a State of Emergency in Massachusetts in Executive Order No. 591, Declaration of a State of Emergency to Respond to COVID-19. In order to insure an adequate supply of physicians to staff field hospitals established to treat patients with COVID-19, the Board promulgates this policy.

Therefore, the Board of Registration in Medicine establishes an Emergency Temporary License Application for out-of-state physicians and for recently retired Massachusetts physicians providing medical services at Massachusetts field hospitals during the COVID-19 crisis.

A representative from the field hospitals will identify the physicians who will be providing support in writing to the Board of Medicine. To qualify for an Emergency Temporary License, an out-of-state physician must hold an active full, unlimited and unrestricted medical license in good standing in another U.S. state, territory or district. A retired physician must have retired in good standing within one year of the date of this policy, without any outstanding complaints. "Good standing" shall not include a license that has been revoked, cancelled, surrendered, suspended, or is subject to disciplinary restrictions.

The Emergency Temporary License is valid until the field hospital where the physician provides services closes. If a physician ceases to serve in this emergency capacity before the field hospital closes, the physician must notify the Board of Medicine who will deactivate the emergency temporary license.